

Inauguration of Gov. Packer.

The inauguration of Gov. PACKER took place on Tuesday last. The concourse of people present from all parts of the State was greater than usual on such occasions, and included some twenty-five military companies. The latter were under the command of Gen. W. M. Keim, of Reading, and of course made an imposing display. When the procession arrived at the Capitol, the oath of office was administered to the Governor elect by the President of the Senate, after which he delivered the following:

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

FELLOW CITIZENS:—In my appearing before you to enter upon my duties as Governor of the Commonwealth, I consult my own inclinations in conforming to the usage which demands a popular address; and, in the first place, I gladly avail myself of this opportunity to thank you for the honor which the People of Pennsylvania, by honoring me with the Chief Executive office in their government. Their kindness will never be forgotten, nor will the confidence they have reposed in me ever be intentionally betrayed. But, as I myself will require that the obligation which I have just taken to discharge my public duties with fidelity shall be faithfully observed; and thus justly, as far as possible, the popular confidence. Doubtless I may commit errors in a position involving so much of responsibility; but I will hope that none of these will be of a grave character, or productive of vital injury to the public interests. I crave in advance, a charitable judgment upon my official conduct—that it shall be construed with kindness and toleration so long as it shall appear to be prompted by sincere and honest motives—and I here engage, in this public and formal manner, to regard the will of the people, the public good and the commands of the Constitution as the guiding lights by which my course is to be directed. With these aims constantly in view, I shall indulge the pleasing hope of doing some good in the high station to which I have been called by the public voice, and of representing to the people the public welfare, or the individual rights of the people.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives: It will be my earnest desire to cultivate with you, as Representatives of the people, a personal acquaintance, and to unite with you in the adoption of all such measures as the public good may require. The different branches of the Government, although charged with distinct duties, are to be regarded as parts of one harmonious whole, and each will be required to perform its duty with fidelity, integrity and courage. Nevertheless, the distinct duties of the Executive, when duly and honestly performed, may occasion differences with the Legislature, but, in such cases, it will be expedient to exercise a spirit of compromise and conciliation for the disposal of such differences, or, at least, for mitigating the feelings of alienation to which they tend.

It is one of the duties of the Executive from time to time to give to the General Assembly information of the State of the Commonwealth and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge expedient; and under usage this is done by messages in writing, which are entered among the records and remain a part of the official history of the State. I do not understand this as a power of dictating to the General Assembly the measures they shall adopt, nor even as a power of initiating laws, but as an information and suggestion, which, when all trenching upon the just and proper jurisdiction of the legislative department of a free State. In short, it was never intended to give a legal control over the proceedings of the Representatives of the people in the enactment of laws. It is, therefore, a right of communication with them, which, while prudent and reasonably exercised, can give no just occasion for jealousy, objection, or complaint. The Executive, when exercising this right, is but performing a duty which is conferred upon him by the Constitution, and he is entitled to a free and unobscured freedom even upon questions where an entire agreement of sentiment cannot be expected. But there is another and more delicate power which pertains to the relations between the Executive and the Legislature. By the twenty-third and twenty-fourth sections of the first article of the Constitution, all bills passed by the General Assembly, and most of the orders, resolutions and votes of the Executive, are to be approved by him; and only by a vote of two-thirds of each House. This power of approval is among the most important duties of the Executive, and is constantly exercised more so from the operations of the press and natural causes. In my opinion it is the clear and binding duty of the Executive to return for re-consideration every bill, order, resolution, or vote presented to him which he cannot approve—in other words, the Executive should be actually given to any measure before he permits it to take effect; unless, indeed, it be passed against his objection by a two-thirds vote. The words of the Constitution are, "If he shall not approve, he shall return it, with his objections, to the House in which it shall have originated." Words could not convey a power, and prescribe a duty in a more clear and definite form. It is manifestly the intention of the Constitution, that the Legislature and the Executive should be given to a bill before it becomes a law, in addition to the approval of the Legislature that have previously passed. It is to be observed that the Constitution does not require the Executive to give his reasons for his disapproval in each House, but he is to be decisive as to clearly indicate the wisdom of the measure. It is true that upon trivial or indifferent, where no great interests are involved, nor constitutional questions are presented, the Executive may, in his discretion, consider expediency may be taken into account by the Executive; but certainly no substantial objection, whether of policy or of principle, can be waived by him. It is his duty to return the bill, and if he does not, he is to be held responsible. Two days (Sundays) extended, are allowed the Legislature to consider a bill, and to approve or reject it, after which it is to be returned without his signature, if not previously returned. The practice of the Legislature has been occasionally to return bills to become laws by this limitation of time. They have taken effect in the entire absence of Executive action. But I believe this has only occurred where the Legislature has found it impossible to form a positive opinion upon the measure—where, through opposition, it was trivial—or, where it was manifest that a veto would pass its defeat. This Executive practice should be open to question. For if the Legislature has returned a bill to the Executive within ten days, shall become laws, was intended as a guard against Executive abuse, in holding them as under a veto, and not as a time by which the Executive might conscientiously return a bill, without the responsibility of the Executive being held. It is the duty of the Legislature by its adjournment to give to the Executive of the time for his consideration, and hence it is provided that in such case it shall become a law unless returned within three days after the adjournment. In modern practice a large number of bills are usually sent to the Executive in a few days of the adjournment of the Legislature, which it is impossible for the Executive to fully consider before the adjournment. It is my duty to advise the Executive to return to the Legislature all bills which he cannot conscientiously approve, and that all bills he believes in his duty to approve shall be actually signed within that period. By the exercise of

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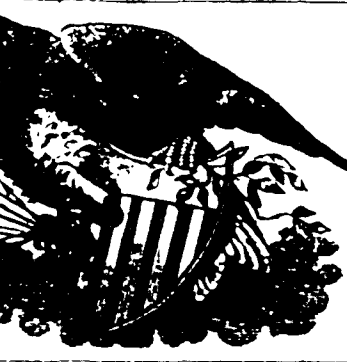
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The Compiler.



H. J. Stahl, Editor and Proprietor. GETTYSBURG, PA. Monday Morning, Jan. 25, 1858.

Senator BREWER, and Messrs. WILL, McCLEURE and PICKING, of the House, have again placed us under obligations for Legislative documents.

We may save no little useless letter-writing by stating that Hon. WILSON REILLY, the member of Congress representing this district, has no Patent Office Reports to distribute. He has as yet received none—Mr. Robison, his predecessor, having gotten all ordered by the previous Congress, and the present having thus far passed no resolution for the printing of more.

Among the documents in regard to Central American affairs sent to the House on Wednesday week, by the President, was one from the Nicaraguan minister, thanking the government for Com. Paulding's conduct in taking away Walker and his followers.

State Treasurer.—In the Democratic caucus, held on Friday evening week, by the members of both branches of the Legislature, Mr. MAGRAW was nominated as the first ballot. The vote stood as follows: Henry S. Magraw, 56; David Wilnot, 17; Henry S. Mott, 17; John J. Meany, 10; Mr. Workman, 7.

HENRY S. MAGRAW, having received a majority of all the votes given, was declared the nominee of the party—and he was accordingly re-elected, on Monday, by the Legislature, State Treasurer for the ensuing year, by a vote of 90 to 43.

Official Vote for Governor.—On Friday week both branches of the Legislature met in joint convention for the purpose of opening and counting the returns of the election for Governor. The official vote was announced as follows: William F. Packer, 189,848; David Wilnot, 144,139; Isaac Haleschetter, 28,096; Packer's majority over Wilnot, 45,709.

It is generally believed that the banks of Philadelphia will resume specie payments on the 1st of February. This, however, is by no means certain, although nearly all of them are abundantly able to resume. Some few seem disposed to avail themselves of the full extent of the relief act, which allows them to remain in a state of suspension until the 1st of April. In the meantime measures are in progress to establish a clearing-house there, somewhat different from that in New York.

Smith, on trial for some weeks in Philadelphia, for the murder, by shooting, of Richard Carter, at the St. Lawrence Hotel, has been acquitted, on the ground of insanity. He has been entrusted by the Court into the care of his sister.

The relief of Lucknow is fully confirmed by the details of the Indian mail. The slaughter of the rebels has been great. It was reported that the King of Delhi's son and two nephews had been shot. The correspondent of the London Daily News states that the rebels had placed a boy on the throne, and keep him in a state at Fyzabad, a large walled city defended by a fort and round towers. Here their last stand of resistance may be expected, and they had concentrated all their available force at that point.

The Supreme Court.—At the meeting of the Supreme Court of this State, last Monday, Justices Strong and Thompson drew lots for the priority of succeeding by the amended Constitution. The drawing resulted in favor of Justice Thompson, who will accordingly be Chief Justice next after Judge Knox.

Capital Going a Begging.—It is stated that one of the banks of Boston offered to loan another bank on Friday at the rate of five per cent, but the offer was refused. The Boston banks now hold in deposit seventeen and a quarter millions of dollars, an increase of several millions within a month or two. The amount of specie in the Boston banks on Saturday week was \$3,901,800, an increase of \$303,100 from the previous day.

Confession of a Murderer.—Philip Hawkins, colored, convicted of murder at the November term of the Circuit Court for Frederick county, confessed his guilt to a gentleman of that city a few days since, but the confession will not be placed before the public until after his execution, which takes place on Friday, 29th inst.

Walker Bonds.—It is stated that Gen. Walker has flooded the South with bonds of one hundred dollars each, issued in his (Walker's) name, running twenty years, payable in Nicaragua lands. Rather poor stock.

The enemies of the Democratic party are every where predicting its disruption, and rejoicing in the hope that it is soon to be broken up and destroyed. Whilst we are in no way surprised that such a hope should fill them with joy, and can readily understand the grounds upon which their predictions are based, we do not entertain the slightest fears of their ever being realized. It is true that prominent members of the Democratic party have seen proper to differ with the administration upon its Kansas and Central-American policy, but it by no means follows that in so doing they intend to cut themselves loose from the Democratic party; and, indeed, if such be their intention, it would not necessarily, or even probably, end in the disruption of that party. The very idea upon which the Democratic organization is based, and on which it has invariably acted, will save it from such a catastrophe. With measures, and not men, as the foundation-wall upon which it is built, it necessarily follows that it can never be destroyed so long as it adheres to this as the fundamental doctrine of its existence. Like all other parties it has its great lights—men to whom it is deeply attached, and whose lead it delights to follow. But this attachment springs less from any partiality of the party towards its leaders than from admiration of commanding abilities, coupled with a long and consistent devotion to the great doctrines upon which it is founded; and whenever, therefore, we find one of these, no matter how great his personal popularity, deserting the leading measures of the Democratic party, we will surely see that party as promptly deserting him. "Man change, but principles live forever," and immutably fixed as it is upon the unchanging rock of principle, neither the Democratic party, nor any respectable portion of it, can ever be made to follow permanently those who, misled by error or influenced by the promptings of ambition, may choose to depart from the great political chart laid down for its government. We are not without many examples in support of what we have said. The merest tyro in the history of the Democratic party, remarks the Washington Union, is familiar with the fact that attempts have again and again been made to destroy its organization, by men who had enjoyed its fullest confidence and occupied its highest place of honor and trust. All know the fate of those who deserted their party and made war upon the administration of Gen. Jackson. Whilst he, for adhering firmly and unflinchingly to its great principles, was applauded and sustained by the people, they, as a consequence of deserting them, were driven into political exile, and stripped of their power and influence. And few there are who do not remember the fate of one who, after having spent the best years of his life in the ranks of the Democracy, and worn the highest honors in its gift, ingloriously buried himself in a bold attempt to bury his old party. We might give other instances of a like character, but these are sufficient for our purpose, and enough to show how vain is the idea that any man, or set of men, no matter how commanding their talents, or how high their positions, can, by deserting the principles of the Democratic party, destroy its organization, or materially damage its prospects of continued and ultimate success.—Such attempts have often been made, and as often failed; and such predictions as our opponents are now putting forth have always ended, as these will certainly end, in idle prophecies and unmeaning boasts.

In his message to the late special session of the Kansas Legislature, the true cause of the recent excitement in that Territory is thus stated by Acting Governor Stanton: "At the election for delegates to a convention, on the 10th June last, the great body of the people refrained from voting. That refusal of the majority to go to the polls was too unfortunate to be now denied. It has produced all the evils and dangers of the present critical hour. It has created the present profound excitement."

The Kansas Herald of Freedom unites in this admission, and does not even lay any stress upon the disfranchisement of fifteen counties, the new fact dwelt upon at length by Gov. Walker. On the contrary, it admits, with Mr. Stanton, that the disfranchised counties contained very few inhabitants, and claims that the abolitionists could have elected their own delegates to the convention in every district. It says: "Had the free State party consulted their best interests, instead of standing on etiquette, as they did in June last, they would have 'pitched in' and elected every delegate to the constitutional convention. Then, if they had wanted the Topeka constitution as their fundamental law, they could have clothed it with legal sanction, so far as appearances are concerned, and now we would have been out of the woods, instead of being surrounded with difficulties which at times seem insurmountable. We have a long chapter to write on this subject some day that will put a different face on this statement from that now seen by many of our readers."

Col. Johnston, the Commander of our Utah army, is a Kentuckian by birth, and graduated at West Point, but resigned his commission, and became a volunteer in the Texas revolution. He was a Colonel of a regiment in the Mexican war, and shared the honors at Buena Vista. In 1846 he became a paymaster in the U. S. Army, and in 1855 was appointed Colonel of one of the new regiments.

Decayed.—George Kinton Harper, Esq., who for nearly forty years was the editor of the Franklin Repository, died at Chambersburg, on the 18th inst., aged seventy-nine years.

Washington, Jan. 21, 1858. Dear Compiler:—In the last House of Congress, the Black Republicans and Know Nothings had a decided majority, and "ruled the roost" to their own liking. Corruption seems to have been one of the "orders of the day,"—so much so, indeed, that the present House has found itself compelled to appoint committees to investigate the charges of peculation and bribery made during the recess. First, there is a charge against Mr. Cullom, late Clerk of the House of Representatives, for defrauding the Treasury of \$25,000 in the distribution of books to the members. Then there is a charge of bribery and corruption against certain Republican members of the last Congress, arising from the item in the books of Lawrence, Stone & Co., of Boston, of \$87,000, for passing the amended tariff act, to suit the New England manufacturers. An interesting exposé may be looked for, and I shall endeavor to keep the readers of The Compiler posted in regard to it.

A number of reports from Standing Committees are now before both Houses, and I observe an earnest disposition to go to work on the part of the members. They are generally sick of Kansas and Fillmore's speeches, and desire a change of subjects. Whatever may be said by the opposition, Mr. Buchanan is deep in the affections and confidence of the people, and will be sustained in and out of Congress. It is said that Gen. Scott will go to the Pacific to organize a force to march against Utah from that side. Whether or not the rumor has truth at the bottom of it, I am not prepared to say, but it is certain that every possible measure will be promptly used to bring the rebellious Mormons to their senses. The country would be in "a pretty fix" in these troublesome times with such a "statesman" as Fremont at the head of affairs! Just think of it.

A Sensible Speech. It is known that there was a regular split in the Free State party of Kansas, in reference to the propriety of voting for State officers, under the provisions of the Leecompton Constitution, on the 4th inst. The regular Conventions had been controlled by the impracticables under the advice of Jim Lane and his cronies, but a mass Convention had been held, which was under the influence of the conservative portion of the party, and was addressed by Thomas Ewing, Jr., Judge Conway, Judge M'Kay, Ex-Governor Robinson and others, all of whom advocated voting under the Leecompton Constitution as the readiest and most practical means of settling the difficulties in the Territory. We make the following extracts from the speech of Mr. Ewing, and invite special attention to the very remarkable and startling admissions it contains—admissions which must triumphantly vindicate the course of the Administration, and the policy recommended by the Democratic press generally: Thomas Ewing, Jr., of Leavenworth, said he was not a delegate, but a looker on. He had differed radically with the free State party in the spring, and had been for voting then, and did vote. He was for voting now. He was for action and opposed to inaction. The policy of inaction will destroy us. It will lose us our cause, and the respect of our friends in the States. They will tell us we should have fought through the ballot box.

The only policy is to go into the election for State officers. Every resident can vote. The opponents of the Leecompton party are in a majority of at least 12,000. The plea that we cannot have a fair election is pusillanimous.—The territorial officers, aided by a civil posse, can arrest and punish fraudulent voters; and, if the people are determined, the laws cannot be overridden. If we carry the State officers, and Congress admits us, the government can at once assemble the Legislature, which will call a new convention to frame and submit to the people a new constitution; and no power outside the State can call in question the validity of the constitution when so framed, submitted and ratified.

There is but one course suggested other than that of voting. It is to set up an independent government. That is rebellion. That man is mad who advises this as a mode of redress for grievances which can be redressed at the ballot box. It would inevitably fail, and involve us in ruin. Look at the past attempts at rebellion in this country—and remember how the nullifiers went down, and how the whiskey insurgents were put down. We may profit by their example. The only mode of opposing this Leecompton constitution from which we can or ought to hope anything, is the lawful mode.—Let us go into the election for State officers.

Kansas Elections—Special Remarks. Sr. LOUIS, Jan. 21. The Democrat publishes the official returns of the recent Kansas elections, over the signature of Governor Denver, as follows: "Constitution with slavery" 6,183; "without slavery" 5,069. At the election of the 4th instant all the free State officers were elected by an average majority of 415. The Senate stands 18 free State men to 6 Democrats; the House 22 free State men to 13 Democrats. The majority against the constitution at the same election was 10,250, the alleged frauds in Oxford, Shawnee and Kickapoo being counted.

Lynch Law in Indiana.—CHICAGO, Jan. 20.—Two men who had attempted the robbery of a store at Lagrange, Indiana, were caught in the act, and the mob that assembled hung them up. They were, however, cut down before life was extinct, and the people by a small majority decided to deliver them up to the authorities for trial. They will be taken to Indianapolis for trial.

Cholera.—This fell disease has once more made its appearance in England; and there can be no doubt, if it be true to its antecedents, that it will visit the shores of America during the course of the approaching summer. Should it do so it will gain and unprepared, and the usual mortality and pain will be the result.

Gov. Packer's Administration. Gov. PACKER has appointed Hon. WM. M. HEISTER, of Berks, Secretary of State; II. L. DREFFENBACH, Esq., of Clinton county, Deputy Secretary; and Hon. JOHN C. KNOX, of the Supreme Bench, Attorney General. These selections are unexceptionable—better could hardly have been made.

Gov. Packer's Inaugural clearly fore-shadows his official course, and knowing him to be a discreet, sagacious and able man, we have no fears that he will abuse the confidence reposed in him by his fellow-citizens.

Hon. WM. A. PORTER, of Philadelphia, has been appointed to the Supreme Bench of this State, in the place of Judge Knox, resigned.

Bank Bills Sent to the Executive. Governor Pollock sent a message to the Legislature, on Thursday week, announcing that the following bills passed at the last session of the Legislature, and presented to him less than ten days prior to the final adjournment in May, 1857; and not having been returned by him with his objections, within three days after its meeting, in extra session, in October last, had become laws, agreeably to the Constitution, in like manner as if he had signed them: An act to incorporate the Octorara Bank. An act to incorporate the Monongahela Valley Bank at McKeesport, Allegheny county. A supplement to the act to re-charter the Easton Bank. An act to incorporate the Milton Savings' Bank. An act to incorporate the Bank of Phoenixville. An act to incorporate the McKean County Bank.

Regulation of the Banks. Mr. Foster, of the House, has introduced a bill for the better regulation of the Banks of this Commonwealth: The 1st Section provides that no Bank shall purchase, or discount any draft, or bill of exchange, at a greater rate of discount than 1 per cent. beyond, or above the legal rate of interest. Sec. 2. Declares that no Bank shall declare dividends exceeding 8 per cent. Sec. 3. No Bank shall set aside as a contingent or surplus fund a greater amount than 10 per cent. on the capital stock thereof. Sec. 4. That in any case where such Bank shall have at the time of the passage of this Act, a surplus fund exceeding 10 per cent. on the capital thereof, such excess shall be divided among the stockholders within six months of the passage of this Act. Sec. 5. That in case the surplus, or contingent fund, at any time, after the 1st of January next, shall exceed 10 per cent. on the capital stock thereof, such excess shall be paid into the State Treasury for the use of the Commonwealth.

Stringfellow. This notorious Kansas "border ruffian" has written a letter in opposition to the course of President Buchanan, on the Kansas question. During all the excitement in that territory no man has been more bitterly abused by the Abolitionists than Stringfellow, and no one has received less countenance and support from the Democratic party. Now, however, he is a pet, a pure patriot, in the eyes of his old maligned. Stringfellow's motives are doubtless as pure as those of the best of his colleagues, who are banded together for speculative purposes. Beyond this, no reliance can be placed in him, for anything beyond a spirit of agitation and disturbance.—Jeffersonian.

A Case in Point. We have a few facts relating to the several constitutions of the State of Kentucky which are of interest in connection with the organization of a State government in Kansas under the Leecompton constitution. The first constitution of Kentucky was formed in 1792, and existed until 1799. The second or amended constitution, framed in 1799, remained unaltered until 1850. Neither of these constitutions were ever submitted to a vote of the people. The new constitution of 1850 was submitted to the popular vote, and adopted by a vote greatly less than a majority of the whole number of voters in the State. Yet no one ever supposed that its adoption by a minority of the people rendered it an illegal instrument, or relieved those who omitted to vote from yielding to their hearty obedience. All had the opportunity to vote, and that was sufficient; it was the majority at the ballot box that decided the question of its adoption, not the majority who declined to vote.—Washington Union.

A Boston (Mass.) paper says a gentleman who has spent the last two months in the West, writes from Illinois in terms by no means encouraging:—He says that grain is plenty, but in no demand. Wheat at 40 cents, and corn at 20 cents a bushel, have no buyers.—The farmers cannot raise money enough to pay their debts, and almost every day somebody's farm is put under the sheriff's hammer.

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