

Harrisburg Union Convention.

The following is the platform adopted by that Convention:

Whereas, The freemen of Pennsylvania, opposed to the National Administration, are divided into political organizations, holding up some questions of governmental policy...

Resolved, That the present National Administration, by the exercise of an unwarrantable influence in the repeal of the Missouri Compromise...

Resolved, That we will use all honorable means to check the evils inflicted upon the country by the unjust and sectional measures adopted by the present National Administration...

Resolved, That we cordially disapprove of the interference of foreign influence of every kind in our civil and political affairs...

Resolved, That the respect and confidence of this Commonwealth are due to the president Chief Magistrate of the State and to the members of his Administration...

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THE AGITATOR.

M. H. COBB, EDITOR.

All Business and other Communications must be addressed to the Editor to insure attention.

WELLSBOROUGH, PA.

Thursday Morning, April 10, 1856.

Republican Nominations.

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

For Vice-President: Hon. DAVID WILMOT, of Penn'a.

The following named gentlemen are authorized to collect names and receive subscriptions for the Agitator. Their receipts will be regarded as payments.

- Wm. GARRETTSON, Tioga; J. B. PORTER, Middlebury Center; G. W. STANTON, Lawrenceville; Dr. J. C. WHITTAKER, Elkland; JOHN SEBING, Liberty; O. F. TAYLOR, Covington; VICTOR CASE, Knoxville; W. W. McDONALD, Shippen; ISAAC PLANK, Brookfield; JNO. JAMES, Blossburg; C. F. COLVER, Osceola; O. H. BLANCHARD, Nelson; A. A. FRY, Mansfield; SAMUEL PAUL, Westfield; Wm. M. JOHNSON, Daggett's Mills; A. BARKER, Ogdenburg; O. M. STEVENS, Crooked Creek; ISAAC STROBER, Maple Ridge.

Republican State Convention.

In fulfillment of the duties imposed upon the undersigned, as members of the National Executive Committee for Pennsylvania, appointed by the Republican Convention...

The undersigned would recommend that the Convention be composed of delegates, twice the number to that of the State and House of Representatives; and that the friends of Freedom in the several counties in the Commonwealth meet at the county seat or other convenient place in their respective counties...

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We confess our inability to extricate our clerical friends from the dilemma into which the combat between the law of sanitation and the law of love has forced him. The law contemplates the punishment of murderers, and not of Christians. The law is intended to restrain; and when it fails to do that, it returns. The public execution of Christians should have been a lesson to the heathen of Quakerism, yet Puritan fathers. This age with the light heaven kindly sheds upon it, can afford to practice what has been preached for eighteen hundred years. Yes, God knows it can afford to creep a little nearer divinity and so become tolerably human.

But Fitzgerald did not die a Christian. To the last he remained hardened and indifferent. "Go ahead!" said he. "You can kill me—that's all you can do." The reporter was dreadfully shocked at this reckless speech. He speaks of the body being jerked up, a few minutes later, without emotion, and very philosophically begins to speculate on the probabilities of the victim's neck having been broken by the operation. Quite moderately philanthropic, or fashionably so.

If man's probation ends with this life, and thousands believe so, and the advocates of death penalty almost invariably, then would it not be a Christian mercy to extend the period to its utmost? We incline to the opinion that life is never too long to do one's whole duty in.

We question the right of society to deprive one of its members of anything which it cannot restore. From obvious necessity, men are generally hung on circumstantial evidence. Within the last half year two men have died on the gallows in this country solemnly protesting their innocence to the latest moment. There was no positive evidence against either of them. On the supposition that they were innocent, what an awful responsibility rests somewhere? Will those executors of a barbarous law sleep as sweetly as if there were no blood upon their hands?

We call attention to the new liquor law, an abstract of which may be found in another column. It became a law on the 29th ult., and we dare say that our June Court will be flooded with petitions.

We care but little for the change in the law, since there is no remedy for intemperance but entire prohibition or unrestrained traffic. The curse will work its own destruction in some way only give it elbow room. A few common drunkards reeling and cursing in our streets day and night, might possibly stir up the dainty, skin-deep morality of some of our wot of. A succession of light winds renders sailors careless and indifferent. So, prosperity sometimes renders men indifferent to the adversity that threatens them. There are many men owning property in villages, who, when it becomes apparent that their property can not increase in value so long as this average morality of the place continues so low, will take hold and help put down grog-selling and gambling. Instead of sneering at those reformers we feel to thank Heaven that they will even heed the spur of interest. It would be pleasant to behold all men doing right for the love of right, but it is not so ordered. To do a good deed from a selfish motive is better than not to do it at all, since the deed is neither enriched nor impoverished by the motive. It is the heart that suffers or profits by the motive. But when a man suffers interest to stride between him and his duty, let him be execrated—he deserves it.

The Montrose Democrat thinks that if Judge Wilmot is the only Judge in this Commonwealth who comes within the meaning and intent of Buckle's gag bill, the worse for Judge W. We can assure the Democrat that David Wilmot does not enjoy a monopoly in this Commonwealth. In Wayne Judicial district, His Honor, Judge Eldred came up from his post as Naval Agent at Philadelphia, and engaged in the disgusting details of party warfare. There was no great humanitarian principle at stake in that campaign; it was a strife between the People and the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company for the control of the Judiciary. Judge E. was found fighting against the people for family reasons, we in charity are bound to assume. Still, we heard no orthodox democrat condemn him for it. No gag bill crept into the succeeding Legislature. No press pursued him with lies and denunciations. He was not even chased by newspaper scoundrels. For while many thought his zeal indiscreet under the circumstances, none questioned his right to do just as much dirty work for a faction as lay clearly outside of the law. If it be objected that he was then off the Bench, we say that his course during this campaign was but a re-enacted part played in the political struggles of that county, only he had never so soiled his hands for fun. Judge Wilmot is striving against a power that threatens to overturn the liberties of a continent. He is battling a great wrong against which it is every man's privilege to speak out. Posterity will reverence him for it; and his page of history will be among the most lustrous when the record of his defamers is blotted and done by time. Should he ever stoop to work for self alone—putting Man and man's wrong behind him, he will have no more respect and reverence from us, nor from any friend of human rights.

The Union Convention nominations seem to give general satisfaction to the anti-Administration press everywhere, and great dissatisfaction to the sham democracy. Should the Republican Convention of June endorse those nominations, nothing save a miracle can ward off certain defeat from the bunkers. There is every reason to believe that the June Convention will endorse those nominations, since every man on the ticket is ready to put away minor issues and make the campaign on the common ground of opposition to the present administration.

Some of our friends may wish to know why we do not raise the Union ticket. Simply because we owe and acknowledge no allegiance to any party save the great party of Freedom—the Republican party. Having all the confidence in the men that a general knowledge of their antecedents can inspire, we await the action of the Republican Convention. We cannot forestall the action of that body and obey our convictions of duty. Therefore we shall rest content with expressing a favorable opinion of the "Union," until the proper time for decided action shall arrive. We publish the platform, of which in general terms it may be said, that it is all right on the main question, and pruned of a little "baby-talk," unobjectionable.

The hunker press in the north counties of the State is endeavoring to identify Judge Wilmot with the Fillmore and Donelson movement because he chanced to be present at the Harrisburg Union Convention. He was present at that Convention as a spectator, and only as a spectator. We dare say that Judge Wilmot has about as much sympathy with that movement as we, or any other Republican has, and no more. Those of the Republicans who say anything about it, speak of it as a foolish, impracticable attempt to establish a rotten superstructure on a solid foundation. When the Judge wishes to identify himself with that, or any other political movement, it is presumable that he will do so openly and fearlessly. That is his way of doing business. When it becomes necessary for a political enemy to circulate a palpable falsehood to injure his antagonist, he is most assuredly hard put to it for argu-

ments. No honorable enemy or respectable man will manufacture a lie and dignify it with a place in a public journal, and thus insult the public merely to gratify his malice.

Editorial.—The last steamer brings news that the negotiations were ended and that peace is concluded. This, in connection with the recent death of a son in the Imperial household of France, causes great rejoicing in Paris. The Imperial baby's arrival was proclaimed by a salute of 101 guns, probably in memory of the brief reign of Napoleon the Greater. He (the baby) is not permitted to remain with his mother, but was immediately carried off to his suite of rooms and handed over to the tender mercies of a wet-nurse. Poor baby! born to be orphaned and reared like a pig of choice blood, and quite as probably for the gallows, as for the throne. Who would be the son of that royal thing? Proud of his hands and state—a king!

Republican Declaration of Principles, adopted by the Pittsburg Convention.

1. We demand and shall attempt to secure the repeal of all laws which allow the introduction of slavery into territories once consecrated to Freedom and will resist by every constitutional means, the existence of slavery in any of the territories of the United States.

2. We will support by every lawful means our brethren in Kansas in their manly and constitutional resistance to the usurped authority of their lawless invaders, and will give the full weight of our political power in favor of the immediate admission of Kansas to the Union as a free, sovereign, independent State.

3. Believing that the present National Administration has shown itself to be weak and faithless; and that its continuance in power is identified with the progress of the slave power to national supremacy, and with the exclusion of Freedom from the territory, and with increasing civil discord, it is the leading purpose of our organization to oppose and overthrow it.

The New Liquor Bill.

The following is an abstract of the new liquor law which went into effect, on the 29th ult.:

SECTION 1. From the passage of this act it is made unlawful to keep any room or place where vinous, spirituous, malt or brewed liquors, or any admixtures thereof, are sold or drunk, except as hereinafter provided.

Sec 2. Venders of liquors, with or without merchandise, shall not sell in less quantities than one gallon, except as hereinafter provided; nor shall any license for sales in any beer house, theatre, or other place of amusement.

Sec 3. Breweries and distilleries shall be classed and licensed as before, but shall pay double the present rates, provided it shall not exceed fifty dollars; nor shall they sell in less quantities than five gallons, except malt or brewed liquors, which may be bottled and delivered in quantities not less than one dozen bottles.

Sec 4. This act not to apply to importers selling imported wines, brandies, liquors, or ardent spirits in the original bale, cask, package or vessel as imported; but the importers shall pay double their present tax.

Sec 5. This act shall not extend to druggists and apothecaries who shall sell unadmixed alcohol, or compound or sell any admixtures of wine, alcohol, spirituous or brewed liquors in the preparation of medicines, or upon the written prescription of a regular physician: Provided, No druggist or apothecary shall sell or keep for sale under any name or pretence, any preparation or admixture as aforesaid, that may be used as a beverage. Any violation of this section to be punished as prescribed in the 28th section.

Sec 6. Licenses to venders of spirituous, malt or brewed liquors, either with or without other goods, wares and merchandize, to hotel keepers and to eating house keepers, shall only be granted to citizens of the United States, of temperate habits and good moral character.

Sec 7. Licenses for sale of liquors shall be granted by the Courts of Quarter Sessions of the proper county, (except Philadelphia and Allegheny) at the first or second session in each year, and shall be for one year. The Court to fix a time at which application for said licenses shall be heard, when persons applying and remonstrating shall appear.

Sec 8. Persons intending to apply for license shall file with the Clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions, at least three weeks before presenting the same in Court, (or to the Board of Licenses in Philadelphia and Allegheny) and pay the Clerk twenty-five cents for publishing notice thereof. The Clerk shall cause to be published three times in two of the newspapers of the city or county, a list of the names of all such applicants, their respective residences and kinds of license. In the case of hotels, inns, or taverns and eating houses, the petition shall embrace a certificate signed by at least twelve respectable citizens (or in places of less than fifty taxable, by six citizens) setting forth that the same is necessary to accommodate the public, and that such person is of good repute for honesty and temperance, and is well provided with house room, &c.

Sec 9. No person shall be licensed to keep a hotel, inn or tavern in any city or county town, which has not, for the exclusive use of travelers, four bed-rooms, and eight beds, nor in any other parts of the State, two bed-rooms and four beds, for such use.

Sec 10. Before a license is granted, the person applying shall give a bond to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, with two sufficient sureties, in the sum of \$1,000, where the license is above the seventh class, and in \$500 for all in and below that class, conditioned for the faithful observance of all the laws relating to the business, and a warrant of attorney to confess judgment—which bond and warrant shall be approved by the said Court, and be filed in the office of the Clerk; and whenever a judgment for any forfeiture or fine shall have been recovered, or conviction had for any violation of this act, or any other law for the observance of which said bond shall be conditioned, it shall be the duty of the District Attorney to enter judgment and institute suit thereon, &c.—The bond of eating house keepers shall be in \$500.

Sec 11. No license shall be issued until the applicant shall have filed the certificate of the city or county treasurer, that the license fee has been paid.

Sec 12. Venders of liquors, with or without merchandise, shall be classed and rated as now, and pay double their present rates, but no such license for sales in any amount shall be granted for less than \$50.

Sec 13. Hotels and taverns shall be classed according to the estimated yearly rentals of the houses and property intended to be occupied, as follows:

Where the rental is \$10,000 or more, the license tax shall be \$1,000.

Where the rental is \$8,000 and not over \$10,000, the license tax shall be \$800.

Rental \$6,000 and not over \$8,000, license \$600.

Rental \$4,000 and not over \$6,000, license \$400.

Rental \$2,000 and not over \$4,000, license \$300.

Rental \$1,000 and not over \$2,000, license \$150.

Rental \$500 and not over \$1000, license \$100.

Rental \$300 and not over \$500, license \$50.

Rental under \$300, license \$25.

Provided, That in Philadelphia and Pittsburg, no license granted under the 12th and 13th sections of this act, shall be for less than \$75, nor in other cities, towns or boroughs containing over two hundred taxables, less than \$50.

Sec 14. Eating-houses shall be licensed only where necessary for the accommodation of the public and travelers, and shall only authorize the sale of domestic wines, malt and brewed liquors. Persons so licensed shall pay double their present rates; and in Philadelphia and Pittsburg no such license shall be for less than \$50, nor in other parts of the State for less than \$20.

Sec 15. Provides for assessment and return of licenses, &c.

Secs. 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, refer to the details of the board of appraisers, &c., in Philadelphia and Allegheny.

Sec 22. All persons licensed under this act shall frame their licenses under a glass, and put it in a conspicuous place in their chief places of making sales.

Sec 23. The Commissioners of the several counties, and Board of Licenses of Philadelphia and Allegheny, shall furnish a certified list of all persons so appraised, with the classification made out, and finally determined upon, to the Treasurers of their respective counties or of the city of Philadelphia, who shall, within twenty days thereafter, transmit to the Auditor General a copy of such list, and shall collect the license fees in the manner directed by law.

Sec 24. The Auditor General shall charge said Treasurer with the amount payable by the persons in said lists, from the payment of any part of which amount said Treasurer shall only be exonerated by producing satisfactory evidence to the Department that the party or parties so returned, failed to obtain a license.

Sec 25. The Auditor General is to return to the Legislature annually, in January, a tabular statement of the number and classification and license rates of all importers, brewers and distillers, keepers of hotels, eating houses and venders of liquors with or without other merchandize.

Sec 26. No license is transferable.

Sec 27. The number of tavern licenses shall not exceed in the cities, one to every 100 taxables, nor in the several counties one to every 150 taxables—the number of said taxables to be taken from the returns of the preceding year. The number of eating house licenses shall not exceed in any city or county one-fourth of the number of tavern licenses.

Sec 28. That any sale made of vinous, spirituous, malt or brewed liquors, or any admixtures thereof, contrary to the provisions of this law, shall be taken to be a misdemeanor, and upon conviction of the offence in the court of quarter sessions of the peace of any city or county, the person so offending shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than ten nor more than one hundred dollars, with the costs of prosecution, and to stand committed until the sentence of the court is complied with, not exceeding thirty days; and upon a second or any subsequent conviction the party so offending shall, in addition to the payment of a fine, as aforesaid, undergo an imprisonment in the county jail of not less than one month nor more than three months; and if licensed, shall forfeit said license and be incapacitated from receiving any license as aforesaid for the period of five years thereafter, and any keeper of any drug or apothecary store, confectionary or mineral or other fountain, who shall sell any spirituous, vinous, malt or brewed liquors, mixed or pure, to be used as a beverage, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and liable to conviction and punishment as aforesaid.

Sec 29. Any person found intoxicated in any street, highway, public house or public place, shall be fined upon the view of, or upon proof made before, any alderman or justice of the peace, not exceeding \$5, to be levied with the proper costs upon the goods and chattels of the defendant.

Sec 30. Any person who shall sell intoxicating liquors to any person who shall drink the same on the premises where sold, and become thereby intoxicated, shall, besides his liability in damages under any existing law, be fined \$5 for every such offence—to be recovered in debt before any alderman or justice of the peace by any wife, husband, parent, child, relative or guardian of the person so injured, and levied upon the goods and chattels of the defendant without exemption.

Sec 31. That suits shall not be instituted after twenty days from the commission of the offences in this and the preceding sections.

Sec 32. The court, mayor, alderman or justice of the peace, before whom any fine or penalty shall be recovered, may award to the informer or prosecutor, or both, a reasonable share thereof, but not exceeding one-third; the residue to go to school purposes. The informer or prosecutor may be a witness in any such case.

Sec 33. No bottle of cider, ale, &c., and not following in any way the business of hotel and restaurant keeping, shall be required to take out a license under this act. But they shall not sell less than a dozen bottles at one time, nor permit any of the liquors to be drunk upon the premises, and any violation of this is punishable under the 28th section. The producers and manufacturers of domestic wines and cider may sell and deliver the same by any measure not less than five gallons, and in any quantity not less than one dozen bottles, without license therefor,

Sec 33. It is made the duty of the contractor to make return of retailers of liquors, and under oath or affirmation, whether within his knowledge there is any place within his bailiwick kept in violation of this act, &c.

Sec 34. If any person engaged in the sale and manufacture of intoxicating liquors as aforesaid, shall employ or permit any intemperate person in any way to assist in such manufacture or sale, he shall be deemed a misdemeanor, and punishable under the 28th section.

Sec 35. This act shall not be construed to impair or alter the provisions of the Sunday law, nor the act of May 8, 1854, to protect certain domestic and private rights, and prevent abuses in the sale and use of intoxicating drinks. It repeals the act of April 14, 1855, to restrain the sale of intoxicating liquors, and all other laws or parts of laws inconsistent herewith; and provides that no license heretofore granted shall be hereby invalidated.

Communications.

For the Agitator.

Common Schools.

TIME FOR COMMENCING SCHOOLS.

The schools of this county have usually commenced their summer term on the first Monday of May, except in the Berks' district—It is respectfully suggested to the School Directors that this year the rural schools be commenced on the third Monday, viz, the 19th day of May. Then the first school month reported by the teachers will be the June month, and will fall within the next legal school year, constituting one of the four months they are obliged to report before drawing their public money. The teachers furthermore will by that time have made up their minds about teaching, so they will have less trouble in procuring teachers. The Superintendent also hopes by that time to have had a better opportunity, after the breaking up of the roads in the spring to give the teachers a chance to qualify themselves for their business.

WAY TO HIRE TEACHERS.

It is further respectfully suggested to School Directors, that at least two weeks notice be given by the Secretary of the board, through the papers, or by written notices put up in several conspicuous places, of a day when the Directors of such township will meet to receive application of, and contract with teachers. Then always hire by the month and never by the week—much misunderstanding has arisen from hiring teachers by the week.

TAXES, ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF.

Directors that have not met and laid their assessment for school purposes, should do so immediately, voting also what proportion of it shall be applied to building and repairing school houses, and what proportion to the payment of teachers. They should decide also how many months of summer, and how months of winter schools they will keep; then, knowing the number of schools they will keep up, they can easily decide what average wages they can pay. Without such deliberate financing as this, every board must get embarrassed and do much wrong to those who serve them as builders or teachers. When the tax is levied, the duplicate and warrant should be made out immediately, and put into the hands of the collector of state and county taxes, who, as a general thing, should have the collection of all the taxes, that no man in the county need be asked for taxes but once, and know at a glance just how much he has to pay for all purposes. Much perplexity may be saved to the Directors and tax payers if this suggestion is promptly adhered to.

SCHOOL DIRECTOR'S CONVENTION.

We have frequently contemplated the thought of calling a convention of School Directors and the friends of education generally in this county for the purpose of comparing our views on several educational topics of vital importance. When I mention among these subjects deserving much deliberation, these: uniformity of text books, location and style of school houses, teacher's associations, inequality of school taxes, school visitation by directors and teachers; it will be seen that there is much need of such a convention. We have therefore fixed upon Wellsboro' as the place, and Friday the 9th day of May next as the time of holding a convention of this kind. We shall be happy to see a liberal delegation of directors from every district of the county, where it is impracticable for all to come. Let us have one good, telling convention of School Directors and other friends of education in Tioga Co. This day will be the closing day of the Teacher's Institute in Wellsboro' and the evening is devoted to a public exhibition and oratorical exercises, by the students of the Wellsboro' Academy and Teacher's Institute.

TEACHER'S ASSOCIATIONS.

Believing that the Directors of the county generally agree with us that much more good is to be accomplished by teacher's drills for mental improvement than by hasty examinations, without any or but little instruction, we have concluded to appoint four such Institutes this spring, preparatory to an intelligent opening of the summer schools. The places we have selected are Mansfield, Knoxville, Wellsboro' and Tioga. They will commence on Monday the 21st April at Mansfield, Monday 29 April at Knoxville, Monday 5th May at Wellsboro', and Monday the 12th May at Tioga—each one will commence at 1 o'clock of Monday and close on the evening of the following Friday. We hope to meet all the teachers who propose to teach the following summer in this county, and as many others as may please to attend in one of these Institutes. J. F. CALKINS, Co. Sup't.

What is fashion? Dinner at midnight and headache in the morning. What is idleness? Working yellow mountains on a pink subsoil—or a blue-tailed dog in sky-colored convulsions. What is joy? To count your money and find it overrun a hundred dollars. What is knowledge? To be away from home when people come to borrow books and umbrellas. What is contentment? To sit in the house and see other people stuck in the mud. In other words to be better off than your neighbor.

JAMES REDPATH, the Kansas correspondent of the St. Louis Democrat, has returned home. He says that before he left Kansas, no less than two thousand stand of rifles and twenty breech-loading cannons had been received at Lawrence; they were brought secretly through Iowa and Nebraska.—Cleveland Leader.