

Democratic Banner.

BY MOORE & THOMPSON.

CLEARFIELD, PA., AUG. 7, 1847.

NEW SERIES--VOL. II. NO. 17--WHOLE NO. 1067.

THE BANNER

The "DEMOCRATIC BANNER" is published weekly at \$2 per annum—or \$1 75 if paid in advance. No paper can be discontinued (unless at the option of the editors) until all arrearages are paid. Advertisements, &c., at the usual rates.

From Santa Fe.

The St. Louis Republican of the 10th has the following:

Lieut. R. S. Elliott, of the Laclede Rangers, and a large number of the Volunteers composing that company, reached this city, altogether unexpectedly, on Saturday evening in the Monona, from the Upper Missouri. This company was discharged at the end of the year for which they were enrolled, and immediately left for home. From the accounts published in the *Reveille*, of yesterday, by Lieut. Elliott, we make up the following interesting sketches.

Lieut. Elliott and the other Volunteers left Santa Fe on the 13th of June, in company with a train of merchant wagons, belonging to Mr. Houck, of Boonville; Mr. Braham, of Platte City; Col. Davis, of Independence; Mr. Webb, of St. Louis, and others. They had eight wagons and a number of mules. They left the wagon on Monday, 125 miles from Santa Fe, on the evening of the 17th of June.

We have already announced that Lieut. Col. Willcock had left Taos on an expedition against the Indians and Mexicans, who had had an engagement with Mr. Edmonson. The expedition had resulted in nothing—no enemy could be found in any direction. Major Edmonson was exceedingly desirous of having another chance at his enemy, but he was overruled by a council of officers, held the next day after his arrival in Santa Fe. From the number of wounds in which the Indians had buried their dead, found in the neighborhood of the place at which the battle was fought, it is supposed that at least forty of their number were killed.

The Mexicans were much elated by the victory which they claimed to have achieved over Edmonson—said that they were expecting aid from Chihuahua—and were congratulating themselves on the prospect of re-capturing their country, as soon as Capt. Angney's Battalion of Infantry and Capt. Fisher's Artillery company was to be mustered out of service on the 14th of June, Captain Fisher's on the 20th, and Capt. Murphy's (now Captain Wood's) on the 26th, and all were expected to leave for home immediately. Whether the Mexicans would attempt to carry out their plans, is uncertain; but Col. Price, although said to be under such an apprehension, had made no arrangement to meet the crisis. His forces were scattered, and some of the outposts were indifferently supplied with provisions, although the stores in Santa Fe were abundant. Lieut. Elliott thinks that the Mexicans could not take Santa Fe very easily, but they could cut off the detached parties, and no force could be spared from the capital to relieve them. The condition of things was critical enough, but not entirely desperate.

When 140 miles from Santa Fe, the company met Dr. Herriford; with a train of Merchant wagons. They had been much annoyed by the Indians on the Arkansas, but were getting along very well, having succeeded in preserving their stock. On the 26th of June, they met two quartermaster's teams, accompanied by Mr. Smith, who had been in command of a little fort on the Arkansas. An account of the attack on this fort is given by one of our correspondents. Afterwards, the defenders of it, and the trains of the Government and the traders, pursued their course towards Santa Fe—each driver with a loaded rifle on his shoulder, and in front of all, a piece of artillery. It was believed that they would get through to Santa Fe without further difficulty.

On the 30th, they met Maj. Fitzpatrick and an escort of dragoons, who had left Lieut. Love's company for the purpose of informing them of the close proximity of the Indians. The Major communicated the news of the attack upon Lieut. Love to the party, and of his loss, and informed them that Lieut. Love was moving slowly, determined to get the trains as far as the Fort at the Caches, and expecting troops soon to come up to them.

Lieut. E. met several other trains, and ten or twelve companies of the newly raised regiments, on the plains.

The following are the particulars of the attack on Lieut. Love, as we find them in the *Liberty Tribune*, in a letter dated near the battle ground, June 28:—

"Dear Sir—As there is an express to leave this morning for the Fort, I embrace the opportunity of addressing a few lines to you. The news I have to communicate is of unusual interest, melancholy as it is. The *Reveille* sounded off on yesterday morning (26th) some of the men were engaged in grooming their horses—others were preparing breakfast, when about sunrise the alarm was given that the Indians had attacked the provision train, encamped about three-quarters of a mile to our rear. The command was given to saddle our horses immediately. The Indians made their attack from the rear—where they had chosen their position during the night, awaiting daylight, when the cattle would be turned out of the Corral. The cattle, with the exception of six or eight yoke,

were driven across the river by the Indians. The Indians engaged in running off the cattle were about 250 or 300 on this side of the river. They were well mounted, and armed to the teeth. They are excellent riders—the best, without exception, I ever saw. The lance was their principal weapon, with quite a number of pistols, bows, arrows and shields. About twenty of our men started to regain the cattle, if possible—they charged them about one mile, when a regular engagement took place—when, apparently, the Indians appeared to be on the retreat, but this was only done for a ruse, in order to get our men as far on the prairie as possible. When about one hundred men that were stationed on the opposite bank of the river, charged across, and coming up in the rear, had all of our men completely surrounded, and they had it hard to hand for a while. From six to ten Indians were after one man at a time. Our men fought bravely and desperately; too much cannot be said in their praise.

The battle lasted about twenty minutes. Our loss was five killed and six wounded. Their names were—John Dickheart, he fought bravely, being attacked by five Indians at once; Geo. Gaykell, J. H. Blake, Shortie and Aldrich—all privates, killed—wounded, Sergeant Bishop; privates Lovelace, Vancaaster, and Ward, severely; Wilson J. Bush, slightly. Sergeant Bishop was shot through the left side, above the hip. Lovelace was shot by an arrow diagonally through from the right shoulder to the breast. Vancaaster was shot by an arrow through from side to side—it is not supposed that he will live; they scalped three. Some of the men had as many as twelve and fifteen pieces with the lance, and otherwise horribly mutilated; the throat of one man was cut from ear to ear—the ears of another were cut off. It was indeed a shocking sight to look at the brave fellows as they lay by the grave that was to be the resting place of as brave a set of men as ever lived. But four were found the first day—the other was found to-day; they were pillaged of every thing except a shirt and drawers; the one that was found to-day nothing was taken from him but his arms and jacket—the horses and arms of all but one were taken. What was the loss of the Indians we could not ascertain; as fast as they fell from their horses, they were picked up and taken across the river, but as nearly as can be estimated, their loss must have been from twenty five to thirty. We will remain encamped until we get assistance for the provision train that lost their cattle. The number of cattle was about 150 yoke. This is not the first depredation that has been committed by them. On the 22d, they robbed a return train from Santa Fe of 80 yoke of cattle, which they drove two or three miles from the scene of action, and wantonly killed, and let them lie on the ground. It is high time that government should do something to quell the depredations committed by the Comanche and other tribes with impunity. They have openly proclaimed that not a train shall cross the river, and it is their intention to cut off all communication with Santa Fe and the States.

A FEW SOUND TRUTHS FROM DOW, JR.

"WE STRUGGLE—PERISH—ARE FORGOTTEN."

My friends—as says the text, *we struggle*; struggle to stem the tide of adverse fortune—struggle to get above one another struggle to get married; and then, (too frequently) like a couple of wretches, help to get each other—struggle with the devil all through life—and, at last, have a desperate struggle with Death. Foolish things! We take time by the coat tail, pull back with the might of a maggot, and imagine we can hold him in his impetuous career! We strip pleasure to the shirk, take her cloak, frock, bonnet, bustle and all—rob her of every charm; and then say there is no such thing as pleasure in the world. We extinguish the torch that hope holds in her hand, and follow lightning bugs into a mud puddle! By superlative folly, you frighten happiness from your firesides, and then you say she has 'left your bed and board without cause or provocation!'—This man makes hills to tire himself in climbing—produces darkness to grumble about—creates corns to swear at—and puts difficulties in his path in order that he may struggle with them! Well, my friends, if you can't move without first setting fire to your shirts, all I have to say is, blaze away—any thing to give you a start.

My dear friends—we *perish*—are forgotten: Yes, we are composed of very perishing stuff. Improvements have been made upon almost everything else except flesh—that, if any thing is not so liable to stand the storms and tempest of time as it was in the days of yore. More than a medal will be given to him who can make it time proof! We live hardly long enough for a man to count sixty (provided he counts but one year), and then we creep under ground—through a subterranean passage that leads to—the Lord knows where. We *perish*, and a monument, perchance more enduring than human flesh, marks the spot where we rest; but that, alas! like all things earthly—and then we are forgotten. Whether slay or slain, lord or loafer, there we lie, and the children of future generations will pitch pennies, or shoot marbles

upon our graves, as unconsciously as church prayer books and bibles. The earth will soon grow green above us, and put forth its varied variety of flowers, weeds and load stools; the sky will look down as serenely as ever—and the world wag as ever. So goes man—vain, conceited, pompous man—a mere toy and plaything of Time—into the unfathomable depths of Eternity! As the ten pins that fall by the skill of the bowler; so let us say of those that are knocked down by the cudgel of Death—'Set 'em up again!' So mote it be.

Emigration to California.

We find the following article in the *St. Louis Republican* of the 20th:

The *Western Exporter*, of Wednesday last, contains a letter written by Peter Quivey, of Jackson county, who went out last year with a company of emigrants to California. This letter is dated on the 24th of March last, at Lower Puebla. He speaks very favorably of the country over which he has passed, and says, that if he were now back in Missouri with his family, and with his present knowledge of the country, he would not hesitate to move there. The charms of the country must be very great to counterbalance the difficulties which the emigrants encountered in getting there, and of which he gives some account in this letter. He went out with Moran and Bonn, who changed their minds on the route, and went to Oregon. Gov. Boggs reached California about the same time Mr. Quivey did, after much difficulty. Having lost his cattle, a party of emigrants who went out, or started with Colonel Russell, suffered almost incredible hardships in the mountains last winter, having been prevented from crossing them by the snow. This company was composed of twenty-three wagons, and left Indian Creek on the 13th day of May, 1846. About a month previous to the date of the letter, five women and two men arrived at Capt. Johnson's, the first house of the California settlements, *entirely naked*, and their feet frost bitten. They stated that their company had arrived at Turkey's Lake, on the east side of the mountains, and found the snow so deep that they could not travel. Fearing starvation, sixteen of the strongest (eleven men and five females) agreed to start for the settlements on foot. After wandering about a number of days, bewildered, their provisions gave out. Long hunger made it necessary to eat lots to see who should be sacrificed, to make food for the rest, but at this time the weaker began to die, which rendered the taking of life unnecessary. As they died, the company went into camp and made meal of the dead bodies of their companions. Nine of the men died, and seven were eaten. One of the men was carried to Johnson's on the back of an Indian. From this statement, it would seem that the women endured the hardships better than the men, as none of them died. The company left behind numbered sixty souls, ten of them men, the others women and children. They were in camp about one hundred miles from Johnson's. Revolting as it may seem, it is stated that one of the women was obliged to eat part of the dead bodies of her father and brother, and another saw her husband's heart cooked! It ought to be a very fine country to justify an exposure to such sufferings and horrors.

This writer says that Gen. Kearny was then Governor and Commander in Chief of Upper and Lower California.

Railroad Accident.

A slip from the Charleston Courier office, dated July 24, furnishes the following particulars of a frightful railroad accident which occurred in the vicinity of that city on Friday last:

Two small engines the Branchville and Franklin, were coming down from Gadsden with the hands who were engaged on the Camden Branch. These hands are usually carried up to Gadsden in the evening and brought down in the morning to the place of their work. The distance between Gadsden and the Camden branch is about five miles. The Branchville had one car or more (perhaps two) with the workmen. The car or cars with the workmen were in advance of the engine, pushed before and not drawn after. The Franklin, with the rest of the workmen was some distance behind the Branchville, likewise descending to the Camden branch. A freight train with the engine called Barnwell was on its way up to Columbia. The morning was very foggy. The last named engine had passed the Camden fork and was about midway between that place and Gadsden, when the engines of the Barnwell and Branchville discovered each other's approach. The fog had prevented an earlier discovery, and when it was made, it was too late to prevent a collision. The engineer of the Branchville then attempted to reverse the course of his engine, but she would not yield. Perceiving the collision inevitable, the engineers and some of the others jumped over the banks, and thus saved themselves. The box cars, containing the workmen, driven by the Branchville, then came into contact with the Barnwell, and were literally crushed, splintered. In this collision several were dreadfully wounded, mangled and crushed. The Branchville, by this concussion, was then started back,

(the engineer, as stated above, having previously reversed her) and having no one to control her or let off her steam, she ran up the road at a fearful rate, until she came in contact with the Franklin, occasioning the serious injury of many others. The entire number of the wounded, as counted by several persons was fifteen. Three or four of these, it is thought, cannot survive, their wounds being of the most serious kind. Of the others, one has lost a leg (the physician had amputated it,) and the extent of the injury to some it was difficult to ascertain.

The Columbia train on arriving at the scene of disaster, took the wounded back to Gadsden, where medical aid was promptly rendered them. On its return to the scene of the disaster, it was unable to proceed, the very heavy engine (the Barnwell) being off the track, very much injured, and its front wheels elevated several feet on the ruins of the cars with which it had come into collision.

Probable Discovery of the History of a Former Race.—The Lower Sandusky (Ohio) Democrat states that about two miles from that village, on Land known as the 'Kerr tract,' there is an ancient mound, circular at the base, about 39 feet in diameter, rising oval to a point, which is surmounted by an oaken stump probably originally two feet in diameter, rising oval to a point, which is surmounted by an oaken stump probably originally two feet in diameter, which is almost totally decayed from age. A few days since, some boys dug into the mound; and nearly under the stump, at the depth of three feet, a skeleton was found much decayed, but portions of it in a fair degree of preservation. Near the head were found two stone hatchets, an arrow-head, a stone pipe, and—far more singular—a lot of plates, apparently isinglass, which are covered with lines and hieroglyphics of different colours. The colours and workmanship betoken a more advanced and entirely different state of the arts than has been heretofore discovered in the remains of Indian tribes. Some of the plates were destroyed, but there are fifteen preserved. They are circular, oval in shape, and about seven inches by ten in size. A pipe-bowl, beautifully finished from stone, was also found, the bowl of which is nearly round, rises from a base, on the bottom of which are the figures '1461.' Measures have been taken, under the supervision of some intelligent citizens, further to explore this singular mound. There is little doubt that these plates contain the history of some former race that has inhabited this country, and further discoveries will be awaited with impatience.

SINGULAR.—We clip the following from the *Brooklyn Advertiser*:

There dwells in a secluded part of this city, in a hovel of wretched and obscure exterior, a young female of singular beauty, who for three years past has lived a recluse from all association with the world, save in the common intercourse forced upon her by the purchase of her common necessities. She is reputed to be immensely rich, and is known to be in possession of jewels of rare value; but whence she came, who she is, or what her object in pursuing a career so strange, no one can divine. Since she has been an occupant of the place no visitor has been known to enter her abode, and lovely as she is in form and feature, she appears studiously to avoid the ruder sex, and seems to entertain for man insuperable aversion. There is a mystery connected with her which the most curious and inquisitive are unable to fathom; and a deep and all absorbing interest in relation to her has been excited among many, whom her personal charms have won to admiration.

AMERICAN COINS.—The coinage at the Mint for the last six months [namely, from 1st January to 1st July, 1847] is \$8,206,223—far exceeding the amount coined during any similar period of time since the government was founded. Under the new instructions given by Mr. Walker, under the law establishing the Constitutional Treasury, all foreign coin received by the Government is at once transferred to the Mint, where it is recoined and paid out as American coin—the only form in which it will circulate among the people. The Union says 'there is every reason to believe that nearly sixty millions of dollars will be converted into American coin during the administration of President Polk.'

A FEMALE ARMY.—Mr. Duncan, an African traveller, presented a paper at a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, containing an account of a recent journey into the interior of Africa, 460 miles, where no European had ever been. He was kindly treated by the King of Dohemy, who promoted his views. Among other things Dr. Duncan gives novel details of this King's military establishment. His body guard consists of 6000 women, armed with muskets, short sabres and clubs. This guard is also officered by women, and the officers are selected principally on account of their height and bodily dimensions, corpulence being absolutely essential, so that in fact they are all persons of considerable weight.

Speak not, rather than speak ill.

The Glorious Achievements of Federalism.

When a party asks the people to trust them with the government of a great country, it ought to be able to point to its acts, and prove by its past conduct, that it is worthy of being confided in hereafter. The Federal press are shy on this score. They never revert to what they have done, but deal only in promises of what they will do. This is great injustice to themselves; for the brow of Federalism is wreathed with a large number of blushing honors. The members of that party being excessively modest, we will recount a few of their achievements.

1. In the Convention that framed the Constitution of the United States, they advocated a system of government resembling that of England, several of them declaring that the corruption of the British government was the best part of it.

2. They tried to insert in the same Constitution the power to create a National Bank, but were voted down by the Democrats.

3. After the adoption of the Constitution without such power, they contrived away its plain words, and established a National Bank in violation of it.

4. They carried the funding system, and thereby corrupted the Congress, many of whose members, having large certificates of public debt bought for nothing, enriched themselves by their own votes, at the expense of the government and its honest creditors.

5. They proclaimed that a public debt was a public blessing, because they wanted to create such a debt as a source of private profit.

6. They passed the 'Alien Law' to drive from the country men whose opposition the President desired to get rid of.

7. They passed the 'Sedition Law' to muzzle the press and destroy the freedom of speech.

8. They appointed the midnight judges; fastening upon the public treasury, in opposition to the public will, a horde of life-officers.

9. They established, in 1800, a Bankrupt Law, which, like that of 1841, was a fruitful instrument of fraud and injustice.

10. They attempted to elect, in the House of Representatives, Aaron Burr, an apostate traitor, instead of Jefferson, a pure patriot, who was clearly indicated as the people's choice.

11. After Jefferson's election, as well as before it, they slandered him night and day, without measure decency, or reason.

12. They opposed all Jefferson's measures, though they were wise, just, and necessary; and more especially laid themselves out to thwart him in his efforts to make England do us justice.

13. They entered into a conspiracy to dismember the Republic, and place the Eastern States under the protection of England.

14. They got up the Hartford Convention, and approved of its treasonable purpose.

15. In the diplomatic controversy between the United States and England, they did their best to disgrace their own country, and to encourage England in her course of insult and wrong, by proclaiming through their presses, that America 'could not be kicked into a war.'

16. After the declaration of the war, they gave aid and comfort to the British.

17. Soon after the war, they commenced the system of changing their party name, which they have since followed up so successfully, that no rogue ever appeared in the Quarter Sessions with a greater number of aliases.

18. They elected John Q. Adams in the House of Representatives by a trick, cheating the people out of the man they wanted, and approved all the tomfooleries of the Adams administration, Pausanias Mission, Light-houses of the Skies, Internal Improvements by the General Government and all.

19. They slandered Gen. Jackson, as before they had slandered Jefferson, and though claiming to have 'all the decency,' their repeated cruel and false attacks on the wife of the patriot hero, brought her to the grave.

20. They sustained and supported the Bank of the United States in all its corruptions, giving it 'aid and comfort' in every attempt it made to plunder the people and the government.

21. When the French Government refused to pay the indemnity, they pleaded the cause of Louis Philippe, and poured torrents of abuse on the gray head of their own patriot President for daring to demand justice from a foreign king.

22. They carried the election of 1840 by concealing their principles from the public eye, and raising a cry about log cabins, hard cider, rams' horns, spoons, dish cloths and chamber sets.

23. They attempted to establish another United States Bank, although they knew that the two former were mere engines of corruption.

24. They established a Bankrupt Law, by which it is estimated that honest creditors were cheated out of five hundred millions in one year.

25. They quarreled with the President of their own choice, because he stood between them and the 'constitution,' to save it from violation.