

THE AGITATOR.

M. H. Cobb, Editor.

WELLSBOROUGH, PA.

Thursday Morning, April 16, 1857.

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

Republican Nominations.

- For Governor, DAVID WILMOT, Of Bradford County. For Canal Commissioner, WILLIAM MILLWARD, Of Philadelphia. For Supreme Judges, JAMES VEECH, Of Fayette County, JOSEPH J. LEWIS, Of Chester County.

We are requested to state that the District School will commence on Monday, the 20th inst.

No local news, no murders, no robberies, no suicides—nothing horrible and intensely interesting to chronicle this week. We beg our readers to excuse these important lacks, as we are not in the least to blame. This is a moral and religious community, and the people can't do anything shocking for us to chronicle—only they keep steady if they do shocking things. Printers cannot help this dearth of the horrible, indeed they can't. We could give some inevitable passages in the life of a printer, horrible enough, the dear knows; but nobody would be shocked—nobody would bestow a "La sakes alive!" up on the printer therefore. So we won't do it.

"LENA'S" articles have been received and shall appear in their order.

"FRANK" will have a hearing next week. A new poet sends us a budget of "poems," and requests us to "look over and correct." We beg leave to decline the delicate task. Our tastes differ radically that our correspondent would not recognize his brain children, were we to do anything of that kind. We sometimes enact the cruelty of publishing such poetry without alteration, still, we prefer to be merciful rather than severe. We do not object to picking out the beauties and subtleties in our friends' "poems" and publishing them; and we agree to stop publishing whenever he is satisfied.

For example, under the head of "My Loss," we find the following horribly descriptive passage: "But ah the winds around my pathway rool, Dark and dreary was that dreadful night! The lightning's flash, the thunder uttered a horrible growl, Amidst that storm my father sank. O what a dreadful sight."

Next, our poet-friend sets out upon his travels: "But now I have started for the ancient city of Rome One of the most beautiful of all the world, O glorious city, beautiful O beautiful a pleasant home, But my homes the Ocean, to its bottom, shall I be forever whorled."

A terrible fate, truly. We trust our friend will reconsider his determination ere he abandons himself to it. He must delay the descent until warm weather, for comfort's sake. We propose June as a pleasant month to go down in.

The Tioga Agitator publishes Gov. Geary's Farewell Address, and wonders if the Buchanan papers will publish it. We answer, some of them have and others will. This agitator has found a "maverick's nest." In a tone of absolute exaltation he announces his discovery that there really have been troubles in Kansas—that Kansas actually did bleed, and cites the Governor's Address as proof positive of the fact. Now it occurs to us that this agitator is thankful for small favors. We, for one, never doubted that Kansas was pretty effectually phlebotomized; but what the Agitator can find in Governor Geary's Address to justify him in laying the firing line upon his soul that the democratic party stands convicted of falsehood, is more than we have been able to discover. God knows that there has been enough of wrong and outrage in Kansas. No sane man has entertained any doubts upon that subject, nor expressed any, to our knowledge. But the cause of those wrongs and outrages is a subject that the Agitator sorely dodges. It is enough for him that such wrongs were, and he seems very grateful to Mr. Geary for affording him credible evidence of the fact. But Governor Geary does not stop there. He points out the cause that led to the desolation of that fair Territory. He shows that it was the handiwork of bigots and fanatics from both North and South—of men who have no interest in Kansas, not even a residence there and whose aim is dissolution of the Union, a set of uneasy, discontented spirits who cannot or will not mind their own business, and who are ever ready to shed their blood and other people's for some half-fledged, misundstood, perverted principle. This particular agitator may learn if he will, a very useful lesson from Gov. Geary's Address.—Tunkhannock Democrat.

Remarks. We give the foregoing copious extract from our Tunkhannock cotemporary, in order to exhibit a specimen of the unfair and uncandid manner in which the Buchanan press habitually treat opponents. That those papers have generally published, or intend to, or dare to publish the Farewell Address of Gov. Geary, the Tunkhannock editor either knows to be grossly untrue, or else stands convicted of unpardonable ignorance. That paper is the only Buchanan paper out of some ten received weekly at this office, in which that Address has yet, or will, hereafter appear. We know the objects, aims and determined policy of that party full as well as does our cotemporary, with this remarkable difference: He knows, but to misstate; we know, and declare. Still, he deserves credit above his fellows for the North Branch Democrat has published that Address, without having read it, or having read it, only to misrepresent its letter and unmistakable spirit and intent. In evidence of this we ask the reader to take up Gov. Geary's Address and compare its essential declarations with those in the above extract, in their bearing upon the points which we consider below.

1st.—As to the cause of the outrages in Kansas: The Governor states that the great body of the citizens of Kansas, are peaceable, law-abiding people; that the troubles have resulted from the machinations of non-residents. But he nowhere says that these violent agitators were from both the South and the North, as our cotemporary alleges with such exultation. Nor does he, in direct terms, state from what section these fanatics came. But in his references to these men he leaves no room for doubt as to their nativity. He refers to them in one place as "those who attributed my labors to a desire for gubernatorial or senatorial honors," and these we know to have been that party of which the Squatter Sovereign is the organ; for in that paper has the Governor been outrageously abused and insulted by these base insinuations. Again, he refers to them in the following direct manner: "That I have met with opposition and even bitter vituperation and vindictive malice, is no matter for astonishment." Now from whom did he receive this treatment? Not from the Free State men, certainly. He has had their support and countenance from the first. His Administration has had the support of the Free Soil papers in the Territory. Whence the "opposition," the "bitter vituperation," and the "vindictive malice" of which the Governor complains? For the enlightenment of our cotemporary we answer—from the Squatter Sovereign, the Lecompton Union and the

party whose organs they are. And these are the "non-resident machinations" stigmatized by Gov. Geary as "disturbers of the peace of the Territory," and as "violent men who have selected Kansas as the ground upon which their disunion schemes are to be prosecuted." And such, sir, are the men and the measures which the falsely-called democratic party, through Mr. James Buchanan, elect to aid and uphold in refusing to sustain Gov. Geary. And we ask our uncandid cotemporary to produce the naked facts in evidence before his readers, if he dare. We can send him copies of that excellent Democratic organ, the Squatter Sovereign, with its amiable notices of Governor Geary, with extracts from its Territorial cotemporaries touching the same individual. But he would not publish a word in correction of his above-quoted remarks—not he; that is not in the bond under which Buchanan editors put themselves. We regret such insincerity in men, but that does not cure the disease.

2d.—We are told by this editor that, "no sane man has entertained any doubt as to the outrages in Kansas, nor expressed any," to his knowledge? This places the Biglers, the Joneses, the Forneys, the Snobblies, the Packers and the whole tribe of Buchanan editors in a pretty dilemma; for every mother's son of them denounced the story of the wrongs and outrages in Kansas, as a base, Black Republican lie! Now they either believed what they said, or they did not. If they believed it, then let them be packed off to the madhouse instantly; but if they did not believe their assertions, why then they must be set down as a most contemptible pack of liars—a fact which we are willing to admit, and have not been backward in proclaiming.

3d.—In his refutation of facts to the editor of the St. Louis Democrat, a Buchanan paper, Geary says that an organized band of cut-throats were sworn to assassinate him from the moment of his entrance into the Territory, whenever he should please to deviate from the line of policy which he had marked out for him. Who were those cut-throats? Who headed the gang? Was it a "fanatic from the North"? Indeed it was not. It was one Shierrod, with a gang of Southern cut-throats at his back. Now, will the Tunkhannock gentlemen be good enough to say whether he can produce evidence to show that Free State men ever swore to assassinate Gov. Geary, or in any way opposed him in putting down the disturbers of the peace of Kansas? We ask him to back up his statements with the documents; and will accept Gov. Geary as authority.

4th.—That editor knows that we have never been in the habit of dodging anything, if he knows anything about us. We have given the fullest scope to the subject in hand that our columns would permit. We published Geary's Farewell Address two weeks before the slow gentleman of the Tunkhannock paper thought of showing it in his columns; indeed, it is a matter of grave doubt with us whether he would have published it at all, had not our very pertinent inquiry aroused him to a sense of duty. In return, he might stir up other sleeping lions of democracy to publish the Governor's address. Put the facts before the people, gentlemen, and your "great democratic" party could not live twenty-four hours. Your principles cannot bear the light any more than can the eyes of the bat. Keep them in the friendly shadow of Slavery's sable wing! you would preserve your organization. Make a show of candor and fairness, for the dear people who vote as their leaders direct, even if forced to swallow the whole nasty batch of Northern "white niggers" with Douglas at the head, do think something of candor and fairness still. Go ahead, gentlemen; if called to notice State papers, misrepresent their plain letter and spirit, for that is a part of your trade. Insist that black is white and white black; swear that Kansas ought to be free, and then do your worst to enslave it; deprecate the resignation of Geary, and support the Administration that refused to sustain him in the discharge of his duty; in a word—do all that is damnable, politically and socially, and swear that Republicanism and infidelity are one—and then you can pass muster as a simon-pure-dyed-in-the-wool democrat.

Brother Little will be good enough not to consider these closing remarks personal. His tendency toward Abolitionism is too apparent in several of his late articles for that. We aim only at the Snobblies and the Biglers of Democracy.

We are every day receiving, through exchanges and from private correspondents, fresh evidence of the enthusiastic reception of the nomination of David Wilmot by the friends of Freedom everywhere. His nomination is hailed as the fruition of the long cherished hope for the distinctive organization of the Republican party of Pennsylvania. We can now go to work with uplifted faces, free of entangling alliances, with our eyes fixed upon the Mecca of the freeman's hope. Friends, brothers, Republicans—the strife before us is an earnest battle, not for a paltry and selfish existence as a party, but for existence as a nation of freemen. Up, for the love of liberty and Humanity!

We extract the following very pertinent remarks from a private letter received from a gentleman of large heart in his love of Truth and Justice, and of great experience and acknowledged sagacity as a politician. This gentleman resides in the State of New York, and his opinion must therefore have the weight due to that of a calm and dispassionate observer, standing apart from the influences of local prejudices and from the excitement and confusion of the conflict. He writes:

"The nomination of WILMOT by the friends of Freedom and free institutions was a bold stroke and a strong bit, which carry with them auguries of success in the great trial, to the issue of which, we shall all over the Free States, look with anxious hearts."

A good cause never loses anything in presenting a bold and determined front to the enemy. The name of WILMOT is a household word wherever the rights of human nature are held paramount among political rights, and the principles of Free States, based in the fair representation of individual sovereignty, are held to be the only just and tolerable systems of government. In these times, we should select none for leaders and standard-bearers, but such as are true representatives of our great cause—men of heart, of soul and courage, of long endurance, tried integrity and unswerving purpose—men whose lives, and not lips only, manifest their political faith;—such men, and such only, as representatives of our Sovereignities, can save even our general Government and Constitution, from the Executive and Judicial traitors who are so determined to undermine and subvert both! The Free States are now the only bulwarks and citadels of Freedom; and when we shall have achieved in each of them a victory over that democracy which rests on a basis of serfdom instead of equal rights, our work will be finished and the Constitution and the Union preserved in their integrity and purity; and not before.

Let the Keystone elect WILMOT Governor, and thus add a new and unmistakable guarantee to the cause of Republican Government in this our hour of danger."

We hold that neither the Constitution nor the Union can be restored to their original purity while the falsely-called democratic party control the administration of a single State government in the North. That party must be utterly overthrown before peace in the land can be secure. The election of David WILMOT would prove the utter and irreparable overthrow of those twin monsters—Know-Nothingism and Shamocracy in Pennsylvania, and with their downfall in this State, their power in the entire North would vanish. W. Post must indeed

be elected if labor can elect him. He is a platform of high and noble principles in himself—we ask no other and no better. Let us advocate him as the firm and undivided champion of Right, everywhere. Let us make the campaign upon this issue alone; and then, if by the favor of Almighty Kindness we be victorious, we shall have triumphed permanently, and forever. Freemen of the glorious Banner County, shall we join hands and fight the battle on the single question?

"VIVIA—THE SECRET OF POWER." By Mrs. E. D. E. N. SOUTHWORTH. T. B. Peterson, publisher, 102 Chestnut-st., Philadelphia. Sent post-paid on receipt of \$1.25.

We have not yet read this latest work of Mrs. S., in detail, but its leading points place in the foremost rank of American works of fiction. Her characters are breathing pictures of intensified human nature, and the characters in "Vivia" are fully up to the author's best efforts. Vivia, the heroine, is our ideal of a true woman, with a soul sitting on the throne of Faith and contemplating the ills of life only as so many obstacles to be patiently borne until overcome by Endeavor. In the victory of Wakefield Brunton we read the experience of an earnest soul in the crucifixion of Self upon the cross of Duty. Ada Malmanson is an impassioned female monster—just such a character as one does not love to contemplate; Helen rethinks one of another Helen, while Dora, the child-artist, her sacrifice and her fearful life-struggle impress us with the power of a soul knit with love and duty, though it tenant a frail body. This much we catch from a cursory examination of the book. The secret of Power, as we learn in the general summing up, is FAITH.

The work is gotten up in Peterson's best style, spring back, etc., etc.

"THE BORDER ROVER," by EMERSON BENNETT. Published by the same. Two vols. paper, sent post paid on receipt of 75 cents.

We have not examined this book, but the critics pronounce it one of the best of its class. Mr. Bennett is gifted with a fervid imagination, and is at home in all the details of Border life.

Such as delight in "adventurous story" will read "The Border Rover," with great satisfaction.

Goody's Lady's Book for May has a fine gemograph entitled "Dining Out," and in it all respects an excellent number. Mr. Goody complains that some of his exchanges neglect to notice the Book. That doesn't mean us, Mr. Goody: we consider the noticing of the Lady's Book a duty as well as an obligation. Mr. Goody is doing a good work for Art, and deserves a first-rate notice every month. His Magazine may be had, single copy, \$3, or two copies for \$5. Back numbers furnished to subscribers at any time during the year.

A MAN IN THE RAPIDS OF NIAGARA.—The story of Joseph Avery, the unfortunate man who lived for a day clinging to a rock in the rapids above the American fall at Niagara, will not soon be forgotten; and an occurrence of very similar character occurred on Tuesday, 31st ult. A man named E. C. Taylor, a resident of West Winfield, Herkimer County, (a guest at the Ladow House, descended the bank of the river, near the Suspension Bridge, probably for the purpose of viewing the Bridge from below. On reaching the bottom, he slipped and fell into the water just above the bridge, and when discovered was thirty or forty rods below the bridge near the shore, rolling over and over, borne along by the resistless current until he caught hold of a large rock, and after some hard struggles succeeded in reaching the top. The alarm was immediately given in the neighborhood, and it was soon decided there was no way of reaching him except by means of a rope ladder. This was immediately procured, and after much hesitation, delay and altercation, occasioned by the difficulty of determining where to place it; inasmuch as the man could not be seen from the projecting bank over his head, it was lowered to the distance of perhaps a hundred feet, and became entangled among the rocks and trees.

It was at once decided that some one must go down to disentangle it. In a few moments Willard B. Coburn, porter of the Ladow Hotel, volunteered his services, and proceeded to the place where the ladder was attached to the trees. He needed assistance, and soon two brave men, Anthony Shirley and Nate Crane, offered to go down. The three worked bravely for more than an hour in conducting the ladder, while the men at the top carefully let it down. At length the waving of handkerchiefs and cheerings on the Canadian side indicated to us that the man had sprung to the shore from the rock, and had begun to ascend the ladder. Cautiously, and with a firm grasp and step, he climbed up three hundred feet, and was greeted by the shouts and acclamations of the hundreds of spectators who had assembled to witness the exciting scene. He was for a few moments borne on the shoulders of the excited multitude, all were so anxious to congratulate him.—N. Y. Times.

THE GENERAL FREE BANKING LAW which has been pending in the Pennsylvania State Legislature for some time past, was rejected April 3, in the House of Representatives, there being a majority of nine against it.—This is the way in which our good Commonwealth is kept behind others. Notwithstanding all the outcry about the insecurity of special banks, we go on chartering them year after year, without requiring the deposit of securities at Harrisburg in case of their explosion, and thus, while we concede to a few institutions the monopoly of the discount business of the State, we have no guarantee against loss by their mismanagement. Why business of any legitimate kind should be restricted to a few favored hands we could never see. Discounting is as legitimate a business as any other. No general act to authorize and regulate the free formation and management of corporate banks can be had; and under pretense of restricting our credit within proper limits, charters are granted to such bogus concerns as those which have recently exploded in the interior of the State. We do not doubt that, before the present Legislature breaks up, it will pass several new special bank charters for out of the way places, which will stand a pretty good chance of being of the "wild cat" species. We had hoped that the consistency displayed by the present House of Representatives upon the bank bills would have induced the adoption of this general law. But it seems that the demagogues are too strong.—North American.

Gov. Chase, of Ohio who has already buried three wives, it is rumored, proposes a matrimonial fusion with a charming widow—of course—of Cleveland.

Gov. Geary on the State of Things in Kansas.

Joseph Ford of Fountain Grove, Rice County, Minnesota Territory, publishes a letter in 'The Chicago Tribune,' detailing a conversation which he held in Washington, a few days since, with ex-Gov. Geary on Kansas affairs. The following extracts will be read with interest. Mr. Ford avows that he was a Buchanan Democrat when he commenced the conversation, but he had turned a Republican before he ended it, and his conversion seems to have been approved by the Governor:

"I have, all my life, been what is called a National Democrat; and though my territorial residence forbade my taking any part in the last Presidential election, my sympathies and hopes were earnestly for Mr. Buchanan. I was not, then, as you may imagine, exactly prepared to hear the tale that Gov. Geary told. I had looked upon the reports which were circulated in opposition newspapers as grossly exaggerated statements of occurrences in the Territory; and, though willing to admit that the Pro-Slavery men had been guilty of some excess, I consoled myself with the natural supposition that the other side was equally to blame. Even the report of the conversation of the Governor in the office of 'The Missouri Democrat,' I looked upon as a partisan statement, greatly distorted for political purposes. Judge then of my surprise, to hear from his lips a confirmation of all that I had looked on as false before; and to hear the remarks attributed to him by the 'Democrat,' not only re-affirmed, but repeated with minute details, which greatly heightened the effect of what he had to say.

I do not propose to detail at length the conversation that filled almost an hour; but I cannot refrain from calling your attention to that of your readers to the few points which have not appeared in the many reports given by the public press. Passing over his confirmation of the charges of atrocities, which have filled the Republican papers—a confirmation direct, positive and unequivocal—I will mention what he said in relation to the withdrawal of the troops:

"Every Pro-Slavery man of influence, as well as many of the saloon-keepers, common loafers, and the like, knew of the proposed withdrawal; and I was tainted by them—some of them the vilest of the vile—with the fact that I was to be left unsupported, long before I had an official notification of what was intended. I did not pay any attention to these things, inasmuch as I, though then suspicious, yet depended upon the positive assurances of the Administration that I should be sustained. The discovery that the people of the Territory were to be left at the mercy of the assassins by whom they were threatened, was the severest trial to which I was subjected."

I repeat his language as literally as possible; and I am sure that I do not color or exaggerate the facts. In relation to the character of the men who have been laboring to destroy his power and influence, he observed: "There are men here in Washington now, seeking for office, and with the probability that they will get what they ask, whose hands and arms up to their elbows are red with blood. I know them to be murderers! Yet they are graciously received by Mr. Buchanan and the Cabinet; and their statements are taken as truth wherever they conflict with mine. They are treated with more cordiality and favor than I, who have tried to discharge my duty faithfully and honestly, can ever hope to be."

In relation to the coming election and the probable complexion of the Constitutional Convention, he said: "I believe that at least two-thirds of the people of the Territory are in favor of making Kansas free; but under the operation of the plans which their opponents have devised, there is no doubt that a Pro-Slavery Constitution will be framed."

The difference between the two parties he stated as follows: "Among the Pro-Slavery men there is no freedom of speech—hardly of opinion. The first inquiry made by them of every new comer is, 'Where are you from?' and if the answer is, 'From the North,' that man is marked and neither his person or property is safe. They have established a reign of terror. Among the Free-State men I found nothing of this; every man who has an opinion is at liberty to express it without molestation: I had no trouble with them, after the first difficulties were over—none whatever."

The Governor was very direct and explicit in his charge against the late Administration, and by no means disposed to spare that now in power. He seemed to speak as an honest, injured man. Going to Kansas with the intention of dealing alike with all parties, and enforcing the laws as he found them, without inquiry as to how or by whom they were made, he soon learned that that policy was not what his party there of his superiors in office desired. "They" (I use his words) "dreaded nothing so much as impartiality," and as soon as they ascertained that he was not to be used for their purposes, his troubles and persecutions commenced. He complained that his dispatches sent to the Department of State were grossly garbled in publication, when they were permitted to see the light at all. The parts which were supposed to be offensive to the Pro-Slavery party were stricken out; and the "country" said he, "has never yet learned the whole truth." He thought that no objection was ever made to any strictures upon Free-State men; but when the truth was told of their opponents, it was "going our own way."

In this conversation, of which I have given but a brief outline, the Governor, though there were others in the room a part of the time at least, spoke principally to me, as I had particularly requested a statement of facts as they had come under his observation. He did not speak under excitement, but discreetly and with apparent care to tell the exact truth. His Secretary—the name I do not recollect—was present during the conference, and he, often in the most emphatic manner, confirmed the Governor's words. Indeed, so excited was he at times, when a topic of peculiar interest was touched—the murder of Buffum for instance—that his indignation was manifested not only in words, but in an exceedingly demonstrative manner. When thoroughly aroused by the Governor's narrative I asked him: "Governor, what am I, a

Northern Democrat, to do? I am tempted to declare here that I am ready to work hereafter with the Republican party!" He answered quickly and decisively:

"There seems to be no other course for an honest and intelligent man to pursue." I have thus given you a sketch of what occurred in an interview which has left me in no doubt of what is my duty, to do. I believe—religiously believe—that Gov. Geary is an honest and conscientious man, and that he told me the truth. I go home to my farm in Minnesota, ready to co-operate with any man or any party to make not only Minnesota, but every other Territory, now and forever hereafter free.

A SUPPOSED TRANCE—A YOUNG LADY'S FUNERAL POSTPONED.—On Friday last a young lady named Williams, whose family resides on Seventh street, near Cutter, died suddenly of disease of the heart. The body was dressed in the habiliments of the grave, and every necessary arrangement was made for the funeral ceremonies, which were to have taken place on Sunday last. At the appointed hour a hearse, followed by a train of carriages, drove up to the house in readiness to receive the body and convey it to its final resting place.

The corse remained in front of the house such an unusual long time as to excite the wonder of the neighbors, whose astonishment reached the culminating point when the driver of the hearse mounted his box, seized the reins, and drove hastily away, followed by the empty carriages, and without the corpse, for which his services were brought into requisition. The solution of the affair is as follows: On approaching the body for the purpose of taking a last farewell of the departed, a relative noticed a very perceptible flush came over the countenance of the dead, and on placing his hand over the region of the heart he was surprised to find it quite warm, notwithstanding the fact, or the supposed fact—that death occurred three days previous. A number of medical men were at once summoned, who, after consultation, advised a postponement of the funeral, and the hearse and carriages were dismissed.

Since that time the body has not at all changed in appearance. The countenance continues flushed, and there is considerable warmth perceptible in the region of the heart. Meanwhile the family and friends are in the greatest doubt and perplexity, and there are conflicting opinions as to the case. Some who have visited the body, are confident that death has actually taken place, while others maintain that the young lady lives in a trance. Hundreds of people have visited the house daily, attracted here by the singularity of the case.

PANTHER FIGHT IN KANSAS.—The last number of the Kickapoo Pioneer says:—A few evenings since, as William Pate, well known in these parts as a Kickapoo Ranger, was meandering the crooked trail from his town to Port William, he was halted by a respectable looking footpad, in the shape of a full grown male panther, and requested to "stand and deliver." Mr. Pate objected to the surly man's demand when the demand was made, and informed his tiger-like majesty that his property, salt told, consisted of an empty bottle and a bowie knife, both of which he would be obliged to the gentleman to return. "As that was not what Mr. Panther desired, and as he showed his teeth and gradually insinuated himself towards Mr. Pate, Mr. Pate waxed wrathly, and he let Mr. Panther have the battle over his pate, with all the nervous energy of a strong arm. The act being considered by Panther as a declaration of war, he closed in on our gallant Pate, who being some himself, and nothing loth for an engagement now that his blood was up, seized his belligerent opponent by the scalp lock with his left hand, while he applied the shining steel with his right, to the sleek vest of his antagonist. In a few moments Panther had as beautiful a "slashed jerk" as one would wish to see; while Pate, still in the ascendancy, stood by minus coat, hat, breeches, some hide, part of an ear, and considerable hair; actually nothing left but boots and bowie knife. But our friend was victor and nothing daunted, he shouldered his enemy and carried him home, where he was measured by several of his neighbors, one of whom has kindly furnished us with the full measurement of the animal from tip to tip, which was seven feet three inches.

Nor Bad.—As we do not read the German vernacular, we lose the good things set before the readers of the German papers of our city. The following good story is told in the Free Democrat of last evening:

A tri-weekly Hunter paper published in this city, called the Grand Aus [straight out] announced a few days since, that Mr. Kane had recently returned from the Arctic regions in search of the lost steamship Franklin. To this the Atlas [German Republican] replied that it was never before heard that Sir John Franklin was a steamship. Shortly after, the Grand Aus had a long article, endeavoring to prove how mean the Atlas was in taking cognizance of such small mistakes, and wound up by saying, that as a matter of course, Franklin was not a steamship, but merely a sailing vessel.—Milwaukee Sen.

NATURE OF COMETS.—M. Babinet, of the French Institute, in the course of some remarks which he has published concerning the comet which is expected by astronomers in the year 1858, says:

With regard to one of the questions to which this question has given rise, I must protest against the idea that a comet possesses the power of imparting a perceptible mechanical shock. I can prove that the collision of a swallow, intent on suicide, and flying with full force against a train of a hundred carriages, drawn by ten steam engines, would be a thousand times more dangerous for the train in question than would be the simultaneous shock of all the known comets against the earth. What is a comet? It is a visible nothing.

The Hon. Charles D. Penrose, Senator from Philadelphia, died April 6th, of pleurisy at Herr's Hotel, Harrisburg. The event was announced to both branches of the Legislature, when an immediate adjournment took place.

The Wilmot Proviso.

Nearly eleven years have passed since this then apparently unimportant proviso, tacked to an appropriation bill, was proposed in Congress by Wilmot, now our candidate for Governor, and although we suppose the large majority of our readers are perfectly well acquainted with its whole history, it may not be uninteresting or unprofitable to give a brief sketch of it from such materials as are in our hands. It is so pleasant to review the past and recall the names of those who may now be found preaching "democracy" but who formerly were foremost among the "abolitionists."

The Mexican War, undertaken that Slavery might have a more expanded domain, had, in the summer of 1846, quite depleted the Treasury. On the 8th of August in that year Mr. Polk, at that time President of the United States, in a message to Congress asked for an additional "appropriation to provide for an expenditure which may be necessary to make in advance for the purpose of settling all difficulties with the Mexican Republic."

In accordance with the desire thus expressed, Mr. McKay of North Carolina, on the same day introduced a bill into the House. This bill simply set forth the fact that a state of war existed between the Republics of Mexico and the United States, and that "the sum of two millions of dollars be appropriated to enable the President to conclude a treaty of peace," etc., etc., to which Hon. David Wilmot moved to add the following:—PROVIDED, "That as an express and fundamental condition to the acquisition of any territory from the Republic of Mexico by the United States, by virtue of any treaty which may be negotiated between them, and to the use by the Executive of the money herein appropriated, neither Slavery nor involuntary servitude shall ever exist in any part of said territory except for crime, whereof the party shall first be duly convicted."

So reads the Proviso since so famous. A correspondent of the Pittsburg Gazette, writing from Washington under date of August 9, 1846, says:—

"The Proviso was, of course, warmly, almost fiercely opposed, but for the first time within my recollection the locofocos of the North stood up like men, and manfully resisted the extension of slavery; and in so doing have committed the unpardonable sin against their brethren of the South, and made an unhealable breach in the party."

Our correspondent could he have looked forward eleven years, could he have seen the breach healed by a general striking of hands among the motley crew on the then discarded and detested ground of Calhounism!

But to proceed: the bill of McKay with the proviso as above, passed the House by a vote of 85 to 80. The Pennsylvania Democrats voting for it were the following: Black, Erdman, Foster, Leib, Thompson, M'Lean, Ritter, Wilmot and Yost. Messrs. Brodhead, C. J. Ingersoll and Garvin dodged. That makes 12 votes and 12 votes were all that Democracy could then count upon from this State.

On the last day of the session the bill went to the Senate and there died a natural death. Mr. Lewis of Alabama in that body, moved to strike out the Anti-Slavery provision, which Mr. Davis (honest John Davis) of Massachusetts rose to oppose and spoke against time till the session was on the point of closing. The bill had found its way through many fiery trials up to the very point of passing. A correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune writing to that paper in August 1846, remarks:

"Mr. Davis supposed the proviso would be stricken out in the Senate if it came to a vote, but we understand he was mistaken—that it would have been retained. No matter—the moral force of the vote of the House remains. It is a solemn declaration of the United North against the farther extension of Slavery under the protection of our flag. It will stand too! Let us see what candidate for Congress from a Free State will venture to avow himself in favor of receding from the position thus taken."

The New York Express, the Tribune, and, besides these, numbers of what were then called Democratic, but are now dubbed "Abolition" sheets, sounded the triumph at the spirit of opposition to the demands of Slavery, which had been thus suddenly developed in Congress. Mr. Wick, of Indiana, was denounced as the "meanest of the dough-faces," because he moved to qualify Wilmot's Proviso by inserting "all North of 36 deg. 30 min." so as to leave all South of that line to Slavery, and that was voted down by 89 to 53. Every vote from the State of New York was recorded in favor of the Proviso.

For once the North stood united, and looked the braggart of Slavery fully in the face. There were among the Democracy no recanters, except in the way of dodging. James Buchanan gave the party its cue a little later, in his letter to the Berks county Convention, and then the "faithful" began to "rat," and have kept doing so until now. We shall, in another article, give a little more of the history of the Proviso. We have simply, in this article, recalled the cause and beginnings of the excitement, which went on until it was checked by the compromise measures of 1850. The session succeeding this in which Mr. Wilmot proposed his "rider" to the three million bill, is full of instruction. We shall refer to it further on Monday.

THE NEXT GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA.—We are glad to learn that David Wilmot, the author of the "Wilmot Proviso," and long one of the foremost in the advocacy of territorial freedom, on the floor of the House of Representatives, has been nominated for Governor by the Union Convention of Pennsylvania. William Millward was nominated for Canal Commissioner. James Veech and Joseph L. Lewis for Judges of the Supreme Court.

The Convention adopted a series of strong anti-slavery resolves, condemning, in strong terms, the late decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, asserting the power of Congress over the territories, and declaring their unwillingness to abridge the rights of any class of citizens.

We predict that Mr. Wilmot will be the next Governor of Pennsylvania.—Clemung Republican.