

of every other man. This gentleman, is equal to sovereignty, without mitigation." (Great enthusiasm.)

LIFE OF JOHN BELL.

BY AN INTIMATE ACQUAINTANCE. The Honorable John Bell was born on Mason and Dixon's land, of rich but pious parents, and was noted for his ringing voice. His extreme personal beauty suggested that delicious poem, in which the poet asks his friend Brandon:

"Did you ever see the beautiful Bell, Brandon?" He spent the early years of his life on a plantation, acquiring such a fine cultivation, that his epistolary efforts were regarded with admiration by the whole world, and no man is considered a good scholar who is not familiar with Bell's letters. As Mr. Bell grew to manhood, he gradually eschewed all youthful society, and cultivated "old" gentlemen exclusively, and was noted for his venerable virtues. On one occasion he won the friendship of a tea table society of old maids, under the following circumstances: Being asked if he believed the use of tobacco to be injurious, he promptly replied:

"If tobacco is chewed in a certain way, it will do no harm to any one." "How is that?" asked an antiquated Miss. "It should be eschewed," returned the eminent statesman.

In reference to Mr. Bell's public career, they tell the following

ANECDOTE.

As Mr. Bell was going from the Senate chamber to his hotel, after delivering his celebrated speech on the re-opening of the slave trade, he was overtaken by a prominent politician from one of the Northern States, who saluted him with:

"I say, Bell, that was a good speech of yours; but you are always too solemn, and your friends have told you so often." "Well," replied the Senator, "how can a Bell fellow sound solemn when it is tolled so often?"

Immediately after this, the subject of our memoir was seized with a severe fit of sickness; yet even that did not quench his spirit. When the doctor asked him how he felt, one morning, he replied:

"Oh, I feel all sound, like any other Bell." If Mr. Bell is elected to stay at home, he will adorn that position, and write for the Ledger.

LIFE OF BRECKINRIDGE.

BY A MINER.

The subject of our story was born on the day of his birth, on the Cincinnati platform, and is chiefly noted for his eloquent speech on all public occasions. Being of a fiery disposition, the Breckinridge coal was appropriately named after him; and it is a question with us whether he is the more noted as fuelist or a duelist. We can say little more of him than he was born of Southern, but honest parents, and has acquired some fame as an artist by the management of the celebrated Buchanan, which will be discharged on the 4th of March next. Mr. Breckinridge is rather sharp in conversation, as is proved by the following

ANECDOTE.

In the rear of Mr. Breckinridge's private residence is a green sward, on which is located a pen for hogs. One day, while he was standing by his pen (then empty) with a friend, watching the motions of a hog that was luxuriously rooting the sward before them, one of the negroes came from the house and filled the trough of the pen with swill. The hog heard the gush of the swill, and looking wishfully toward the pen, and then back at the place where he had been rooting, as though undecided what to do about it. Finally, however, the swill prevailed, and, with a decisive grunt, the hog trotted toward the pen.

Turning towards his friend, Mr. Breckinridge said: "If that hog could speak, what line of Bulwer's drama of Richieu might he appropriately quote?"

The friend didn't know. "Why," exclaimed Mr. Breckinridge, "he might truly say: 'The pen is mightier than the sword!'"

That night the friend died of measles.

LIFE OF SAMUEL HOUSTON.

BY A WELL-KNOWN AUTHOR.

General Samuel Houston was born at San Jacinto, Texas, on the 4th of July, 1776, and was a Mexican baby before he was half a year old. At the age of three years he electrified the universe thus: Having been taken by his parents to see a foot race between two noted Indian runners, he turned to his father and asked: "Why is a patron of foot-races like a philanthropist?" "I know not my angel boy," returned the venerable Houston. "Because," said Samuel, "he is a friend to human progress."

After this the family compelled him to wear a cold brick on his head; and it is said, that even now, while at Washington, he sometimes carries the article in his hat. At the period when Texas rose in rebellion against the Mexicans, because the latter kept getting up resolutions among themselves every afternoon, Mr. Houston was chosen General of the patriots, and completely defeated the rebels at San Jacinto. In connection with this battle, and by way of illustrating General Houston's great precision of speech, they tell an

ANECDOTE.

Toward the conclusion of the battle of San Jacinto, a Texan Ranger dashed frantically into a tent where Houston was asleep, and aroused him with the exclamation of: "General, the day is ours."

"You illiterate fellow," exclaimed the brave old soldier, frowning at the frightened fellow, "why can't you speak properly. You should say 'the day is composed of hours.'"

The abashed Ranger muttered something about his being a soldier, and knowing nothing about time, whereupon Houston again reprimanded him with:

"Know nothing about time, you rascally scoundrel! There is but one time that an American soldier knows any thing about and that is fly time."

The ranger deserted that night.

When General Houston was informed that he had not been nominated by the Charleston Convention, and pressed his handkerchief to his year dimmed eyes, and exclaimed hurriedly: "I accept. Go and tell the people that I accept for their sakes."

Samuel Houston was unanimously nominated for the Presidency by the Washington Monument Convention of this city, and will probably receive votes in every State except Texas. The assertion that he should have been nominated as Vice President on the Douglas ticket, on account of his many victories, is unworthy of attention for a moment.

THE AGITATOR.

HUGH YOUNG, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR.

WELLSBOROUGH, PA., WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUG. 29, 1860.

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL NOMINATIONS.

FOR PRESIDENT, ABRAHAM LINCOLN OF ILLINOIS.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT, HANNIBAL HAMLIN, OF MAINE.

Electors at Large, HON. JAMES POLLOCK, HON. THOMAS M. HOWE.

1 Edward C. Knight, 13 E. R. Penniman, 2 Robert F. King, 14 Cyrus Mercer, 3 Henry Bunn, 15 George Brooker, 4 Robert M. Parst, 16 A. B. Sharp, 5 Nathan Hills, 17 Daniel O. Gahr, 6 John M. Broomall, 18 Samuel Calvin, 7 James W. Fuller, 19 Edgar Cowan, 8 Levi B. Smith, 20 Edgar McKenna, 9 Francis W. Chasat, 21 J. M. Kirkpatrick, 10 David Mumma, Jr., 22 James Kerr, 11 David Wagner, 23 Richard F. Roberts, 12 Thomas S. Hill, 24 Henry Southard, 25 Robert Orier.

REPUBLICAN STATE NOMINATION.

FOR GOVERNOR, ANDREW G. CURTIN, OF CENTRE COUNTY.

County Convention—August 31, 1860. State Election—October 9, 1860. Presidential Election—November 6, 1860.

CAMPAIGN AGITATOR, ONLY 25 CENTS!

We desire to say to Republican Clubs in this and adjoining Counties that we will send the AGITATOR from the 8th of August till the middle of November (announcing the result of the Presidential Election), at the following rates: 4 Copies for One Dollar, 8 Copies for Two Dollars, 20 Copies for Five Dollars.

And a higher number in the same proportion. The coming elections, County, State and National, will be more important and interesting than those of any former year of our history. The AGITATOR will give full and correct reports of public meetings, held in Tioga and adjoining Counties; the Mass Meetings of both parties, Republican Club Meetings, and everything of special or local interest, together with the reliable current news.

New Advertisements. SABBATH SCHOOL CELEBRATION—In Charleston. ATTENTION! SECOND BRIGADE—Maj. Gen. Harding. MILITIA NOTICE—Col. London. STORE BUILDING FOR SALE—Samuel Dickenson. APPLICATION FOR LICENSE—Alfred T. James.

Special Notice. Having purchased for the AGITATOR office the "Right" to use Dick's Accountant and Dispatch Patent, each of our subscribers now has his paper addressed to him regularly by a singularly unique machine, which fastens on the white margin a small, colored "address stamp," or label, whereon appears his name plainly printed, followed by the date up to which he has paid for his paper. The date will always be advanced on the receipt of subscription money, in exact accordance with the amount so received, and thus be an ever-ready and valid receipt; securing to every one, and at all times, a perfect knowledge of his newspaper account, so that if any error is made he can immediately detect it and have it corrected—a boon alike valuable to the publisher and subscriber, as it must terminate all painful misunderstandings between them respecting accounts, and thus lead to perpetuate their important relationship.

Thus, "John Smith Lagold" means that Mr. Smith has paid for his paper to the first day of August, 1861. We hope all our subscribers will adjust their accounts promptly.

As soon as the Sheriff Sales are out, we will publish our account of the Blossburg Excursion.

ENLARGED.—Mr. O. Bullard has been refitting and enlarging his Grocery Store on Main Street. He has manifested his taste by putting in a handsome front. He is now engaged in arranging his large stock of choice groceries, and showing them to his customers. Give him a call.

We are working off with our new "Mountain Jobber" Press, a large quantity of Constable's, Justice's and School Blanks. We print all kinds of Bill and Letter Heads, Notes, Deeds, Circulars, Posters; Visiting, Wedding and Business Cards, as cheap as they can be done anywhere outside of the large cities.

BUSINESS CHANGE.—Mr. W. H. Smith has bought out E. E. Robinson's Bookstore in this Borough. Mr. Smith is adding to his stock every day. There is probably no better establishment of the kind in any other village of the size in the State. We trust the public will extend to him the same patronage which was accorded to his enterprising predecessor. Advertisement next week.

The Musical Normal School of Prof's Jewett and Harrison is progressing finely. Over thirty students are in regular attendance. The School will give its first Concert at the Court House, on Monday evening next. The Programme is a good one and our citizens must not fail to hear it.

The last half of the term begins next Wednesday, and new students can join the class at that time.

The Republican delegate elections on Saturday last were well attended in this Borough and throughout the county. The candidates for the several offices, and their friends, were quite active. We have not heard the result of the instructions to the delegates by the people throughout the county, and we do not wish to anticipate the action of next Friday's Convention at Mansfield. From what we can learn, the people turned out very generally to the primary meetings, so that the nominees of the Convention will be entirely satisfactory to everybody.

The Republicans of Lycoming County have nominated the following ticket:

For Congress—Hon. James T. Hale. For Assembly—W. H. Armstrong. For Commissioner—W. W. Antes. For Register and Recorder—Theodore Hill. For Auditor—Hunter Comly. The following is the Democratic County ticket: For Congress—Gen. Robert Fleming. For Assembly—Robert Crane. For Register and Recorder—H. H. Blair. For Commissioner—Michael Kurtz. For Coroner—Michael Kelly. For Auditor—Reuben K. Hillier.

We notice that Hon. J. M. Ashley, Member from the 5th Congressional District in Ohio has been re-nominated by acclamation for a second term. Gen. Ashley distinguished himself last winter by a speech on the Supreme Court and its powers, which was by far the ablest effort on that question made during the last Session of Congress. We published a part of it at that time, and only allude to its author now to say that we rejoice for the sake of Republican principles that he is to be sent back. Like Mr. Lincoln he is a Kentuckian by birth, and like him he has risen from a poor and nearly friendless boy to his present proud position.

The recent rains are very remarkable for this time of the year. The "flood" of Friday and Saturday last is said to be the greatest which has occurred in this part of the country for many years. The Communication of Mr. Watrous of Gaines township, in another column, will be read with interest by everybody, and our correspondent only speaks of a small section of the county. We have heard of bridges being lost and damaged on Dabb's, Wilson's and Tioga creeks, while the damages to mills, bridges, grain and fences on Pine Creek can hardly be estimated. Even in the centre of our Borough we saw a man go to his house on a dog raft; and the fences and gardens of many of our citizens must have suffered considerably. It was a wet time.

We copy the following dispatch from the New York Herald:

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., Aug. 26, 1860. The heavy rains yesterday raised the West Branch ten feet. Ten or twelve thousand logs were swept down the river from the lower boom. The upper boom is catching an immense amount, carried from Lockhaven and Pine creek.

Eight million feet of logs were swept from Campbell's mills, and were mostly caught here in the big boom.

The Congressional Conference of the Twenty Fourth District which recently met at Clearfield to succeed Hon. Chapin Hall of Warren who declined a renomination. We regret this exceedingly as we had hoped Mr. Hall would once more accept the position he so well adorned at Washington. He was a working member and left speech making to those who had more taste for it. As a member of several important Committees he distinguished himself by his unvarnished industry; and his social and mental qualities soon made him a favorite with his associates. He worked side by side with Maddeus Stevens and the late lamented John Schwartz in urging the passage of the Tariff Bill, and with our own Grow in his efforts to pass the Homestead Law. His votes on all other questions were right, and the Convention appreciated his worth by the passage of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the course of our present member of Congress, the Hon. Chapin Hall, the past winter, his untiring support of the gallant Sherman during the protracted struggle for the Speakership, his effort to secure the passage of the Homestead and Tariff bills, and his devoted attention to the interest of free-men, whether residents of Pennsylvania or Kansas, meet with our earnest and unqualified approval, and we sincerely regret that he feels called upon to decline a renomination.

We have heard Gen. Patton well spoken of, and trust he may be elected.

Gen. D. B. De Land & Co.'s Saleratus; it is pure; it is perfectly reliable; it will give the most complete and entire satisfaction; it is healthful, from the fact that it is perfectly free from impurities. D. B. De Land & Co. are sparing no pains nor expense to furnish consumers with the best Saleratus that it is possible to manufacture. These goods are manufactured, and for sale at wholesale, at the Fairport Chemical Works, Fairport, Monroe County, N. Y. For sale by dealers generally. The principle grocers throughout the country also wholesale it.

NEST OF RAIL SPLITTERS.—In the borough of Knoxville, Tioga Co., Pa., there are sixty-five voters. Sixty-four of them are Lincoln men, and the lone democrat is a Breckinridge man. Douglas is "skunked" in that borough. In the borough of Elkland, same county, there are eighty-six voters. Eighty-one of that number are Lincoln men, and the other five are split between Breckinridge and Douglas. It is feared that old Tioga will give almost a unanimous vote for "Honest old Abe." The democrats are so scarce the rail splitters have to maul each other to get up an excitement. *Elmira Advertiser.*

ARREST ON REQUISITION.—Officer Hullburt this morning arrested on a requisition from the Governor of Pennsylvania to the Governor of this State, two men named William Piper and Austin Hoffman, who are supposed to have been connected with the gang of thieves which infested the town of Southport, not long since.—They were charged with larceny, committed about a year ago in the county of Tioga, Pa.—They were conveyed to the State Line, and there given in charge of an officer of that State.—*Elmira Gazette.*

WHO BEATS THIS?—The Census marshal, says the Niagara Falls Gazette, are some fishing up "local items." The last item related to us by our marshal is that in his perambulations at Niagara City he found a lady (all ladies now-a-days) named Jane Shehan, employed as a domestic at six shillings a week, who says she is 94 years old.

FROM THE PEOPLE.

The Late Bath Storm. GAINES, Aug. 26, 1860.

HUGH YOUNG, Esq.—Dear Sir: On Friday the 24th inst. we were visited by one of the most destructive freshets ever known in this quarter. It commenced raining on Thursday evening moderately, but on Friday forenoon the rain fell so fast that in the course of two hours Elk Run rose about seven feet, overflowing its banks, and carrying off all the bridges except one on the creek, taking out mill dams, sweeping off the fences, and destroying all the grain on the flats. One saw mill (the property of J. S. Watrous) was taken from its foundation and dashed to pieces instantly. The communication from Gaines to Germania is entirely cut off, and there will have to be five new bridges built before it can be traveled with teams. The bridge over Pine Creek near the mouth of Elk Run is unimpaired. How we are to get the roads and bridges repaired, with what help we have, it is hard to tell. However we shall not be idle but do the best we can for the public convenience. Yours Truly, W. WATROUS.

Cross in Liberty.

To the Editor of the Agitator: DEAR SIR—I would inform you that the crops of every kind are looking very well. The hay, wheat, rye, and oats that have already been harvested, are found to yield very abundantly, especially the summer wheat. Such an abundant crop as it is turning out to be, has seldom ever been seen in our township. Potatoes are some little affected by the old disease, but on digging them for daily use, we find but very few rotten ones. We think they will turn out an average crop this fall. Buckwheat is coming on finely. The occasional showers that we have will benefit this crop if the frost does not catch it before it is harvested.

Corn looks at the present time better than it has for years in our place, and if the frost does not injure it during the month of September, we will without a doubt, have an excellent yield, when ready to be garnered. Peas, beans, and onions, bid very fair for a plentiful crop, also fruit, nearly of every kind. By present prospects of things, we shall have grain and produce of every kind to supply the inhabitants of Liberty Township, for the coming year.

In regard to our schools I would state to you that No. 1st and 2d school districts in Liberty, have united into one, and have commenced the erection of a large two story school house, which when finished will be worth one thousand dollars including the ground it stands on. It is located on a rise of ground about twenty rods from our village near the road leading to Blossburg. The calculation of the school board is to use the house for keeping a graded school in, and employ a first class male teacher for the primary department. It is the kind of a school that we have stood in need of for some years back. We want a school in our township that is capable of preparing scholars for teachers. For some years back we have been under the necessity of sending such ones that wanted to become teachers to institutions of learning in other places, so when we get our school established we can educate our children at home without the great expense of sending them off to other places to be educated. G. R. SNEYDER.

Mass Meeting in Liberty.

To the Editor of the Agitator: DEAR SIR—According to previous announcement, the Republicans of Liberty Township assembled on Saturday the 18th inst., in mass meeting on the public square at J. H. Woodruff's, where a stand had been erected, and seats provided for the occasion. On motion the meeting was organized by appointing C. F. Veil, Esq., President, and Messrs. Burditt, Wilson, and Richard Childs as Vice Presidents. The President then introduced to the audience, Messrs. J. W. Ryan, Esq., and Hon. A. Humphrey, as the persons previously engaged by a committee of the Republican Club, to address the meeting. J. W. Ryan Esq., took the stand, and spoke an hour and a half. His speech consisted in a very able exposition of the principles and measures of the modern mulatto Democracy. Mr. Ryan is considered by our citizens, as one of the most convincing, common sense speakers, that can be found in the county. After he had concluded his remarks, Judge Humphrey took the stand, and if ever in the history of our township, the attention of the people was riveted, it was at this time. For an hour and a half, the Judge reviewed the political career of the Democratic party, and gave to his numerous hearers one of the most correct, comprehensive, and yet concise histories of the inconsistent workings of the same party since its organization. It is admitted by all that was present at the meeting, that Judge Humphrey is one of the finest political speakers in Northern Pennsylvania. He lacks nothing. The political history of his country, seems as familiar to him as the alphabet is to the child of ten years old.—His memory is good, his mind fruitful, his delivery unobstructed, and his gestures very agreeable. In short, he is a man who, if sent to Congress as our Representative, we need not be ashamed of. For we are well convinced that the interests of our Congressional District would not suffer in the hands of such a firm and intelligent Republican as he is.

There was a very respectable turn out of citizens from our own, and adjoining townships. The Liberty Republican Club, will meet again on next Saturday, the 25th, at 10 o'clock P. M., and will be in session until 2 o'clock P. M., at which time the meeting for electing delegates to the County Convention, will take place. G. R. SNEYDER, Sec. of L. R. C.

Dred Scott vs. "My Great Principle."

To the Editor of the Agitator:

DEAR SIR—During the last six weeks Mr. Douglas has been on the way to pay his professed respects to his aged mother. His mother, they say, lives in the Western part of New York. During his trip, he has traversed the entire length, and breadth, of New England. Has been "betrayed" into a speech upon an average, two or three times per day—declared his preference for "clams over niggers" at Providence—drank mineral water at Saratoga—discouraged upon patriotism from the base of Bunker Hill—but he never forgot to remind "the dear people," that he was a candidate for their suffrages, that he was the embodiment of "my great principle," in other words, squatter sovereignty. His speeches are running over with his declarations in favor of the people of the Territories deciding the question of slavery for themselves.

In my opinion, no greater humbug was ever tried to be palmed off upon any people. Squatter Sovereignty, as defined by Douglas and his followers, means nothing. It is but a cheat, a solemn force by which honest men are to be

cheated out of their votes, and to prove this, I do not wish the reader to take my naked assertion, but I choose, rather, to speak from the record. Mr. Douglas in his joint debate with Mr. Lincoln at Jonesboro, says: "I wish to say to you, fellow citizens, that I make no war upon that decision, (Dred Scott) or any other error rendered by the Supreme Court. I am content to take that decision as it stands, delivered by the highest judicial tribunal on earth, &c." Again, he says: "I am willing to take that decision of the Supreme Court as it was pronounced by that august tribunal, without stopping to inquire whether I would have decided that way or not." And to make himself emphatically understood, he said at Quincy, "I have never yet learned how an appeal could be taken from the Supreme Court. The Dred Scott decision was pronounced by the highest tribunal on earth. From the decision, there is no appeal this side of Heaven! I say to you with due respect, that I choose to abide by the decisions of the Court as they are pronounced, &c. &c." In every debate he took special pains to abide by the decision of the Supreme Court. Now planting himself so firmly upon that decision, it becomes us to consult the opinion of Mr. Justice Taney, who says on page 451, Howard Reports, "Now as we have already said in an earlier part of this opinion, the right of property in a slave is distinctly and expressly affirmed in the Constitution." Again, "Every citizen has a right to take with him into the Territory, any article of property which the constitution recognizes as property. The Constitution of the United States, recognizes slaves as property, and pledges the Federal Government to protect it." Such is the opinion of the supreme Court, which Mr. Douglas so blindly reverences. In this article, I shall not attempt to show the fallacy of this decision, but I do say that the Dred Scott case, wholly, and totally, obliterates Popular Sovereignty.—Is not the Constitution the supreme law of the land? Does any one dispute this? If so, then it naturally follows that any law which conflicts with it is *ipso facto*, null and void. Therefore, taking it for granted that Mr. Taney is correct, as Douglas does, any territorial law which prohibits slavery, is, of course, unconstitutional, because it can override anything "expressly, and distinctly," guaranteed by the Constitution. Then what becomes of "my great principle," or his eloquent "unfriendly legislation"? If you, the reader of these lines, are intending to support Mr. Douglas, because you believe him devoted to the cause of Freedom, I ask you, that you candidly read the extract from Douglas' speech, then apply that to the extract of the Dred Scott case, then see where is the boasted right of the people to govern themselves? How can the people of a Territory create an act which shall be paramount to the Constitution? Can any candid man fail to see that the Dred Scott case, and Squatter Sovereignty, are in direct opposition? Both cannot be true.—Still Douglas professes to believe in both. If they are inconsistent with each other, and he professes to believe in both; must he not be playing the hypocrite again, in order to fool both North and South? FRANK.

From Lawrenceville.

To the Editor of the Agitator: The Republicans of this township assembled on Friday evening (Aug. 17) at the Academy Hall to listen to the declaring of the Republican ticket. The meeting being called to order, Mr. John W. Ryan was introduced as the lecturer of the evening, who addressed us at some length upon the political topics that are now agitating the country. His speech was characteristic of the man, being an argumentative and logical one. He quoted the different candidates and exposed the fanaticism of their doctrine. He traced the public career of the "Little Giant," and demonstrated to a certainty the fallacy of his favorite doctrine, Popular Sovereignty. He discussed at some length that branch of the Democracy of which James Buchanan is the representative, and merely gave a passing glance at the nominees of the National Union Convention, claiming that under that false motto there was nothing at issue between them and the Republicans, for the Republicans claim to be the party representing the perpetuation of the Union and the Nation. He remarked that if the so called National Union Party wished to get up an issue with any of the political parties, they must go South for their there would have hearty opposers. He gave some very appropriate illustrations to the different branches of his subject and concluded his remarks amid the applause of the audience.

Judge Humphrey was loudly called upon to make some remarks but declined, giving as a reason, that he had addressed public meetings almost every night for the past two weeks and that he felt very much fatigued, and hoped that the audience would excuse him at this time, and that he would with pleasure address them upon some future occasion. The meeting then adjourned with nine cheers for Lincoln and Hamlin to meet again on Saturday evening, to listen to an address, to be delivered by Mr. Fuller from Michigan. The Republicans of this township are enthusiastic in the cause of Freedom, and will support the present nominees of the Chicago Convention and poll for them the usual majority. While William H. Seward was the preferred choice for President, and was the man above all others whom the Republicans would have been glad to have seen elected, they all agree in believing him to be one of the best statesmen living. He is a profound man and shows forth in all his debates and speeches a degree of candor and statesmanship unequalled by any of his colleagues or opponents in the Senate. He is the centre around which the Republican Party revolves, and in honor to him, and credit to ourselves it was our wish to have him represent us, in the Capitol of the United States. He has long served the country and should reap as a reward the highest honor which politicians can receive. If we could have elected our President by wishes W. H. Seward would be inaugurated on the 4th of March 1861. But while we will have to strive and unite all our efforts in the coming campaign, the question naturally arises, What man could be best selected—whether the most popular man—who would combine all the scattered elements and carry a majority of the States, and thereby ensure a majority of the electoral votes and make the election of a Republican President beyond a doubt—or the most profound statesman, the man best acquainted with Parliamentary rules and has so long been an ardent worker in the U. S. Senate—who would be opposed by all the North West, Pennsylvania &c., and thereby throw the election into the hands of the opposition? To this I answer, that under the present circumstances and crisis of our country, we should unite upon the man who is the most popular, and whose popularity will carry with him the honor, and good wishes of all true Republicans, and be the means of rolling up a tremendous majority in favor of Freedom. To be sure Mr. Seward has not been rewarded as he deserved, but "Thank God there is a Future," and Mr. Seward will remain embalmed in our memory. But however that may be, Republicans are not going to back down because they have not got the man of their choice. Abraham Lincoln of Illinois is among the foremost men of talent and ability in the country. His public life has been honorable, although he has not held so many and different public offices as many other men, and it is well perhaps that he has not, for if he had, he might have become contaminated by long associations with politicians, and office seekers. He is a fresh man in this field, and just such a man as will sweep this young country like a whirlwind. The Republican party is in its infancy, the banner under which it has sailed was erected in 1856. It has not fully had time to assume that importance, which awaits us in the future. The Republican organization is one which will inevitably triumph, for it is an organization founded upon Freedom, and is destined sooner or later to strike the death knell of Democracy, and as we believe assume the chair of State, and in conclusion let me say to the Republicans of this county not to be idle during the struggle that awaits us, for the coming contest is one that demands our immediate attention. It will not suffice for us to be encompassed with indolence, because we may think that Tioga county will cast her vote as she has done for Republicanism. We must arouse from the present state of lethargy and enter the field as we did in 1856, entreating no doubt but that we will be amply repaid for our labor and reap the reward of success. If the Republicans do their duty in this contest the flag of Freedom will wave over us, and upon its folds will be written in unmistakable language that the cause of Freedom has triumphed and Lincoln and Hamlin are chosen to rule over us. August 23d, 1860. A REPUBLICAN.

Popular Sovereignty.

To the Editor of the Agitator:

DEAR SIR—The "plausibility" of the doctrine of "Popular Sovereignty," as it is termed by its friends, lies in the assumptions that it will keep the question of slavery out of Congress and at the same time confer a favor upon the people of the territories.

The validity of the first of these assumptions may be said to have been very thoroughly tested by experiments already made in the two cases of Kansas and New Mexico, to which might be added that of Nebraska. In the case of Kansas, Border Ruffian intervention, which at bottom was executive intervention, convulsed the country for several years, and has produced more trouble and contention in Congress, than all other disturbing causes that have arisen since the organization of our National government. New Mexico has engaged a barbarous slave code. The question of overruling as affirming this legislation, is already before Congress, and in all probability will continue there until that territory is admitted as a State. The same would have happened with Nebraska, had not Gov. Black vetoed the bill abolishing slavery, lately passed by her Legislature. There is no possible method for Congress to escape the trouble, vexation and responsibility of dealing with this question, short of that unanimity of opinion which can settle it finally in one way or the other. Moreover, until it shall have been so settled, there will always be a dangerous temptation to executive interference—a temptation so strong, indeed, that we may safely assume that interference will be the rule, and not the exception. In the case of Kansas we have a sample of what it will be. A contest naturally arises among the "squatters" and the "people" of the territory as to who shall keep the peace, of course to act under the directions of some governor or judge who holds his office at the mercy of the President. This keeping the peace involves a preliminary judgment as to the merits of the contest—of the question, "which side is in the wrong?" and therefore who ought to be shot down—arrested—imprisoned—have their houses and property burned—and be badgered in all the ways known to tyrannical and wicked rulers in the abuse of legal power. I know of but one answer to this, which is even plausible, and that is; that the experience of the past few years, is not likely to be repeated; that we are not likely to have at the head of affairs, again, very soon, any man so destitute of integrity and so facile to corruption, as those two, and especially the latter by whom the powers of the government have been so foully prostituted, that this allusion is equivalent to the mentioning of their names. To be candid with our opponents, we must not deny that we expect a great change for the better, a change which must come, before the doctrine of legislative intervention against slavery can be inaugurated in practice. It will never be too soon, however, to discover what ought to be done, supposing we had the power, with a question so urgent and vexatious, a question that will keep the nation a-blaze, till it shall have been solidly and finally disposed of. The "good time coming" being granted, we are to suppose a man in the executive chair, who is loyal to the Constitution and the Union, to justice and liberty. Almost inevitably the Kansas drama is to be repeated in kind, if not with the same degree of violence, in every territory where slavery has any pretensions to go—repeated, only because the question is supposed to be remitted entirely to the jurisdiction of the resident sovereigns. Of course they will be in great haste to settle it. No amount of confidence in the goodness of human nature will warrant a hope that they will proceed fairly, or that brute force and fraud will not be resorted to by one party at least. Such is popular sovereignty! It is just here that the executive must inter-

fer through some appointees of his; and if I am right in this conclusion, what comes of Popular Sovereignty?

This, this dogma, invented for a cheat, to flatter the popular ear, and disappoint the popular hope; now entirely banished from all party platforms, but still paraded before the people by a certain party, as a cherished principle, in its practical working, the one man wrong, with scarcely any check, besides the virtue of the man who happens to wield it—a simple despotism. I pray that we may have good Presidents, and that they may be delivered speedily from such temptation.

From Lawrenceville.

To the Editor of the Agitator: The Republicans of this township assembled on Friday evening (Aug. 17) at the Academy Hall to listen to the declaring of the Republican ticket. The meeting being called to order, Mr. John W. Ryan was introduced as the lecturer of the evening, who addressed us at some length upon the political topics that are now agitating the country. His speech was characteristic of the man, being an argumentative and logical one. He quoted the different candidates and exposed the fanaticism of their doctrine. He traced the public career of the "Little Giant," and demonstrated to a certainty the fallacy of his favorite doctrine, Popular Sovereignty. He discussed at some length that branch of the Democracy of which James Buchanan is the representative, and merely gave a passing glance at the nominees of the National Union Convention, claiming that under that false motto there was nothing at issue between them and the Republicans, for the Republicans claim to be the party representing the perpetuation of the Union and the Nation. He remarked that if the so called National Union Party wished to get up an issue with any of the political parties, they must go South for their there would have hearty opposers. He gave some very appropriate illustrations to the different branches of his subject and concluded his remarks amid the applause of the audience.

Judge Humphrey was loudly called upon to make some remarks but declined, giving as a reason, that he had addressed public meetings almost every night for the past two weeks and that he felt very much fatigued, and hoped that the audience would excuse him at this time, and that he would with pleasure address them upon some future occasion. The meeting then adjourned with nine cheers for Lincoln and Hamlin to meet again on Saturday evening, to listen to an address, to be delivered by Mr. Fuller from Michigan. The Republicans of this township are enthusiastic in the cause of Freedom, and will support the present nominees of the Chicago Convention and poll for them the usual majority. While William H. Seward was the preferred choice for President, and was the man above all others whom the Republicans would have been glad to have seen elected, they all agree in believing him to be one of the best statesmen living. He is a profound man and shows forth in all his debates and speeches a degree of candor and statesmanship unequalled by any of his colleagues or opponents in the Senate. He is the centre around which the Republican Party revolves, and in honor to him, and credit to ourselves it was our wish to have him represent us, in the Capitol of the United States. He has long served the country and should reap as a reward the highest honor which politicians can receive. If we could have elected our President by wishes W. H. Seward would be inaugurated on the 4th of March 1861. But while we will have to strive and unite all our efforts in the coming campaign, the question naturally arises, What man could be best selected—whether the most popular man—who would combine all the scattered elements and carry a majority of the States, and thereby ensure a majority of the electoral votes and make the election of a Republican President beyond a doubt—or the most profound statesman, the man best acquainted with Parliamentary rules and has so long been an ardent worker in the U. S. Senate—who would be opposed by all the North West, Pennsylvania &c., and thereby throw the election into the hands of the opposition? To this I answer, that under the present circumstances and crisis of our country, we should unite upon the man who is the most popular, and whose popularity will carry with him the honor, and good wishes of all true Republicans, and be the means of rolling up a tremendous majority in favor of Freedom. To be sure Mr. Seward has not been rewarded as he deserved, but "Thank God there is a Future," and Mr. Seward will remain embalmed in our memory. But however that may be, Republicans are not going to back down because they have not got the man of their choice. Abraham Lincoln of Illinois is among the foremost men of talent and ability in the country. His public life has been honorable, although he has not held so many and different public offices as many other men, and it is well perhaps that he has not, for if he had, he might have become contaminated by long associations with politicians, and office seekers. He is a fresh man in this field, and just such a man as will sweep this young country like a whirlwind. The Republican party is in its infancy, the banner under which it has sailed was erected in 1856. It has not fully had time to assume that importance, which awaits us in the future. The Republican organization is one which will inevitably triumph, for it is an organization founded upon Freedom, and is destined sooner or later to strike the death knell of Democracy, and as we believe assume the chair of State, and in conclusion let me say to