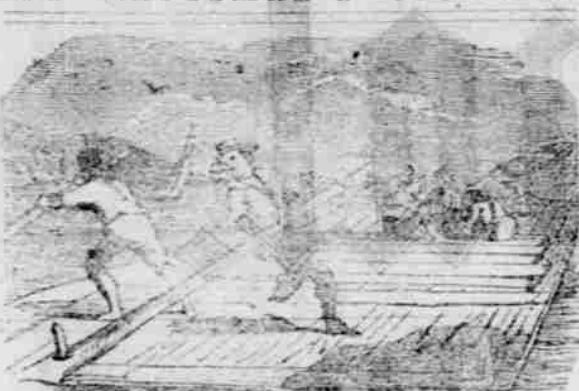


# THE RAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL.

THE RAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL.

TYRONE, CLEARFIELD & ERIE RAILROAD.  
PHILIPSBURG, July 5, 1855.



BY H. FUCHER SWOOP.

Clearfield, Pa., Wednesday, July 11, 1855.

We are sorry Mr. Swoop has determined to leave the editorial field. He will be missed—We regard him as among the spiciest editors in the country.—*Ell Advoate*.

Thank you, Powell, but since our Locofoco friends have thought our proposed retirement to private life so exceedingly ominous, we have determined to occupy the editorial chair a little while longer, and it affords us great pleasure, while in it, to be able to return the high compliment of our friend of the *Advocate*, "feas" and "bed-bugs" to the contrary notwithstanding.

## TO OUR READERS.

Those of our subscribers who desire to discontinue their papers at the close of the present volume, which will be next week, can do so by informing their Post Master of that fact, whose duty it is to notify us free of postage.

We expect to lose, at the close of this volume about three hundred subscribers, because we were compelled to raise the price during the year to \$1.50, but it will be better for us to print six hundred papers at \$1.50, than a thousand at \$1, for on each of the latter we lose 45 cents.

We intend to improve our next volume, in many respects, and we promise our readers a better paper than they have ever received heretofore from this office. Those who wish to subscribe in advance should at once forward their names.

## THE STATE COUNCIL.

The American State Council which assembled at Reading last week, repudiated the twelfth section of the Philadelphia Platform, by a vote of 133 to 53. A section was adopted in its place, in favor of the restoration of the Missouri Compromise, and opposed to the admission into the Union of any slave States north of that line. A resolution was also passed, calling a National Convention in Cincinnati, in January, as follows—

Resolved, That a Committee of Thirteen be appointed to invite the co-operation of all the State Councils in the Confederacy, who may be willing to concur in the principles and platform thus adopted by the State Council of Pennsylvania, for holding a Convention, and that a committee be held at Cincinnati, on the 5th day of January next, to concert measures to secure the nomination in the Convention called by the National Council, of candidates for President and Vice President, who are willing to stand upon the platform, this day established, and to train such other candidates as may be deemed necessary to secure the success of the American Party in the Union. The representations of each State in said Convention to be equal to the number of members such State is entitled to in the National Congress.

Eight of the Philadelphia delegates seceded from the Convention, having endorsed the pro-slavery plank. All we have to say is, let them go, and a blessing go with them. If Philadelphia finds it to her interest to trudge to the slave oligarchy of the South, the rest of the State does not. The Convention did exactly right, and we endorse the Pennsylvania platform throughout.

## THE FOURTH.

We are glad to announce that our National Anniversary was generally celebrated throughout the County. In this place the "performance" commenced at three o'clock in the morning, when our citizens were awakened by martial music, and the national salute fired by the Regulars, under Gen. HILLS. The Brass Band also discoursed appropriate music. During the day the different Sabbath Schools assembled at Liberty Spring, where, we learn, they had a very interesting celebration. The Declaration was read by HENRY B. SMITH, Esq., and the Oration delivered by the Rev. S. M. COOPER. After partaking of the usual Fourth of July refreshments, the children and teachers returned home in the evening delighted with the proceedings of the day.

At Lumberville they had a very large and well got up' celebration, which reflected great credit on all who were concerned in it. The Clearfield Band were in attendance, and certainly never performed better, or gave more general satisfaction. Judge FRANCIS pre-sided over the meeting. The Declaration was read, followed by "Hail Columbia" from the band, and an appropriate and eloquent Oration by J. B. GORDON, Esq. We were then introduced to the audience, and after giving them a speech "in our usual style," all proceeded to the refreshment table, where such a repast was spread as would have astonished those who imagine that the people of Clearfield live on Pine Slabs and Hemlock bark. It was one of the best public dinners we have ever eaten down to, and, for ourselves, we certainly did it justice. The whole affair passed off with the greatest harmony and good feeling, and we will long remember the patriotism, kindness, and hospitality of the citizens of Lumberville and vicinity.

At Curwenville they had a very pleasant celebration in the grove on Anderson's Creek—a lovely spot—for which the citizens were indebted to the patriotism and enterprise of our friend S. Greaff, who solicited at their hands to a resolution of thanks. The Declaration was read, and read well, by Mr. DANIEL FOYER. A brief, but handsome and appropriate speech was made by J. B. GORDON, Esq., followed by a few remarks from ourself. The crowd dispersed through the woods, and thus ended the Fourth in Curwenville.

The day was appropriately celebrated at various other places, but we have received no details, and are unable to notice them as we could desire.

## THE NEWS.

The crisis appears to have arrived at last in the Crimea. The Allies have made an unsuccessful attempt to storm Sebastopol. The most sinister rumors prevailed in regard to the transaction. By some accounts the English loss is set down at four thousand men, to the great importance of reviving at this present time, the interest once felt in the construction of the Tyrone and Clearfield Railroad, and further to the absolute necessity of there being some prompt and definite action to insure its speedy consummation.

I cannot but believe that the interest of which I speak, as being once felt in behalf of our projected improvement, is now merely slumbering in the hearts of our Clearfield friends, and co-workers, ready at a moment's agitatio[n] to burst forth with new life and vigor, and considerably strengthened by the re-freshing nap it has so long enjoyed.

In addressing you at this particular time upon this subject—a subject which every one must admit to be of paramount importance, not only to the few who have heretofore taken an active part in its deliberations, but to every one residing in this section of our noble State, I must assure you that I do so with a firm conviction that a propitious moment for the commencement of active operations has presented itself, and that we have now before us every reasonable inducement to encourage us to the prosecution of our common enterprise.

It is, therefore, with these reasons, and from a firm conviction based upon statistical information gathered from all sources, that the road when completed, will yield a handsome and remunerative revenue to the stock-holders; that, in behalf of our friends in the East, I appeal most earnestly to the citizens of your entire county, to rally once more to the work, and with an energy and enterprise I know them to possess, to unite in this present effort to consummate a project which is undeniably the key to the growth, prosperity and development of the entire North-Western section of our State.

It may not be amiss to call your attention to the fact that it is now well nigh one year since the commencement of the survey which was authorized by the Commissioners, to demonstrate the entire practicability of our route, and its superiority as a connecting link to the Lakes at Erie.

Within this space there has been little done to give stability to our common enterprise, or even justify an over-indulgence in the hope that our efforts would be crowned with success.

In this time, other companies, with not one half the facilities we enjoy, or with not one tithe of the natural advantages we possess, upon which to base their prospects of a revenue, have prosecuted their labors with a zeal and a perseverance which, in consideration of the financial crisis through which we have passed, must surely be called commendable;—whilst others again, have suddenly sprung into life, and are even now flooding the newspapers of the East with descriptions of coal and other mineral treasures—which in comparison with our own boundless resources—are, in fact, but a drop in the bucket.

It is useless for me to dwell at any length upon these resources. It would be but a repetition of a twice told tale. Every one who is in the least acquainted with the geological formation of our truly wonderful State, is aware that the route of this road severals it were the centre of the great Appalachian coal-basin; that every acre of the ground is interlaid with numerous veins of the most excellent Bituminous coal, whilst the surface is thickly studded over with impenetrable forests of most magnificent timber. These, with other resources, should make this section of our State the very centre of enterprise—the main artery or channel along which should be spread and disseminated the wealth and products of an industrious people.

I have beside me many facts and figures to demonstrate the complete safety of this stock as an investment, and of its certainty to prove a profitable source of revenue. The benefits which this road would confer upon our entire section—to say nothing of the enhanced value of land it would cause, are sufficient in themselves to call loudly and earnestly for its completion. With such flattering prospects before us, and with the knowledge that our position is impregnable—why should we stand on the threshold, when one step would place us with in the great privileges of such an enterprise?

Let me repeat that the time for action has arrived. Let our watch-word be action!—action! One more effort and the Railroad is made.

Our friends in the East are ready to lend us their assistance. Tyrone speaks well and encouragingly, and even our own modest unassuming city, which breathes noiselessly on the Pine-bounding banks of the placid Moshannon, is ready to do her duty in behalf of this great improvement.

We wait with anxiety for the thunder tones of CLEARFIELD, and promise a cordial response to any action your citizens may take in the matter. Our road can be made, and must be made—but we look for the co-operation of every one. As Lord Nelson telegraphed to his fleet, "England wants every man to do his duty."

I hope to visit your enterprising town this week, when I shall be glad to join in any course recommended by your citizens. In the meantime let me express the hope that you will unite with us in our present earnest efforts to commence active operations upon the Tyrone and Clearfield Railroad. Hoping you will pardon me for detaining you so long, I remain, my dear Sir, very truly yours,

JAMES E. MONTGOMERY, C. E.

**IMPORTANT BILL.**—The last Legislature passed the following important section relating to the name and right of legitimate children to inherit the estate of their mother—the mother the estate of such child:

Sec. 1. That illegitimate children shall take and be known by the name of their mother, and they and their mother shall respectively have capacity to take and bequeath all other personal estate of kin, and real estate as heirs in fee simple, and as respects said real or personal estate so taken and inherited, to transmit the same according to the intestate laws of this State.

## UNMASKING OF SAG NIGHTISM.

The Nashville *Whig* has furnished us with the following revelations, and we ask every patriot, every Protestant, and every American to read and contemplate the iniquity of a Party that for the last twelve months have racked their brains for odious epithets with which to vilify the American Party. *Here is Sag Nightism unmasked!* Here are some of the *bold, open and manly* resorts of that party whose strikers have well nigh exhausted the exchequer of blasphemery in cursing the secret policy of the so-called Know-Nothingism.

Behold the desperate extremity into which these denunciators of Catholic proscription and *catholico organizations* are driven.

See the diabolical conspiracy which these noisy advocates of open organization have assumed in setting on foot, and the infamous plot to defeat the noble advocates of Protestant rights and American liberty. Americans, Friends, and Protestants, shall such corruption go unrebuted? Honest Democrats (for there are many such) can you longer affiliate with, and be parcell of a party that can muster into its support, and endorse measures so infamous to defeat the *National* of your State? See your companionship, and hasten to get rid of it. Let not a combination of the English and Catholic elements of your State with the reckless, party-bound, party-serving natives triumph over your cities as Americans, your rights as Christians. The copy of the circular given below is *true* to the word. That it was sent from Nashville can be established by the *telegraphic report*. Whether this is any such news in Nashville as this *Monsieur D. Leprieur*? we know not.

Whether Gov. Johnson—is the *sovereign General*?—ever saw this remarkable document, a thing of no importance. It is plain that it was devised and circulated at the instigation of Democratic leaders. It was sent to a long-tried Democrat of Anderson county—a leader in the ranks, enjoying the confidence of the ruling powers, and one whom they thought would be active in getting as many to take the obligation as possible. But it came into bad hands for such an enterprise, and like a honest man, he has exposed it to the world. And whenever we receive this circular from Nashville, we question, how stands ready to give his name and verify his statements by the best of evidence. How touchingly they have appealed to his Democratic faith, and, as an additional incentive to action, represented the necessity of this association "to prevent the Democratic party and Gen. Johnson from defeating" another remarkable fact connected with this thing is, that the oath contained in this circular, is *precisely similar to the one reported in Kentucky*, and vouches for by a respectable journal. What better evidence do patriots want of the necessity of the American party?

John M. Flexine, Esq.—*Perry Sq.* As your paper goes to press several days before mine does, I have some startling facts to disclose, which I trust the public ought to have without delay. I have just received a letter from Anderson county, enclosing a printed private circular, which has just been received at Clinton, by a leading and influential member of the Democratic party—an old live Democrat, who is, nevertheless, favorable to the American party, and sends it to me to expose the vile conspiracy against the rights and interests of American citizens, not to say against the Protestant religion. This circular came to a worthy citizen of Anderson county, and post-marked "Nashville, June 1st." I have the envelope with R. M. will be read with mingled emotions of interest and alarm. It is in the following words:

CONSTITUTIONAL CIRCULAR.

Dear Sir—Being satisfied that there is profligacy, to a very great extent, in the State of Tennessee, a new-fangled Order, called "Know Nothing," which Order is making rapid inroads in the ranks of Democracy, not only in the State of Tennessee, but throughout the Union. This is known to Gov. Johnson *inferior to his entering into the cause against Mr. Gentry*, and to check the mighty tide, and counteract the influence of this loathsome gang—Know Nothingism, "He as so-called Governor Johnson, together with some *so-called patriotic Democrats* of the State of Virginia, set upon the association called "Sag Nights," by which it is expected to arrest the influence and votes of all Foreigners and Roman Catholics. We are informed that you are an Old Line Democrat, and as such we venture to send you this Circular, and entreat you, as a gentleman, and as one of the great Democratic leaders of Tennessee, to keep it secret. The following is the oath:

I, A. B. of my own free will and accord, in presence of these witnesses, do solemnly promise and swear that I am in favor of this Association, and that I will not vote for a Know Nothing if I know the same, and that I will vote only for a good Democrat. That I will favor the foreign born and Romanist, thereby gaining their votes as well as their wills.

I furthermore promise and swear, that I will not tell any of the secrets of this Order. I furthermore promise and swear, that I will tell that the Know-Nothings are villains, and that I will vote for a member of this Order, whether I believe he is faithful or not. So help me God.

Hearing of the progress of the Know-Nothing, we hope you will be active in getting as many persons to take this obligation as possible, and thereby preserve the Democratic Party and Gov. Johnson from defeat.

D. ESTRIE.  
Chief Associate, No. 214.

It will be seen that a *Foreigner* is the officer in chief of this Association, and he is no doubt a Catholic. It will also be seen that Mr. Estrie's Association is No. 214, and how many more in the State I have no means of knowing. Last of all, it appears that the present *soaring Gov. Johnson*, of Tennessee, assisted by the Democracy of Virginia, *Original and Infamous rulers of Sag Nights!*

It is now notorious that they are holding meetings in this city, regularly, and if denied, I will give the names of leading Democrats who are seen with the Irish and German Catholics in certain houses on Gay street, afterward, under very suspicious circumstances.

Respectfully, &c.,

W. G. BROWLOW.  
To complete the picture of this enormity, we will add in this connection, the obligations of the "Second Degree" of this delectable Order, and would state that it given precisely as it was taken from the book, by a respectable gentleman in this city. This is another of the oaths, being taken nightly by foreigners, by Catholics, and by *Tennesseans*. Read it, and see whether you will call it blasphemous.

OBLIGATION OF THE SECOND DEGREE.

"Brother, you are now about to take upon yourself the obligation of the Second Degree of this Association, commonly called "Sag Nights." Place yourself in a situation to receive it—arms crossed upon your breast—eyes raised towards Heaven. Repeat after me the obligation: I, A. B., (pronounce your proper name) pray that God may strike me with blindness and madness when I cease to oppose Know-Nothingism. May heaven overwhelm me with its thunders when I cease to hate the Order!" May the anger of God, of Peter and Paul, and of Washington, Jefferson, and Jackson, fall upon me in this world, and be my punishment in the next, if I cease to war upon this self-constituted American party! May the whole universe revolt against me if I cease to be a regular contributing member of this Society! May the earth swallow me up alive, if I prove unfaithful to my solemn vows! May my name perish from the memory of man, if I ever vote for a Whig or a Democrat who favors Know-Nothingism! And may my bones be boiled, roasted, baked, fried, beat and dashed by savages, if I stay away from the ballot-box on the day of election, when a Know-Nothing is a candidate."

"There is yet a "Third Degree" obligation, which will be given in due time, and according to the present progression of events, what may you not expect?"

## LOGO LOGO STATE CONVENTION.

The Loco Foco State Convention to nominate candidate for Canal Commissioner, assembled at Harrisburg on Wednesday, the 4th inst., and was called to order at 10 o'clock by Hon. H. B. Wright, of Luzerne, who nominated John B. Gaffier, Esq., of Allegheny, as temporary Chairman, who was agreed to.—Wm. V. McGrath, of Philadelphia, and Thomas A. Maguire, of Cambria, were then chosen Secretaries.

On the re-assembling of the Convention the Hon. G. Glancey Jones, of Berks, was chosen President, and a number of Vice Presidents and Secretaries. After appointing a Committee on resolutions, of which the Hon. Dr. Brinkley, of D. Leprieur, was known not.

Whether Gov. Johnson—is the *sovereign General*—ever saw this remarkable document, a thing of no importance. It is plain that it was devised and circulated at the instigation of Democratic leaders. It was sent to a long-tried Democrat of Anderson county—a leader in the ranks, enjoying the confidence of the ruling powers, and one whom they thought would be active in getting as many to take the obligation as possible. But it came into bad hands for such an enterprise, and like a honest man, he has exposed it to the world.

Arnold Plummer, of Venango co., 47 60 77

W. S. Campbell, Allegheny, 37 43 46

John Rowe, Franklin, 10 10 77

Geo. Scott, Columbia, 7 3

Robert Irwin, Centre, 5

John T. Hoover, do., 4

Bernard Riley, Schuylkill, 4 1

Alexander Small, York, 4 4

James Worrall, 2

H. B. Packer, 2

John M. Flexine, of Venango was

then elected to the nomination of the party for the office of Canal Commissioner. Mr. Flexine is a warm personal friend of Mr. Buchanan, and his nomination may be regarded as a Buchanan triumph.

We have written the above to the operators, but learn from the *Argus* that the Hon. Hendrick B. Wright, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, stated that being overruled in the Committee, he could not submit the majority report, but would make a minority report instead, which he did; and he left the Convention without addressing the Convention at length in its support. He stated that while he submitted to the resolutions agreed upon by a majority of the Committee, he thought they did not go far enough. The difficulty in the Committee was upon the Temperance and Abolition questions.

Col. Samuel W. Black then submitted the majority report, and spoke for an hour in reply to Mr. Wright.

After considerable discussion, Mr. Wright moved the minority report, and spoke for an hour in reply to Col. Black.

Mr. Wright then moved, as an amendment to the majority report, to substitute for that of the majority, but the motion was negative—yeas 10, nays 89.

Mr. Wright then moved, as an amendment to the majority report, his minority resolution in favor of the Nebraska bill, and called the yeas and nays. The yeas were 10, nays 60.

Mr. Wright then offered, in the form of an amendment, his resolutions with reference to negroes voting, and called the yeas and nays, when it was agreed to—yeas 61, nays 28.

Mr. Lindlow offered an amendment with reference to popular sovereignty in the territory.

Mr. Chase called the previous question, which was ordered.