

RAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL.



S. B. ROW, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CLEARFIELD, PA., MARCH 20, 1856.

Womence of the Philadelphia Convention.

FOR PRESIDENT, MILLARD FILLMORE. VICE PRESIDENT, ANDREW JACKSON DONNELSON.

"FREEDOM OF SPEECH"

In an article under this caption, "our neighbor" of the Republican makes use of the following language:-

"The great achievement of those primitive days was the guarantee of freedom of speech to every citizen. We would maintain that guarantee inviolate. Can our neighbor say as much? Would not he and his party deny to the naturalized citizen, and to the citizen of a certain religious belief, the right to hold office?"

"It is a singular way, of a verity, that our down-street 'neighbor' has of 'maintaining inviolate' the guarantee of freedom of speech, when in the very next paragraph to the one in which he asks the above questions, he would not have ministers speaking 'after the impious manner of the three thousand New England clergymen in their remonstrance against the passage of the Kansas Nebraska bill!'"

"To us it seems strange that the Democratic presses, which so much 'honor the minister of the gospel' for manfully expressing his sentiments, should direct their denunciations against Protestant clergymen for so doing, but never say a word when a Roman Catholic bishop or priest does the same thing? Who ever heard of a Democratic newspaper say aught against a Catholic church dignitary for expressing his opinions, either in the pulpit, or thro' the medium of the press, on matters pertaining to the political condition of our country? It would almost seem as if they were the special guardians of the 'mother church.'"

"If they are, we congratulate them upon the happy circumstance. For our part, however, we do not envy them their occupation, but shall consider it our duty, so long as the head of that church endeavors to exert an influence in the affairs of our government, to hold it up in its true colors, by exposing its insidious policy and anti-republican tendencies, which, if carried into effect, would prove subversive of our institutions and destructive to our liberties."

"We ought to use every honest exertion to turn out of power those weak and wicked men who have abandoned the political path marked out for this country by Washington, and whose wild and visionary theories have been at length tested by experience and found wanting. Above all, we ought to drive from our shores foreign influences, and cherish exclusively American feelings. Foreign influence has been in every age the curse of Republics. . . . Already our infant Republic has felt her withering influence. Already has she involved us in a war, which had nearly cost us our existence. Let us then learn wisdom from experience, and forever banish this fiend from our society."

There is what James Buchanan, the choice of the Democracy of this State for President, said relative to foreign influence. At the time it was spoken, it was regarded as being orthodox. Why is it not now? Why is it that at the present time, when our elections are being controlled by foreign votes, the principle is regarded as erroneous by the Democracy? Is it not for the self-evident reason, that their political success in a great measure depends upon securing the foreign vote? That is the correct solution of the problem. It was truly said that "men change, principles never!"

In this fine lines quoted at the beginning of this article, the question is asked whether the American party would not "deny to the naturalized citizen, and to the citizen of a certain religious belief," which means a Roman Catholic, "the right to hold office." What "right" has any foreign catholic to hold our offices? Who did he acquire it? And by what authority was he invested with it? Does a blind obedience to a foreign spiritual head, confer it upon him? Does his adherence to the peculiar dogmas, superstitions and prejudices of the Church of Rome, or even an abandoning of his adherence to a temporal prince of Europe or any other section of the world, bestow upon him such a "right"? Has he any right at all to hold office? Certain privileges are granted upon certain conditions; but to talk of the right of a foreigner to hold office, is an absurdity. The constitution forbids a "naturalized citizen" from holding the office of President of the United States, and, we believe, the same rule applies to the office of Vice President. How dreadfully proscriptive the Constitution and the American party are! The Catholics, so far as their religious privileges are concerned are not persecuted in the United States, nor does the American party wish to persecute them. They have their priests and churches, and are allowed the full enjoyment of these. With their religion no party wishes to interfere. Politically they are distrusted, and for this they have themselves to blame. Their subservience to a foreign priesthood and foreign spiritual head, superinduced this distrust. To a free use of the ballot-box, after a compliance with the requirements of the constitution and laws, no one presumed to object; but when they were found, as a church, in obedience to the instructions of their priests, who are bound, by solemn oath, to obey the Pope of Rome, who is, and has always been opposed to liberal institutions and a free use of the Bi-

ble by the people at large, taking a united stand for one of the great political parties of this country, and thus controlling our elections, a spirit of jealousy was engendered that can never be subdued. It is in their character as a politico-ecclesiastical body that they are opposed. Had they contented themselves with the privileges extended to other citizens, and employed no suspicious and insidious means for gaining an ascendancy, they would have met no opposition from any party.

This it will be seen, that it is not the religion of Catholics that Americans contend against. They war with Rome; for, as a contemporary remarks: "Rome is the enemy of America, and America is the enemy of Rome." We war against the imposition by Rome of a Priesthood upon us, alien to civil Laws, our Customs, our Schools, and ever seeking indirectly or directly, the subversion of them all. We war against a hierarchy, Roman-made, that robs its own people of their own property, to concentrate it all in church form upon itself, utterly subject to Rome. We war against a hierarchy that rushes into our elections, and turns huge masses of votes in solid bodies into our American ballot-boxes to create American demagogues to obey its will. Rome has been, and is attempting, through her powerful hierarchy, to rule the civil power of the United States. For this purpose she exports here and imposes upon us, the Irish hierarchy, as the most subservient tool of its power. For this purpose, this Irish Roman hierarchy turn all the Irish Catholic masses one way, into one ballot, the better thus to overawe and to control American demagogues and politicians. For this purpose, we have "Church Property Bills" to concentrate on the one man power of Rome, the now immense Roman Catholic estates of this country. For this purpose our School System has been attacked, and a portion of our School money demanded from us at the ballot-box and in the State Legislatures. It is upon such Roman Catholicism that Americans war.

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THE "ALGERIE LAW."—We are indebted to the attentive and energetic Senator from this district, Henry Souther, Esq., for a copy of the Bill repealing the supplement to the act of May 8, 1812, known here as the "Algerie Law," which he read in place on the 13th inst. In order that Mr. Souther may be enabled to work effectively in this matter, petitions asking for the passage of the repealing act should be immediately forwarded, well signed, from the various townships of this county which are most directly interested in it. The repeal of the supplement is of high importance to the lumbermen of the Susquehanna, and it is to be hoped that they will make the necessary exertions to secure it. A little activity is all that is required. Petitions have already been forwarded from our borough, and other steps have also been taken here.—But Clearfield borough can't do all—the rest of the county must lend their assistance.

NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTIONS.—The result of the recent election in New Hampshire shows that the Pierce Democracy have been badly routed. The opposition have carried both branches of the Legislature. No choice for Governor having been made by the people, that duty devolves upon the Legislature, and as the anti-administration party has a decided majority, their candidate will be elected. This is a serious loss to the Pierce party, which made every exertion to carry the State, knowing that if they lost New Hampshire their case was desperate. Several prominent speakers were sent there, and money was used in liberal profusion, to secure a victory. But it was all useless—they are signally defeated.

The Trenton State Gazette publishes an appeal signed by all the members of the New Jersey Legislature opposed to the present National Administration, calling upon all the voters of the State of similar inclination to assemble in their respective wards and townships and elect delegates to a State Convention to be held in Trenton on Wednesday, the 4th of June, whereat a candidate shall be nominated for the office of Governor, to be supported at the ensuing election.

SENATORS FROM KANSAS.—The St. Louis Democrat has a letter from Topeka, dated the 8th inst., stating that the Free State Legislature of Kansas has in joint convention elected Hon. A. H. Reeder and Hon. James H. Lane United States Senators. Mr. Reeder was elected on the first, and Mr. Lane on the second ballot. Each received 38 votes out of 56 members present.

THE FRUIT CROP OF NEW JERSEY.—The Newark Daily Advertiser states that the prospects, in New Jersey, of a large yield of fruit, were never better than at the present time. The buds are generally uninjured, and the lingering cold weather will prevent them swelling until the season is too far advanced to have them suffer from high winds or frosts.

ANOTHER LETTER FROM REV. J. CHAMBERS.

PHILADELPHIA, March 15th, 1856.

Richardson L. Wright, Esq., Speaker of the House of Representatives—My Dear Sir: Your letter addressed to me through the columns of the Pennsylvania of to-day, received with my respectful consideration, as I trust this will secure yours. First, as to the caustic biting part of it. "Time serving politician"—"billingsgate notoriety"—"moral desperado"—"uncharitable ravings"—"statements which have no foundation in truth," &c: Now, Mr. Speaker, if you can afford to employ such epithets, I can afford to have them heaped upon me. They do not disturb my equanimity or ruffle my temper in the slightest degree. It is always unfortunate for a man to fly into a passion, but it is peculiarly so when he is writing for the eye of the public and the scrutiny of intelligent men. Any body can call hard names. Our women in the fish market can beat you all hollow in multiplying opprobrious epithets, so that no honor or capital can be gained on that score. You will Mr. Speaker, please bear this in mind when you write your next letter for the public papers. Keep your temper at any cost. Don't be so anxious to call hard names that you lose your self control. Secondly, let us look at one or two more important matters. You say, "I was constrained by a sense of duty, as a consistent friend of Temperance, to advocate such measures as I thought best calculated to remedy existing evils," &c. "Consistent friends of Temperance!" Let us see. You and your Democratic colleagues, pending the election last October, proclaimed yourselves the "consistent friends of Temperance." If the dear people would only elect you, you would give them a better law than the act to "restrain the sale of intoxicating liquors." And what did you do? A bill was introduced to repeal, unconditionally, the act of last year. Messrs. Morris and Dock objected to that, and insisted that a bill should be introduced to take the place of that act before it was repealed." And what did you and your Democratic colleagues do? Voted for the unconditional repeal of the act of last year, opening the flood-gates of intemperance and ruin upon the community. Your names stand upon the record, and you cannot gainsay it. Every one of you deserved, at the time, the indignant rebuke of an injured and insulted constituency.

But thanks to N. B. Browne and a majority of the Senate, the flagrant wrongs of the House were checked. A stringent license bill was introduced and passed that body. When it was sent to the House for concurrence, what did you then do? You advocated those amendments which would have destroyed the vitality and the beneficial effects of Mr. Browne's bill, and would have made it a weak, inefficient, wishy washy thing, almost worthless as to all practical purposes. This you did as a "consistent friend of Temperance!" Do you not think the Liquor League would give a heap of money to have just such "friends of Temperance" sent every year to the Legislature?

It will not do, Mr. Speaker, to throw dust and try to hoodwink the people in this way. I say it openly and publicly, that you and your Democratic brethren from Philadelphia have misrepresented the people, and abused the confidence reposed in you. You are good representatives of the Liquor League, and I commend you all to their special regard. They ought to take good care of you for you have been faithful to their interests. Do you say this is a hard allegation? Look at your recorded votes, and judge. It is no use to be merely mouthed about this matter. It is true, and every body knows it, that every Democratic member from this city in the House and the Senate, (excepting N. B. Browne, Esq., noble specimen of humanity,) have bowed down and worshipped at the shrine of the Liquor League.

I want the people distinctly to understand that you left the Speaker's chair and earnestly advocated the granting of licenses to our restaurants and eating houses, to sell ardent spirits. You and your Democratic colleagues from this city voted for this measure, while you and they know full well that in these places, in consequence of the maddening effects of rum, a vast amount of disorder, wrangling, riot and fighting, is constantly occurring. You and they know equally well, that a vast majority of the people of Philadelphia are most decidedly opposed to granting licenses to these places to sell alcoholic drinks. Why did you do it? To gratify the Liquor League and the rummies? That was the reason, and you cannot deny it. Let the Liquor League take care of you and your Democratic brethren, for it is quite certain you have forfeited the respect and confidence of sober, virtuous, intelligent, temperate citizens. After all this you speak of yourself in your letter as a "consistent friend of Temperance!" Fudge, Mr. Speaker, all fudge. We are not to be fooled in this way.

JOHN CHAMBERS.

DEATH OF DR. BOND.—The venerable and talented Dr. T. E. Bond, editor in chief of the Christian Advocate and Journal, the leading paper of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a local preacher of that denomination, died at his residence in New York city, on Saturday last. Dr. Bond was a native of Harford county, Maryland; he was a successful practitioner of medicine in Baltimore city for many years, and as a clergyman, was eminent for his piety, self-sacrificing devotion and learning. Beloved and lamented by all who knew him, personally and by report, he has passed to his final account at the advanced age of 76 years.

CAVING IN.—The Pittsburg Union learns by passengers that on Thursday night last a portion of the earth, in that part of the big tunnel which yet remains unfinished, fell in, and for a couple of hours obstructed the passage of the train. The rubbish was removed as speedily as a large force of hands, who were promptly set to work, could do it.

On Monday, Flour was selling in Philadelphia at from \$7 to \$8.50; wheat \$1.55a\$1.75; rye is dull at \$1; corn 58a59c; cloverseed \$8.87a\$9.50; timothy \$6.50; fax \$1.90a\$2.

THE KANSAS QUESTION.

In Senate, March 12, Mr. COLLAMER, from the Minority of the Committee on Territories,

to whom was referred the President's Message on Affairs in Kansas, made a report, from which we extract the following paragraphs:

"A succinct statement of the course and progress of the material events in Kansas is this: After the passage of the law, establishing the Territory of Kansas, a large body of settlers rapidly entered into said Territory with the view of permanent inhabitation therein. Most of these were from the Free States of the West and North, who probably intended by their votes and influence to establish there a Free State, agreeably to the law which invited them. Some part of these from the Northern Emigrant Aid Society formed in Massachusetts, which put forth some exertion in this laudable object by open and public measures, in providing facilities for transportation to all peaceable citizens who desired to become permanent settlers in said Territory, and providing therein, in hotels, mills, and so forth for the public accommodation of that new country."

The Governor of Kansas having, in pursuance of the act, divided the Territory into districts and procured a census thereof, issued his proclamation for the election of a Legislative Assembly therein, to take place on the 30th day of March, 1856, and directed how the same should be conducted and the returns made to him, agreeably to the law establishing said Territory. On the day of election, large bodies of armed men from the State of Missouri appeared at the polls in most of the districts and by most violent and tumultuous carriage and demeanor, overawed the defenseless inhabitants, and by their own votes, elected a large majority of the members of both Houses of said Assembly. On the returns of said elections being made to the Governor, protests and objections being made to him in relation to a part of said districts, and as to them, he set aside such, and such only, as, by the returns, appeared to be bad. In relation to others, covering a majority of the two Houses, equally vicious in fact, but apparently good by formal returns, the inhabitants thereof, borne down by said violence, and intimidated, scattered and discouraged, and laboring under apprehensions of personal violence, refrained and desisted from presenting any protest to the Governor in relation thereto, and he, then, uninformed in relation thereto, issued certificates to the members who appeared by said formal returns to have been elected.

In relation to those districts which the Governor set aside, orders were by him issued for new elections. In one of these districts the same proceedings were repeated by men from Missouri, and in others not, and certificates were issued to the persons elected.

This Legislative Assembly so elected assembled at Pawnee on the 24th day of July, 1856, that being the time and place for holding said meeting, as fixed by the Governor by authority of law. On the 25th day of July, the same proceeded to set aside and reject those members so elected on said second election, except in the districts where the men from Missouri had, at said election, chosen the same persons they had elected at the said first election, and admitted all of the said first-elected members.

Legislative Assembly, so created by military force, by usurpation, in violation of the organic law, was not a usurpation. No act of its own—no act or neglect of the Governor, could legalize or sanctify it. Its own decisions as to its own legality are, like its laws, but the fruits of its own usurpation, which no Governor could legitimate.

They passed an Act altering the place of the Territory, and in doing so, they violated the organic law, and in near proximity to Missouri. This Act the Government regarded as a violation of the organic law establishing the Territory, which fixed the temporary seat of Government and prohibited the Legislative Assembly from doing anything inconsistent with said Act. He therefore, and for that cause, voided said bill, but said Assembly repassed the same by two-third majority, notwithstanding said veto, and removed to said Shawnee Mission. They then proceeded to pass laws, and the Governor in writing, declined further to recognize them as a legitimate Assembly sitting at that place. They continued passing laws there from the 16th day of July to the 31st day of August, 1856.

On the 15th day of August last the Governor of said Territory was dismissed from office, and the duties devolved upon the Secretary of the Territory; and how many of the laws passed with his official approbation does not appear—the laws, as now presented, being without date or authentication.

As by the law of Congress organizing said Territory it was expressly provided that the people of the Territory were to be left perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, and among these institutions Slavery is included. It was of course implied that that subject was to be open and free to public and private discussion on all its bearings, rights and relations. Among the most important, of course, be the question of what was the status of the organic laws, and the modifications that might be required on that subject. The law had declared that its "true intent and meaning was not to legislate Slavery into the Territory or exclude it therefrom." This would, of course, leave to that people the inquiry, What then are the existing rights under the Constitution? Can slaves be held in the absence of any law on the subject? This question, about which so much difference of opinion exists, and which Congress and the Courts have never settled, was thus turned over to the people there to discuss and act for themselves.

Thus far, the course of the people for redress is peaceful, constitutional and right. Whether it will succeed, rests with Congress to determine; but clear it is, that it should not be met and denounced as revolutionary, rebellious, insurrectionary, or unlawful—nor does it call for or justify the exercise of any force, by any department of this Government, to check or control it.

It is now become proper to inquire what should be done by Congress. For it is asserted by the President, in substance that he has the power to correct usurpations, and that the law, even though made by usurped authority, must be enforced and executed, even with military force. The measures of redress should be applied to the true cause of the difficulty. This obviously lies in the repeal of the clause for the remedy here provided for. Let this be done, and the entire repeal of the act of 1854, which in the entire repeal of the Kansas was organized anew as a Free Territory, and all will be put right. But if Congress insists on proceeding with the experiment, then declare all the actions by this spurious foreign vote, and direct a re-organization providing safeguards for legal voters and against foreign force. There is another way, however, to put away all this trouble there and in the nation, without retracing steps or committing violence, or by force compelling obedience to tyrannical laws, made by foreign force, and that is, by admitting that Territory as a State with her Free Constitution. Then, indeed, her numbers are not such as gives her a right to demand admission, being, as the President informs us, probably only about twenty-five thousand. The Constitution fixes no number as necessary, and the importance of never settling this question will justify Congress in admitting this as a State at this time, especially, as we have a great reason to believe, if admitted

as a State, and controversy ended, it will immediately fill up with a numerous and successful population. At any rate, it seems reasonable to believe that Congress is to leave that people without redress, to have enforced upon them, by the Army of the nation, those measures and laws of violence and oppression. Are they to be degraded into a condition of our own free people? The true character of this transaction is matter of extreme importance. Its essential features are too obvious to allow of any successful disguise or palliation, however complicated or ingenious may be the statement, or however special the pleading for that purpose. The case requires some quiet, kind and prudent treatment by the hands of Congress to do justice and satisfy the nation.

The people of this country are peacefully relying on Congress to provide for competent measures of redress which they have the undoubted power to administer. The Attorney-General, in the case of Arkansas, says: "Congress may, at pleasure, repeal or modify the laws passed by the Territorial Legislature, and may at any time abrogate and remodel the Legislature itself, and all the other departments of the Territorial Government." Treating this grievance in Kansas with ingenious excuses, with neglect or contempt, or riding over the oppressed with an army and dragging them into submission, will make no satisfactory termination.

Party success may at times be outwardly secured, by adroit devices, plausible pretenses, and partisan address; but the permanent preservation of this Union can be maintained only by frankness and integrity. Justice may be denied where it ought to be granted; power may perpetuate that assuage which violence and usurpation have produced; the subjugation of white Freemen may succeed; but such a course must not be expected to produce peace and satisfaction in our country, so long as the people retain any proper sentiment of Justice, Liberty, and Law."

REPUBLICAN LANDMARKS; or the Views and Opinions of American Statesmen on Foreign Immigration. By JOHN P. SANDERSON, PHILADELPHIA: J. B. LIPPINCOTT & Co., No. 20, N. Fourth St. Price \$1.50.

The above work is largely commended by the leading Journals of the country, and should be found in the hands of every man. It is a review of the views and opinions of American Statesmen on Foreign Immigration, the Naturalization of Aliens, their tendencies and influences, and the legislative action thereon, with a critical examination into the character of the United States Government, and its policy on these subjects. It contains forty-one chapters, embracing one on the White and Free Colored Population of the country—two on Foreign Immigration and its advantages—one on Pauperism—Crime—Intemperance—Juvenile Vagrancy—Education—two on Pauper and Convict Immigration—Internal Police Power of Congress—Colonial Naturalization Laws—six on the United States Naturalization Laws, and the efforts to amend them—one on Naturalization Frauds in the Cities—Qualifications of Electors in Territories—Pre-emption Rights to Public Lands—Homestead Bill—Causes of Opposition to Foreigners—Mistaken Views of the United States Government—three on the Executive and Legislative branches of Government—one on the conditions of Eligibility to Office—Term and Tenure of Office—Qualifications of Electors—Basis of Representation—Negative Power of the Executive—Mode of Amending Constitutions—Other Safe guards—Non-intervention—America for American Nationally—Cultivation of American Feelings and Sentiment.

The scope of the work is very comprehensive, and it embodies a vast mass of practical discussion on all the subjects which are discussed. It will prove an invaluable text book which will become a necessity to every public man, and which, we predict, will have a wide-spread circulation. A work like it has long been needed.

The well-informed correspondent of the Philadelphia North American, writes from Washington as follows:—"The result of the election in New Hampshire is by no means acceptable in the Court circles. This insignificant beginning augures prospects which were cheered by a different anticipation. There is now practically demonstrated, what was somewhat doubtful before, that the presence and exhortations of Mr. Orr and M. Cobb, did not materially help to enlighten Northern opinion, or to recall the errant Democracy, who, in the former contest, deserted their old allegiance. Such an indication from that quarter is ominous, and gives some sanction to the singular belief, so often verified, that the political complexion of the Speakership preceding a Presidential election, was but the certain precursor of an equally certain result. This is a saw of the Washington southsayers, who, surpassing the Roman divines, draw their arguings without the flight of birds."

THE WORLD SURROUNDED BY THE STARS AND STRIPES.—The American tonnage of this country now figures up 5,400,000 tons, and will make up the very respectable fleet of 5,400 ships of 1,000 tons each. And if the tonnage of the fleet be figured out in Yankee clippers of 200 tons each, and placed on the equatorial line around this globe, each skipper may speak the next in line, by raising his voice a little above the ordinary pitch on ship board, round the whole circumference of the globe. War would be a terrible calamity to this immense fleet, and England would not fare better with her commercial marine of 5,200,000 tons; but little less than our own.

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.—There are in the English language 20,500 nouns, 40 pronouns, 9,200 adjectives, 8,000 verbs, 2,600 adverbs, 69 prepositions, 19 conjunctions, 68 interjections, and 2 articles—in all above 40,000 words. According to Webster's Dictionary there are 100,000 words.

TROTTLES.—Although the Democracy of the lower House of our State Legislature did so far yield to the demands of the Jemits as to pass the bill for the incorporation of the "Franciscan Brothers" in Cambria county, the project is likely to be defeated in the Senate, the committee to which it was referred having reported it with a negative recommendation.

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