

THE AGITATOR.

M. H. Cobb, Editor. Wellsboro, Pa. Thursday Morning, Dec. 11, 1856.

It happened that a clergyman, at Williamsport, dared to denounce certain political sins in his sermon on Thanksgiving Day.

THE FIRST DAY IN THE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1, 1856. The new compensation law brought a full attendance in the House.

Another Shrick from Gov. Wise.

Richmond, Va., Oct. 22, 1856. DEAR SIR:—I assure you that it would give me more pleasure than it could afford my friends in New York, to go to your city and address the Democracy upon the issues of the pending, and I may add, perilous canvass.

The President's Message.

As we expected little from the last dry speech and confession of President Pierce, we have not been disappointed.

The freedom of elections is liable to be impaired by the intrusion of unlawful votes, or the exclusion of lawful ones, by improper influences, by violence, or by fraud.

The President of the United States has not power to interpose in elections, to see to their freedom, to canvass their votes, or to pass upon their legality in the Territories any more than in the States.

Unwise laws, equally with irregularities at elections, are, in periods of great excitement, the occasional incidents of even the freest and best political institutions.

I confidently trust that now, when the peaceful condition of Kansas affords opportunity for calm reflection and wise legislation, either the Legislative Assembly of the Territory, or Congress, will see that no act shall remain on its statute-book violative of the provisions of the Constitution, or subversive of the great objects for which that was ordained and established.

FRANKLIN PIERCE. Washington, December 2, 1856.

From the Squatter Sovereign, published at Atchison, K. T. Nov. 22, 1856.

It is with feelings which we had feared we should never more enjoy, that we receive the news from Pennsylvania, Indiana, New Jersey, New York, Illinois and Ohio, which betoken that there is yet in the North patriots enough left, to master the demon fanaticism, which seemed about to destroy that glorious temple, cemented by the blood of our revolutionary sires.

These indignant individuals declared that they would never patronize that rascally minister again; that they hired him to preach the Gospel, not temperance and morality. They nursed their wrath.

These indignant men were gamblers. They had debauched half the young men in the town; and they had killed more than one mother's heart to death.

Again we heard a sermon denouncing the vice of lying, especially as practiced by jockeys and others who pride themselves on driving "close bargains."

To preach the Gospel! And what is it to do that? "Behold, I bring you glad tidings of great joy which shall be to ALL PEOPLE!"

We may assume that these "glad tidings" were the Gospel as given by the Master. Nowhere does he neglect to denounce evildoers. The scoffing Sadducee and the self-righteous Pharisee were dealt with unsparingly by this Master Preacher.

The Gospel makes no distinction between individual and national sins. Can we read his apostrophe to Jerusalem, sprinkled as she was with the blood of the prophets, and say that he was blind to the sins of nations?

Example is a great preacher. He that slanders evil denounces it, by his same token. He that suffers wrong to exist without protest, in some sort approves it.

A paper before us has a few words to say in regard to a "political sermon" preached on Thanksgiving Day, just over the mountain. The editor evidently knows what it is to plump for his bread and butter. He has a fine conception of what constitutes a Christian character.

There are men among us who still adhere to the ancient delusion, that churches are designed and should be used exclusively for the worship of the Creator, and who under this antiquated notion, contribute largely of their funds for the erection of church buildings and for the maintenance of the clergy.

Mr. M. H. Abbey, of Westfield, has our sincere thanks for the interest he manifests in the welfare of The Agitator. A few such friends would render a power press necessary to supply our edition.

Mr. R. M. Pratt has just received a new and enlarged stock of Groceries and Confectionery, which he offers to the trading public on reasonable terms.

Winter is down upon this elevated region with a white Bear snap. Not much snow yet, but plenty of ice and frost.

These are warnings to preachers. They, being interpreted, mean, "preach all around the truth, but don't preach it."

Mr. Phelps' reply was characterized by the same special pleading which has heretofore marked this discussion, without introducing any new or imposing arguments.

Messrs. Fuller, Broom, Whitney, Valk and Moore, voted for Whitfield, and Scott, Harrison announced the same purpose on coming in too late.

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