

Political.

A Letter from Gov. Reeder on the approaching Election of President and the Candidates.

NEW YORK CITY, Sept. 18, 1856.

To the Editors of the Evening Post:—GENTLEMEN—The letter of your Correspondent H, and your editorial comments upon it of the 19th inst., seem in common courtesy to demand a reply. Your correspondent does not err to say that I desire the success of the Republican party, and the election of their candidate, and that I am ready to contribute any honorable effort to bring it about. This is not the result of any preference as to men, but in spite of it. With Colonel Fremont I am unacquainted. I have never seen him, nor had any communication with him, direct or indirect, verbal or written. On the other hand, my feelings of friendship and admiration for Mr. Buchanan, as a man, are of no ordinary character, and are strengthened by years of friendly intimacy and reciprocal acts of kindness, uninterrupted to this time by a single misunderstanding or unpleasant feeling; and I would at any time defend him promptly and indignantly against personal attacks upon his reputation. I believe him to be a man of distinguished ability, of high integrity and valuable experience. He is surrounded, too in Pennsylvania, by many political friends, whom personally I love, and esteem, and to whom I am united by ties of long cherished political and social intimacy, and the loss of whose friendship I should regard as a great calamity. For more than a quarter of a century I have steadily labored with the Democratic party, and never doubted that I should do so during my life. For years I have exerted myself to bring about Mr. Buchanan's nomination. In 1848 and 1852 I was one of those who carried for him the delegates of our district, and was his zealous and ardent supporter. On each occasion I was in the National Convention as one of his delegates. These ties are exceedingly strong and hard to sever especially with one who is naturally of a conservative cast, and slow to change old habits of thought and action; and I have resisted for months the convictions that were urging me to my present declaration. I have diligently sought reasons and arguments to save myself the pain of breaking up old associations and alienating myself from my old friends, but all in vain. My love of country and hatred of opposition would not allow my feelings and inclinations either to delude my judgment or still my conscience, and I am compelled to forfeit my self respect by committing what I believe to be palpably wrong, or else enroll myself in opposition to the Democratic party.

I see no reasonable hope of justice and sympathy for the people of Kansas in the success of the Democracy. In its ranks, and with the power to control its action, are found the Border Ruffians of Missouri and their accomplices of the South, who have trampled upon the Constitution, and all the essential principles of our Government, and robbed Kansas of its civil liberty and right of suffrage, laid waste its territory with fire and sword, and repudiated every civilization itself. In its platform I find the enunciation of principles which would put the rope about the necks of men for exercising the Constitutional right of petitioning Congress for a State Government, or a redress of grievances far worse than those which led to the war of the Revolution, and a declaration stigmatizing as "armed resistance to law" the moderate and justifiable self-defense of men shamefully and infamously oppressed by ruffian violence and outrage, beyond all human endurance.

I find the whole party of the nation assembled in National Convention, with but one individual dissent, expressing its "unqualified admiration" of an Administration which has lent itself as the tool and accomplice of all the wrongs inflicted upon Kansas, and by its venality and inebriety brought the country to an intestine war.

I find all its Representatives in Congress, with three individual exceptions, laboring in earnest zeal, by speech and vote, to cover up the iniquities of this Administration and the Border Ruffians of Missouri, and to suppress a fair investigation of outrages which shock both humanity and republicanism, and defy the Constitution and the laws.

I find these same representatives, after the truth was elicited in spite of their efforts, still refusing to relieve the people from a code of laws imposed upon them by a foreign army, and still refusing to admit them into the Union, only for reasons which, in the cases of nine existing States, had been declared untenable and of no account.

I find them disregarding a free Constitution adopted in a legal, constitutional and time-sanctioned manner (and which no man can doubt to have reflected the will of the people,) and supporting a law to produce a substitute, which it is easy to show would have perpetuated in the State Government the usurpation which had by force already seized upon the Government of the Territory.

I find them refusing to make appropriations for the army, unless that army is to be used to enforce a code of laws violative on their face of the Constitution, enacted by a Legislature in violation of the laws of the United States, and imposed by foreign force upon conquered and subjugated American citizens.

I find them, in a word, steadily aiding by all their Congressional action to make a slave State in northern latitudes, and that, too, against the will of its inhabitants.

I find that one member, who more than any other stood out against the enslavement of his white fellow citizens, is refused a re-nomination by the Democratic party of his district.

I find in the canvass now going on that the whole tone of their party press is in the same direction. When the first startling intelligence of the outrages in Kansas reached the States, their editors denounced the foul wrong in terms of fitting indignation. It was but a spasmodic effort, however, and in deference to the South and the prevailing sentiment of the party; they have dropped off, one after the other, until now, so far as I have been able to ascertain, there is not a Democratic paper which dares boldly to justify and defend the Free State party, and denounce their invaders. In place of encouragement and sympathy for their outraged fellow citizens from the North, there is little else than jeers and ridicule for their oppressed and suffering condition—misrepresentation of their motives and conduct, and a pretended incredulity of the statements and appeals which they send their brethren of the States.

I find their speakers exhibiting the same spirit, some of them ignoring the question entirely; others of them treating it with perversions, misrepresentations and false issues; and others taking openly the side of the oppressors; but no one of them advocating the cause of Kansas, or favoring her admission under the free State Constitution adopted by her people.

In the public demonstrations and processions of the party, I find banners and devices containing brutal insults. In response to the appeals of that people for protection against unparalleled wrongs, calculated, as no doubt they must be intended, to prepare the masses for a continued refusal of justice and protection, and a relentless persistence in outrage and oppression.

I find all the Democrats South, and a portion of the Democracy of the North boldly repudiating the Kansas-Nebraska bill, by insisting that Slavery has a right to go into Territories, in spite of Congress or the people; and that the inhabitants of the Territory have no right to pass Territorial laws to forbid or exclude it. Democratic representatives from Pennsylvania, even in the Senate and the House, hold and proclaim these opinions; while other Representatives from Pennsylvania, with Democratic leaders from other States, declare themselves publicly to be non-committal upon this heresy; the inevitable tendency of which it is easy to show, will be to prevent almost entirely the formation of any more free States.

Having originated a movement myself, to aid our people by sending them men and money, and having prosecuted it with the strictest avoidance of party character, and a steady neutrality as to the political canvass; and having earnestly asked the co-operation of men of all parties, I have failed to enlist in it, to my knowledge a single Democrat. In the Conventions of Cleveland and Buffalo, called without distinction of party, in furtherance of this enterprise, there was no Democrat present but myself. This cannot have been from any want of generosity or of means, but only in deference to the prevailing tone and sentiment of the party which is enlisted upon the other side of the question. And not only have they abstained from aiding the movement but in their presses and by their private influence they have endeavored to cripple and retard it by sneering at it, warning the community against it as treasonable, and declaring that the money would be to prevent contributions even from friends of the measure.

I might go on with this catalogue, and enumerate other indications, if necessary, showing that the prevailing tone of the party is hostile to Kansas; but I consider it only necessary to add that what I have said relates but to the North. The South, where the great mass of the party is to be found, makes no pretension, as a whole, to the advocacy of anything but pure Border Ruffianism.

What then have the Free State men of Kansas to expect from a Democratic Administration, even if presided over by Mr. Buchanan? If he could be left to act upon his own influences, and free from all pledges and obligations, expressed and implied, the case would be very different. But, unfortunately, this is not so. His election would rightfully be considered a decision against us, whatever may be his own private feelings. His offices at Washington, in Kansas, and elsewhere, would necessarily, to a large extent, be filled with our enemies. His information would come through a distorted medium; and lastly, he could not aid us without having first made up his mind to be abandoned and warred upon by

his own party. The south would charge him with violating his pledges, and turn upon him with the bitterest hostility, and at least a portion of the Northern Democracy would follow this example. He would thus be left without a party to support his Administration; unless he should cast himself into the arms of the Republicans. We cannot, it seems to me, either ask or expect him to do this upon a question where party lines are so plainly drawn before his election. Like all other men in the same situation, he must obey the party sentiment on which he is elected. That there are Democrats in Pennsylvania who are full of indignation against the conduct of the South, in regard to Kansas, I am well aware, that they would use their influence to redress their wrongs, I am well satisfied; but they are too few in proportion to the whole party of the Union to sustain his administration in a war with his party. They have as yet been unable to make their opinions appear and be felt in the party, and, of course, cannot do so hereafter. I honor their good intentions, but I cannot believe in their power.

I repeat that I have been forced to these conclusions after no slight struggle with my feelings and inclinations. Should Mr. Buchanan be elected, and his Administration be different from what my judgment compels me to believe, I shall give it my cordial approbation, and my feeble though willing support. As I believe now, I must regard the Democratic party as fully committed to Southern sectionalism; toward which for some time past it has been rapidly tending, and I quit it, well assured that my duty to my country demands at my hands this sacrifice of personal feeling.

Very truly yours, A. H. REEDER.

WHAT THEY THOUGHT IN 1819. Protest of Pennsylvania against Slavery Extension.

[Extract from the Journal of the House of Representatives of the State of Pennsylvania.] A motion was made by Mr. Duane* and Mr. Thacker, and read as follows, viz.—The Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, whilst they cherish the right of the individual States to express their opinion upon all public measures are aware that its usefulness must, in a great degree, depend upon the discretion with which it is exercised; they believe that the right ought not to be resorted to upon trivial subjects or unimportant occasions; but they are also persuaded that there are moments when the neglect to exercise it would be a dereliction of public duty.

Such an occasion as, in their judgment, demands the frank expression of the sentiments of Pennsylvania, is now presented. A measure was ardently supported in the last Congress of the United States, and will probably be as earnestly urged during the existing session of that body, which has a palpable tendency to impair the political relations of the several States; which is calculated to mar the social happiness of the present and future generations; which, if adopted, would impede the march of humanity and freedom through the world; and would transfer from a misguided ancestry an odious stain, and fix it indelibly upon the present race—a measure, in brief, which proposes to spread the crimes and cruelties of Slavery from the banks of the Mississippi to the shores of the Pacific.

When a measure of this character is seriously advocated in the Republican Congress of America in the nineteenth century, the several States are invoked by the duty which they owe to the Deity, by the veneration which they entertain for the memory of the founders of the Republic, and by a tender regard for posterity, to protest against its adoption, to refuse to covenant with crime, and to limit the range of an evil which already hangs in an awful boding, over a large portion of the Union.

Nor can such a protest be entered by any State with greater propriety than that of Pennsylvania; this Commonwealth has as sacredly respected the rights of other States as it has been careful of its own; it has been the invariable aim of the people of Pennsylvania to extend to the universe by their example the unadulterated blessings of civil and religious freedom; and it is their pride they have been at all times the practical advocates of these improvements and charities among men which are so well calculated to enable them to answer the purpose of their Creator—and ABOVE ALL they boast they were the foremost in REMOVING THE POLLUTION OF SLAVERY from amongst them.

If, indeed, the measure against which Pennsylvania considers it her duty to raise her voice, were calculated to abridge any of the rights guaranteed to the several States; if odious as Slavery is, it was proposed to hasten its extinction by means injurious to the States upon which it is unhappily entailed, Pennsylvania would be amongst the first to insist upon a scrupulous observation of the Constitutional compact. But it cannot be pretended that the States are all to be affected; by refusing to extend the mischiefs of human bondage over the boundless regions of the West; a territory which formed no part of the Union at the adoption of the Constitu-

tion, which has been but lately purchased from the European power, by the people of the Union at large; which may or may not be admitted as a State into the Union, at the discretion of Congress; which must establish a Republican form of Government and no other; and whose climate affords scope of the pretenses urged for restoring to the labor of natives of the torrid zone; such a territory has no right, inherent or acquired, such as those States possessed which established the existing Constitution.

When that Constitution was framed in September, 1787, the concession that three-fifths of the slaves in the States then existing should be represented in Congress could not have been intended to embrace regions at that time held by a foreign power. On the contrary, so anxious were the Congress of that day to confine human bondage within its ancient limits, that, on the 13th of July, 1787, that body unanimously declared that slavery, or involuntary servitude, should not exist in the extensive territories bounded by the Ohio, the Mississippi, Canada, and the lakes; and in the ninth article of the constitution itself, the power of Congress to prohibit the migration of slaves after 1808 is expressly recognized; nor is there to be found in the statute book a single instance of the admission of a Territory to the rank of a State, in which Congress has adhered to the right vested in them by the Constitution to stipulate with the Territory upon the conditions of the boon.

The Senate and House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, therefore, cannot but deprecate any departure from the humane and enlightened policy pursued not only by the illustrious Congress which framed the Constitution, but by their successors, without exception. They are persuaded that to open the fertile regions of the West to a servile race, would tend to increase their numbers beyond all past example, would open a new and steady market for the lawless venturers of human flesh, and render all schemes for obliterating this MOST FOUL BLOT upon the American character, useless and unavailing.

Under these convictions, and in full persuasion that upon this topic there is but one opinion in Pennsylvania, it is—Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, that the Senators of this State in the Congress of the United States be, and they are hereby requested to vote against the admission of any Territory as a State into the Union, unless the said Territory shall stipulate and agree that the further introduction of slavery or involuntary servitude, except for crimes, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall be prohibited, and that all children born within the said Territory, after its admission into the Union as a State, shall be free, but may be held to service until the age of twenty-five years.

Resolved, That the Governor be, and he is hereby requested to cause a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions to be transmitted to each of the Senators and Representatives of this State in the Congress of the United States.

Laid on the table. THURSDAY, December 17, 1819. Agreeably to the order of the day, the House resumed the consideration of the resolutions postponed on the 14th instant, relative to preventing the introduction of slavery into states hereafter to be admitted into the Union.

And on the question, "Will the House agree to the resolution?" The yeas and nays were required by Mr. Randall† and Mr. Souder,† and were as follows, namely: YEAS—Messrs. Alexander, Anderson, Ashbridge, Bailey, Blackfan, Bower, Brackenridge, Brewster, Caldwell, Cochran, Connelly, Coulter, (1) Craig, Crisman, Cummin, Dewart, Dimmick Devar, Dole, Dorrance, Duane, Estop, Fenstermacher, Foulke, Gurnat, Gilmore, (8) Hanna, Haas, Hays, Hindman, Holmes, Hunt, Jarret, Jenks, Jones, Kelton, Kerlin, Keys, Kohler, Kyle, Lehman, (4) Lightner, Logan, McClure, M'Fee, Mann, Mengle, Middleswarth, (5) Miller, P., Miller, W., Mitchel, Morrison, Newhard, Noble, Ogle, Orr, Porter, (6) Poveit, (7) Rahrer, Randall, (8) Ramsay, Ray, Reed, Ryder, Rischer, Robeson, A. Robinson, S. Rohrer, Rosenberry, Rutherford, Rutter, Ryan, Sallade, Scott, Wilson Smith, William Smith, Souder, Stewart, Stockman, Sturgeon, (9) Swartzweider, Thackara, (10) Thompson, Todd, (11) Trevor, Uhler, Wallace, Weaver, Wills, Wilkins, (12) Wynkoop, Lawrence, Speaker.

NAYS—None. So the question was decided in the affirmative. Ordered that the Clerk present the said resolutions to the Senate for concurrence.

Democrats in Roman, Federalists in Italian. † Josiah Randall and Jacob Souder, Esq., of Philadelphia. 1 Hon. Wm. J. Duane, Secretary of the Treasury under General Jackson. 2 Hon. Richard Coulter, late Judge of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. 3 The late Hon. John Gilmore, of Butler

County, afterwards member of Congress. 4 The late Dr. Wm. Lehman, of Philadelphia. 5 Hon. Ner-Middleswarth, of Union County, afterwards a member of Congress. 6 Ex-Gov. David R. Porter, then Representative from Huntingdon County. 7 Dr. Richard Poyall, a native of Virginia. 8 Josiah Randall, Esq. of Philadelphia. 9 Hon. Daniel Sturgeon, since United States Senator and Treasurer of the Mint at Philadelphia. 10 The late Mr Thackara, Corator of the Academy of Fine Arts.

11 Hon. James Todd, late Attorney General of Pennsylvania. 12 Hon. Wm. Wilkins, of Allegheny County, since United States Senator, Minister to Russia and member of the Senate of Pennsylvania.

The Senate, which was largely Democratic, passed the resolutions, unanimously, and the Governor Wm Findley, a Democrat, signed them.

Dreadful Tragedy in Texas.

One of those revolting assassinations at which the heart sickens, and which have become so common in these days of enormity, was committed in this county on the night of the 20th ult.

The victims were A. E. Moore, Esq., his wife and a lovely orphan girl, twelve years old, who was by adoption one of the family. They had just seated themselves at the supper table in the entry of their house, when the assassin, coolly fixing a rest for his gun by propping a board between the two stems of an all thea twenty steps from the table, and in full view of his unsuspecting victims, discharged at them a double barreled gun. At the first fire Moore fell. His wife, who sat on his left, exclaimed, "Lord have mercy!" and at that instant received the contents of a second gun, fired in quick succession. She fell instantly, and the orphan girl, who was seated on Moore's right and between Mr. Moore and the assassin, sprang into the house and called for assistance, but before the servant could get to her she was dead! Mr. Moore received three shots in the head, and four in the right side of the chest. His arm above the elbow was much shattered, and his hand shot through. He lived a few minutes, but never spoke. Mrs. Moore received four shots in the face, and never seemed to have breathed after she fell. A single shot struck the young girl a little to the left of the spine, passed through the heart, and coming out at the left nipple, lodged in her clothes. I have this shot in my possession; it is evidently a slug.

The Coroner's inquest did not elicit anything sufficient to found an arrest upon. There is a great deal of excitement in reference to the murders, and I devoutly hope the thousand eyes turned in search of this fiendish monster, may yet detect him through even the close obscurity he has drawn around him. The tears of friends, the blood of an innocent orphan, and the justice of heaven cry aloud against him.

Mr. Moore was an intelligent, amiable, worthy citizen. Among the most warm-hearted, upmanly and benevolent of her sex, Mrs. Moore had no superior. Without children herself she had shown the goodness of her nature in adopting from among the indigent three homeless orphans, on whom she not only lavished all the care and kindness of a mother, but by will has left them (now but two, a young lady, 16 and a boy 11 years) most of her large estate.

ANOTHER GIRL'S NAME.—If you are a precise man, and wish to be certain what you get, never marry a girl named Adeline for we have the authority of Lindley Murray, and others, that an is an indefinite article. If you would like to have a wife who is "one of a thousand," you should marry an Emily or an Emma; for any printer can tell you that "ems" are always counted by thousands. If you do not wish to have a bustling, fly-about wife, you should not marry one named Jenny; for every cotton spinner knows that Jennies are always on the go.

If you marry one named Margaret you may fear from the manner that she will end her days; for all the world knows that "Pogs" were made for hanging. The most incessant writer in the world is he who is always bound to Adeline. You may adore your wife, but you will be surprised in love when your wife is a Cera. Unless you would have the Evil One for a father-in-law, you should not marry a lady named Elizabeth, for we all know who is the father of Lize—(lies.) If you wish to succeed in life as a porter you should marry a Caroline, and treat her kindly; for so long as you continue to do so, you will be good to Carry. Many men of high moral principles and who would not gamble for the world still have not refused to take a Bet.

The man who struck a light has been arrested for assault and battery.