

THE AGITATOR.

HUGH YOUNG, Editor & Proprietor. WELLSBOROUGH, PA. Thursday Morning, March 3, 1859.

S. M. PETERSON & Co., 110 Nassau St., New York, and 10 State St., Boston, are the Agents for the Agitator, and the most influential and largest circulating Newspapers in the United States and the Canadas. They are authorized to contract for us at our lowest rates.

A PARTING WORD.

Last week by a mistake of the types, which was corrected before the whole edition was printed, we were made to say in alluding to Allison White, that he voted against the repeal of the laws against the slave trade. We desire to set him right on the record before our readers, and to this end we give in another column the record itself.

The agitation of this subject by the Southern newspapers and by Southern politicians who have everything to gain by it and nothing to lose, together with the marked favor by which it has been received by the poor whites of the South, who think they see in it a relief from the degradation to which their association with Slavery has reduced them, go to show that Mr. Seward's Rochester proposition—that the whole of this country must in the course of time be a land of freedom or a land of slavery—is not a fanciful theory, but a solemn truth deduced from an intimate knowledge of the nature of the systems of free and slave labor, and their incompatibility with each other.

It is not for us to look at the moral aspects of this question; this duty we leave to those whose mission it is to guard the people against national as well as individual sins. When one citizen discovers another either contemplating or committing a crime, if he remains silent he becomes accessory; and it seems to us that to keep silent when a great national crime is being seriously contemplated, is, in effect, mildly to urge its commission.

Those who now ask for the repeal of this law care but little for the results which are sure to follow—results which will be disastrous to them as a people—mentally, morally and physically. The argument that the Africans brought here will be christianised does not appear quite so plausible, when we remember that by the sympathetic force of association, the christian importers must be somewhat brutalized and Africanized in turn.

Two classes of people at the South will be materially affected by the importation of negroes from Africa. The first class embraces the aristocratic slaveholders, slavebreeders and dealers whose stock now on hand will not be worth one dollar where before it was worth ten.

Whether this question will be urged upon the Charleston Convention or not—and we have no doubt that it will—we feel that it will be met by such an answer from all parties at the North as will never be forgotten. It must be borne in mind that the ablest statesmen, the true patriots of the South do not agitate the question, nor ask for the consummation of this infamy. It is asked for and agitated only by the demagogues, filibusters, and manifest-destinarians, whose existence as such, depends on the amount of ill feeling and want of unanimity they can engender between the States North and South.

But we have been led into a long introduction to an exceedingly agreeable work. We never said Good-Bye before without address. Our readers all know that Allison White and James Lecumpton Gillis have in defiance of the known wishes of their constituents persisted in misrepresenting them on every question of importance which has been before Congress since their election. This day ends their career.

FREE LITERARY LECTURE AND READING ROOM.—The Iron City College, of Pittsburgh, Pa., employs the most distinguished speakers for its course of Lectures, held in College Hall every Friday evening, and several hundred papers and magazines are taken each week for the Public Reading Room. These are some of the advantages young men gain in attending this, the largest, most popular and efficient Commercial College of the country, having now 257 students.

AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.—The Natchez Free Trader says: "There is no use in attempting to stop it. The people of the Southern States will have them. The African Slave Trade is opened, and we question whether a month has passed, or will pass away within the next five years, without a cargo of Africans being landed on our Southern coast, and given food, raiment, protection and christianity." Christianity!

THE MUSICAL CONVENTION.

The refining influence of music upon communities where it is cultivated to any extent, needs only to be alluded to in order to be at once recognized and acknowledged. It is true there are persons in almost every community, who, not having the talent nor the industry to acquire a knowledge of the science, habitually try to underrate this influence by the thoughtless sneer that the cultivation of this art unfits its students for success in the sterner pursuits of life. The argument contained in this sneer is, in our opinion, the best reason which could be adduced in favor of a general cultivation of music, for it is always the case that those who affect to despise music and its cultivation are not the most moral members of society.

In view of these remarks we are glad to lay before our readers a full report of the proceedings of the Musical Convention which assembled here on the 22d ult. and continued its sessions for four days. Owing to the bad weather and bad roads the number in attendance was not so large as the friends here had reason to expect. The Court House not being considered suitable for so large a class, an account of the arrangement of the seats, the members of the Presbyterian Church granted the free use of their commodious building and the Convention adjourned itself to, and met there till the close.

The first day of the Convention was spent in arranging the voices into parts, those in attendance being in a great degree strangers to each other. Under the able guidance of Prof. Fox everything was soon got into working order, and on the second day of the Convention the increased interest in its sessions was manifested not only by its members but by the friends of the "divine art" in our Borough. During the day the Convention was fully organized by the election of H. E. SMITH, Esq., of Tioga as President, and J. B. POTTER, Esq., of Middlebury as Secretary.

It seems that at a Musical Convention held in Tioga last Fall an effort was made to organize a County Musical Association, and a temporary organization was had, and under its auspices the present Convention was called. On motion of Dr. Borden of Tioga, a committee of five was appointed to draft a Constitution and By-Laws for a permanent organization. This Committee consisted of Dr. Borden, Thos. Allen, Jno. W. Guernsey, H. E. Smith and J. B. Potter, who, on the third day of the session reported the following Constitution and By-Laws which were unanimously adopted:

For the purpose of cultivating the science of sacred music, we, the undersigned, do form ourselves into a Society to be called the Tioga County Musical Association, under the following Constitution and By-Laws:

ARTICLE I. Sec. 1st. Any person paying one dollar into the hands of the Treasurer annually shall become a member of this Association, with all the rights and privileges of membership.

ARTICLE II. Sec. 1st. The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and an Executive Committee consisting of nine members.

ARTICLE III. Sec. 1st. The officers shall be elected at an annual session, to hold their office for one year, and until others are duly elected.

Sec. 2d. The Secretary shall be entitled to a vote.

Sec. 3d. This Constitution may be amended at any annual session by a vote of two-thirds of its members.

to win from the members high considerations of respect and esteem; and we cordially and gladly commend him to the Association as a gentleman thoroughly versed in the science and deeply imbued with the spirit of harmony.

That we urge upon the Association the vital importance of a more thorough organization at the earliest moment.

That these resolutions be handed to the editors of both County papers with a request to publish.

These resolutions were unanimously adopted, whereupon the President of the Convention called upon Rev. J. F. Calkins who was present, who responded in some very appropriate remarks upon the influence of music on the soul particularly when used in connection with the worship of God.

We cordially congratulate the Association on the success of this Convention. We also desire to congratulate the people of the County in having an Association of this kind in their midst, and we hope it will be sustained and the members encouraged to still nobler efforts.

It is not unusual in almost any neighborhood to find a good bass, tenor, or soprano singer; but we submit that good solos are unusual outside of the musical profession. There were several first rate solo singers at the Convention here, and we think we would be doing the Association injustice did we pass by in silence the excellence shown in several important pieces, by Miss Julia Smith of Covington.

We cannot close this article without expressing our thanks to the officers of the Convention for the courtesies extended to us personally, and for the assistance rendered in making a report of the proceedings for the benefit of those of our readers at a distance, who were prevented by the bad weather and roads from attending.

W. H. ENGLISH, (Mulatto Democrat), who was used as a cat's-paw by the Slave Power in introducing the Lecompton Swindle which bears his name, is the man who introduced the bill to make newspapers pay postage on their exchanges. He naturally feels vindictive towards the power which thwarted his schemes—a power which in the north reflects the sentiments of a Free People—namely, a Free Press.

Mansfield Classical Seminary Library. We give below a letter to the public from the Librarian of the Classical Seminary at Mansfield. We trust that the friends of Education will not let this appeal go unheeded.

Mansfield, Pa. Feb. 25, 1859. MR. EDITOR: The Mansfield Classical Seminary, gratefully acknowledges the recent receipt of valuable acquisitions to its Library, from the following persons:

Hon. Wm. Bigler, U. S. Senate; S. S. & W. Wood, publishers of Brown's Grammar of English Grammars, 389, Broadway, N. Y.; J. S. Hoard, L. H. Elliott, Mrs. Mary Elliott, Rev. R. L. Stilwell, A. J. Howell, M. D. Bailey, D. C. Holden, A. B. Canfield, J. A. Holden, and Joseph P. Morris, of this place.

The books presented by the above named persons have added materially to our collection; and I would appeal to the friends of Education to aid us, if they can in this enterprise. The total loss of our edifice by fire and subsequent rebuilding, (which we hope to complete soon), have been a severe task upon us and our friends who have so generously aided us; and as almost every one can give one or more books to the Library of the Institution, we respectfully and earnestly ask them to do what they can for us.

Any book, which is not immoral in its tone or tendencies, will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged. Address, S. B. ELLIOTT, Librarian, Mansfield, Tioga Co. Pa.

Pike's Peak.

The New York Tribune gives the following reply to a correspondent who asks for information relative to the Pike's Peak gold mines.—The fourth paragraph gives, in somewhat stronger language the advice contained in an editorial on this subject in the Agitator three weeks ago. We hope all who have thoughts of going, will read this article and thoughtfully consider its conclusions.—The Tribune says:

I do not doubt there is gold in the soil, or just above the "bed-rock" beneath the soil, of Western Kansas. The intrinsic probability, based on the undoubted and abundant production of the shining metal on the opposite slope of the same great mountainous region, combines with the direct, positive testimony of scores of living witnesses, to place this fact beyond question.

II. Though the "Pike's Peak" region has as yet been inadequately prospected, we believe it will be found less prolific in Gold than the Mining region of California. We infer this from the geology and topography of the country, as also from the fact that the average yield thus far has been meager indeed.

III. Still, there is Gold in Western Kansas—probably a great deal of it—and tens of thousands will soon be in hot pursuit of it.—Some of these will doubtless come back with money in their pockets—three as many without a cent—while a good many will not return at all. On the whole, we do not believe the emigrants to "Pike's Peak" in 1859 will average a net yield of fifty cents per day over their expenses from the time they leave home till they get back again.

IV. Of course, we do not think it "advisable" for men who can find work on this side of the Mississippi to go roving after gold to Pike's Peak. We agree with a Western friend who dryly observed that he didn't want to go to Pike's Peak after gold, as there was more of that article in Michigan than he could get hold of.

V. Whoever is bent on going to the new diggings should buy a through ticket by the cheapest line from his residence to the Kansas frontier. Which line that is, will depend upon his present location. For most persons in the North and East, we believe the route to Quincy, Illinois, and thence by the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad, is preferable.

VI. As to localities in the diggings, it would be absurd to proffer advice. It will be time enough to talk of them when you reach the Missouri. There you will be pulled and hauled all manner of ways, and be forced to listen to any number of incredible and contradictory stories. We should say, make Pike's Peak your goal, until you shall have ample reason for diverging on one side or the other.

THE public will everywhere be deeply shocked by the intelligence that Daniel E. Sikes, Member of Congress from this city, killed Philip Barton Key, United States District Attorney for the District of Columbia at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, in the streets in Washington. Mr. Key was conversing with Mr. Butcher of this city, when Sikes approached, and suddenly shot him with a revolver, firing three shots, of which two took fatal effect.

THE work will be completed in 15 royal octavo volumes of 750 pages each, 11 of which are now ready for the press. An additional volume will be published each month.

Form a club of four, and remit the price of the books, and five copies will be sent at the regular price for carriage; or for ten subscribers, eleven copies will be sent at our expense for carriage.

TO AGENTS. No other works will so liberally reward the exertions of agents. An agent wanted in this County. Terms made known on application to the Publishers. March, 1859.

Notice.

I hereby give notice to the tenants of Delaware Township, that the undersigned Poor Master, Geo. W. Webb, of Wellsborough, Pa., is a Physician for the Poor for the year 1859, and that they will pay no others employ.

DELMAR, March 3, 1859. (71) PICTURES OF SLAVERY. IN PRESS, and will be published January 1, 1859. THE ROYING EDITOR; or, Talks with Slaves in the Southern States BY JAMES REDDARD, of Kansas. One neat vol., 12mo., 375 pp., Illustrated. Price \$1.00.

PHINNEY & CO. Publishers, Wholesale Booksellers AND MANUFACTURING AND IMPORTING STATIONERS. 188 Main, and 3 West Seneca Streets, - - - - - P. O. Box 111, All American Publications supplied at Publishers' net Wholesale Prices to the Trade.

Spencerian System of Practical Penmanship. Copying Twenty-Eight Books, arranged in THREE DISTINCT SERIES, and the most successful method of teaching and learning, and the best for the use of Schools and Colleges, Private Learners, Clergy, Academies, and Schools, etc.

Common School Series of Eight Books. In which letters are introduced by analyzed and progressively graded to meet the wants of a system of popular education. Each book contains both oral and scientific instructions, and is well adapted for use by any intelligent person who can efficiently impart instruction to the learner.

Notice. THE Copypartners heretofore existing between C. L. Wilcox and G. W. Sears, under the name of Wilcox & Sears is dissolved by mutual consent. All those indebted to the late firm of Wilcox & Sears are requested to call and settle the same immediately. The business will hereafter be conducted by the name of C. L. WILCOX & G. W. SEARS, of Wellsborough, Pa.

"TIME IS MONEY." THEREFORE, BE WISE and save it by buying E. A. SNEAD'S new machines TO COPY, WRITE and PRINT. The stroke varies from 2 to 14 inches. Every Machine bears the inventor's name. Remember, they can be had only of the Subscribers, to whom all orders must be addressed. PRICE, as before, of 25 cents. Published by E. A. SNEAD & TAYLOR, Tioga, Feb. 24, 1859.

IMPORTANT NATIONAL WORK. PUBLISHED BY D. APPLETON & CO. 348 & 349 BROADWAY, N. Y. THE part of the work, (upon receipt of remittance) will be sent to the subscribers free of postage.

THE NEW AMERICAN CYCLOPEDIA: A Popular Dictionary of General Knowledge. Edited by George Ripley and Charles A. Dana, and by a large and eminent select corps of writers in all branches of Science, Art, and Literature. This work is published in about 15 large octavo volumes, and contains 750 two-column pages. Vols. I., II., III., IV., V., are now ready, each containing near 2,500 original articles. An additional volume will be published each month.

The work will be completed in 15 royal octavo volumes of 750 pages each, 11 of which are now ready for the press. An additional volume will be published each month.

Form a club of four, and remit the price of the books, and five copies will be sent at the regular price for carriage; or for ten subscribers, eleven copies will be sent at our expense for carriage.

TO AGENTS. No other works will so liberally reward the exertions of agents. An agent wanted in this County. Terms made known on application to the Publishers. March, 1859. NOTICE is hereby given that there will be a general election of the County Officers of Tioga County, Pa., at the office of the County Clerk, on Monday, the 28th day of February, inst., at 10 o'clock A. M. of that day for the purpose of electing officers for said County. February 11th, 1859. P. F. COOK, Secretary.