



MOUNTAIN SENTINEL

EBENSBURG, PA.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1850.

THE SENTINEL, has much the largest circulation of any paper published in this county...

Appointments by the Canal Board.

We learn from report, for we have not seen them announced officially, that the following appointments have been made by the Canal Commissioners...

Collectors.

- Dr. — Marchand, Johnstown. — M'Cullough, Freeport. — Hays, Pittsburg.

Weighmasters.

- Cotter, Scales, Johnstown. — Wm. B. Clark, Lock, do.

Supervisors.

- John Peters, Upper portion West. Div. — Ullam, Lower do do do.

State Agents, Portage Railroad.

- Wm. M'Farland, O. A. Traugh, Samuel Barr, — M'Intire, Hiram Edson, Joseph Kemp, and one other whose name we did not learn.

The reason assigned for the appointment of the additional number of State Agents is, that it is the intention of the Canal Commissioners to give the State the benefit of carrying all the emigrants across the Portage Road...

Appointments.

We learn that Wm. S. Campbell, Esq., Superintendent of the Portage Railroad, has made the following appointments.

Clerk—George W. Babb, of Lycoming county.

Assistants—Thomas M'Kiernan, of Johnstown, and — Nelson, of Hollidaysburg.

We think Mr. Campbell has been peculiarly fortunate in the selection of his Assistants. They are gentlemen whose long and intimate acquaintance with the business of the Road, will enable them to discharge the duties of the post in a manner beneficial to the State, and creditable to themselves.

The Next Appointment.

By reference to a table in another column of this paper, which we copy from the Pennsylvania, it will be seen that the whole number of taxables in the State amounts to 486,733. This shows an increase of nearly 100,000 since the apportionment of 1842.

How will this apply in reference to Cambria county? Although she has not the number of taxables required for a separate representation, yet she comes so near to it that we cannot for a moment doubt that the Legislature will deem her entitled to one.

Flogging in the Navy.

We are gratified to perceive a disposition manifested in Congress to change the old and barbarous mode of punishment now practiced in the Navy of the United States...

Mr. Mann, of Pennsylvania submitted the following Resolution &c.

Whereas, by an Act of Congress, entitled "An Act for the government of the United States," passed 2d March 1779, Sect. 1, Art. 3d, Seamen are allowed to be flogged for certain offences...

And Whereas, public sentiment, humanity, and every principle of republicanism and justice demand that such a barbarous law should be stricken from our statute book:

Therefore, be it resolved, That the committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to enquire into the expediency of reporting a bill repealing that part of said Act of Congress authorizing the flogging of American seamen...

The number published in this paper concludes the series of articles of our correspondent "Justice," on the subject of "Tariff Duties and Protection."

It must be admitted, after a perusal of the articles which have appeared in the Sentinel, that Justice has handled the subject ably and well, and although some may think him too radical in some of his views, that he has made himself pretty intimate with his subject in all its details...

The letter from a friend in Harrisburg was received too late for this paper but will appear in our next. We would be pleased to receive some more of the same sort.

Godey's Lady's Book.

The January and February numbers of this unrivalled American Magazine have been received. They both contain a large number of elegantly executed and beautiful embellishments, and the literary contributions are, as usual, from the pens of the ablest and best American writers.

Teacher's Magazine.

The third number of this useful magazine has been received. It is devoted to the cause of Education, and is conducted with ability and taste, and is therefore worthy of extensive patronage.

The Legislature.

Although a large amount of business has already been done by the Legislature, it has generally been of a local character, and consequently uninteresting to the general reader. The proposed amendment to the Constitution, making the Judiciary elective, will be adopted, and submitted to the people for their adoption or rejection at the election next fall.

We have nothing of interest from Congress.

Eloquent and True.

Since President Taylor was installed into office, says the Petersburg Republican, with great force, one of those melancholy events which bring a whole nation to tears, and fling around its remotest circumference the afflicting emblems of sincere mourning has occurred.

But, we beg pardon for introducing a theme so painful and melancholy in connection with a document which is more suggestive of laughter than of tears.

DROWNED.—We learn from the Johnstown Echo, that two Irishmen (names unknown) in attempting to cross the Conemaugh River, about eight miles below that place, on the evening of Monday, 21st inst., with two horses and carts, broke through the ice and were all drowned.

The Whigs, with the assistance of the Free Soilers, have succeeded in postponing the election of Door-keeper and Postmaster to Congress until March, 1851.

Alexander L. Russell, Esq., of Bedford county, has been appointed by Gov. Johnston Secretary of the Commonwealth, in place of Hon. Townsend Haines, resigned.

The Working of our Government.

A French gentleman, who was at Washington when Congress passed through the transition state of electing a Speaker thus expressed himself in regard to the moral to be drawn from the spectacle:

Americans are evidently intended for self government, and the last twenty days passed in abnormal state support this opinion. Yet I admired the framers of the constitution who placed the seat of the empire far above the operations of the mob.

Indeed the members went to Congress as to a scientific meeting; they stoically bore the tediousness of 64 ballotings, and ended by organizing the House. To an unprejudiced mind, the calm and perfect quietness of all the citizens of the Union during that little struggle, shows the marked difference between the people of the United States and those of European Governments.

An Independent Fortune from the Gold Diggings.—On the arrival of the steamship "Cherokee," a few days since, there was among her passengers a company of men numbering twelve, who brought with them the heavy amount of \$110,000 in lumps of gold, worth from five to a hundred dollars each.

Liberia.—It was stated by Mr. Clay, in his recent address at a meeting of the Colonization Society, at Washington, that the colony at Liberia will effect the purchase of the line of sea-coast for which they have been negotiating with the natives for some time past.

Tariff Duties and Protection.

The ordinary methods of creating State revenue, often prove insufficient to meet State expenses, and recourse is sometimes had to a direct tax on property. But this is so intolerable to extensive property holders, that some scheme must be devised to shift this too, unto the shoulders of labor.

Again the price of the public lands has been sought to be diverted from its legitimate use, and to be applied to State purposes, and leave the National Government to be supported by tariff duties paid by labor.

Now if the public lands are to be taken from the use of the people of the whole country, and to be bestowed on individual interests it would be more in accordance with the spirit of the age, to distribute them, as the God of nature intended them to be distributed—to the poor and landless whose natural right to a part of the Lord's earth to live upon, is equally as valid as that of the most wealthy.

Another means to create a necessity for tariff duties to defraud labor of the benefit individual States, and particular localities is to commerce is a system of local improvements, by the National Governments which must tax the labor of the whole country to accommodate individual and local interests.

But what, says the stupid defender of this thieving policy, does "the fellow want to get at?" Why he wishes to oppose the downright frauds and robberies of the whig protective policy, and to sanction no law that will not protect (in the words of that "Tariff Meeting" at Ebensburg) "alike the manufacturer, the farmer the mechanic and the laboring man."

Mr. Justice is hostile to home manufactures says somebody. There is not one word of truth in any such charge. But I wish to see manufactures placed on equal footing with other "interests," and am hostile only to the principle of defrauding all other interests for their exclusive benefit.

The Emperor Faustin I. A correspondent of the Providence Journal, writing from Geneva, Switzerland, on the 11th of December last, says: "Owing to the fact that the French part of Hayti over which the Emperor Faustin I. reigns is French, and the French language is the language of the people and the court, we have on this side of the water received more full and definite accounts than you in America."

These cases present two instances, out of the very many others, to show the obstacles that are constantly interposed to prevent the re-capture of absconding slaves not only by the populace, but by the judicial tribunals.

The following is a copy of the resolutions introduced in the House yesterday, by Mr. Causin, from the judiciary committee, to whom the subject had been referred.

Whereas, It is represented to this General Assembly, that in the matter of the attempt of John Lee, a citizen of Frederick county, in the state of Maryland, to re-capture his slave Joseph Belt, within the limit of the state of New York, the said negro slave was discharged from custody by J. W. Edmonds, a Justice of the Supreme court, of the state of New York, upon grounds going to the entire practical abrogation of all laws passed by Congress, to secure the master guarantee of his fugitive property provided by section 2d, of article 4th, of the constitution of the United States; and whereas, the question, in interest, is not confined to the individual party, but materially concerns the whole

From the Harrisburg Keystone.

The difficulties constantly interposed by the abolitionists, to the people of the south reclaiming their runaway slaves found in the non-slave holding states, is one of the greatest causes of irritation between the two sections of the Union.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Annapolis, Maryland, January 11th, 1850.

To the House of Delegates:

I herewith transmit the accompanying papers having reference to two several cases, arising under the constitution of the United States, and the act of Congress approved on the 12th of February, 1793, in relation to the re-capture of fugitives from service and labor.

From the first of these papers it will be perceived that a negro man, named Joseph Belt, the slave of John Lee, Esq., a citizen of Frederick county, who had previously absconded from the service of his master, was arrested in the city of New York, on or about the 20th day of December, 1848; and immediately thereafter, and before his removal to this state, was taken from the possession of Mr. Lee, under and by authority of a writ of habeas corpus, issued by one of the justices of the Supreme Court of the state of New York.

It will further appear that, at the hearing of the case, although the property, in the slave, was clearly established by the confessions of the negro himself, and by the testimony of competent witnesses, proof was required by the court to be presented that slavery was authorized by the laws of Maryland; and, although the evidence of that fact was supplied, both by the oral testimony of witnesses and by the production of the printed statutes of the state, such as are read in our own courts, that evidence was rejected, and the respondent was held to furnish, as the only legal and admissible evidence a copy of the law itself, under the certificate of the Governor and seal of the state.

Such evidence not being at hand, the slave was forthwith discharged, and his owner, under color of law, deprived of his property in manifest violation of the constitution of the United States and the act of Congress above referred to. This extraordinary decision, in derogation as it is of the plain meaning and intentment of the constitution, and designed as it was, to interpose greater difficulties in the way of the re-capture of fugitive slaves, than had previously existed, will, nevertheless, as long as it remains unreversed, be considered authority in the state of New York, and it is of the greatest importance to the people of Maryland that measures should be taken to test its constitutionality.

The other papers consist of a communication from a citizen of Virginia, of high character, accompanied with affidavits setting forth that a certain Jonathan Little, of Washington county, in this state, is now in confinement in the jail of Huntingdon county, in the state of Pennsylvania, awaiting his trial upon an indictment of kidnapping a negro. The facts, as stated, are that Jonathan Little, together with two other persons, arrested, in that county a fugitive slave named Jacob Tenley, the property of Elizabeth McClean, of Frederick county, and while in the act of conveying him to his owner, the slave rescued from their hands and set at liberty. That, sometime afterwards, Jonathan Little having returned to Huntingdon county, was arrested and imprisoned in the jail of that county, in a narrow cell, heavily ironed, and treated in all respects as a felon.

It is further stated that the trial of Little was continued from the last term of the court of that county, notwithstanding his witnesses were all in attendance, until the January term, which will take place in a few weeks from this time; that Little is a poor man, and unable to employ and pay counsel to defend him. It is, therefore, suggested in these papers that it is the duty of the state of Maryland to provide him counsel, in order that he may be properly defended.

These cases present two instances, out of the very many others, to show the obstacles that are constantly interposed to prevent the re-capture of absconding slaves not only by the populace, but by the judicial tribunals.

The whole subject is respectfully submitted for your consideration and action. PHILIP F. THOMAS.

The following is a copy of the resolutions introduced in the House yesterday, by Mr. Causin, from the judiciary committee, to whom the subject had been referred.

Whereas, It is represented to this General Assembly, that in the matter of the attempt of John Lee, a citizen of Frederick county, in the state of Maryland, to re-capture his slave Joseph Belt, within the limit of the state of New York, the said negro slave was discharged from custody by J. W. Edmonds, a Justice of the Supreme court, of the state of New York, upon grounds going to the entire practical abrogation of all laws passed by Congress, to secure the master guarantee of his fugitive property provided by section 2d, of article 4th, of the constitution of the United States; and whereas, the question, in interest, is not confined to the individual party, but materially concerns the whole

population of the state; and whereas, it is the duty of the state to assume direction of all action involving her federal relations with her sister states in whatever shape presented; therefore,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Attorney General of the state of Maryland be and he is hereby directed to take all necessary steps at the expense of the state, to have the decision rendered by J. W. Edmonds, Justice of the Supreme court of the state of New York, in the matter of the petition of Joseph Belt, claimed as the slave of John Lee, reviewed by the highest judicial tribunal in the state of New York, and, if necessary, to prosecute a further appeal on behalf of the said John Lee, to the Supreme court of the United States, and that for his services in this behalf, the Treasurer is directed to pay out of any unappropriated funds, to the order of the Attorney General; such sum as the Governor of the state in his judgment may allow.

And be it further resolved, That the Treasurer of the state of Maryland be and he is hereby directed to refund to the said John Lee such expense as he may have incurred in consequence of the application for discharge by the said Joseph Belt.

Which was read the first, and by a special order the second time, and adopted. Whatever may be the feelings of the people of the non-slaveholding states, on the subject of slavery, they are bound to respect the obligations of the constitution of their country, in good faith. If this is not done, but a constant irritation kept up, by improper interference with the rights of the southern people, by the abolitionists, the bonds of union will inevitably be weakened and may eventually be severed.

While we oppose the extension of slavery into free territories, we are bound to do justice, and fulfil our constitutional obligations to the people of those states where slavery has been recognised. The decision of the Supreme court of the United States, which denies all legislative jurisdiction over the subject to the states, does not absolve the citizens from their duty to respect the government and laws of their country. If the conscientious opinions and feelings of any citizen will not allow him to do any act against the liberty of the slave, he ought, at least, to have regard enough for the laws of the land, not to do anything that will jeopard the peace and safety of his country. It is our opinion, that the masses of the people, whose liberties and happiness are so deeply involved in the issue of this question, should speak out on it, in a manner that will make their sentiments be respected and obeyed.

Since the decision of the Supreme court of the United States has abrogated all state laws on the subject, it is the imperative duty of Congress, to make some more suitable and efficient provision than is contained in the act of 1793, to enable the southern people to enforce their rights by law, and at the same time, to protect all persons against unfounded claims. Such a law is essential to the peace and safety of our own community, to prevent riots and bloodshed, and if we had a vote in Congress, we would most undoubtedly vote for such an act, properly guarded; and we think the man who would refuse to pass such a law, is inimical to the existence of the Union itself, as well as careless of the peace, the prosperity and the lives of his fellow citizens.

As to the case in Huntingdon county, alluded to by Gov. Thomas, we know nothing, and we are unwilling to believe that our fellow citizens of that county would treat, unnecessarily, any human being with the cruelty alleged. We think, however, that it is due to the character of the state, that the legislature should, at once, institute an inquiry into the facts and circumstances of the case, so that if the allegations made are incorrect, the character of Pennsylvania and her citizens, may be vindicated; and that, if wrong has been perpetrated, a remedy and redress should be afforded to the aggrieved, and such occurrences prevented, if possible, in the future.

From Santa Fe.

St. Louis, Jan. 28. Intelligence has been received from Santa Fe, up to the 28th November.

Ten days previously, Maj. Green went with a large force in pursuit of the Eutaw Indians, who had taken Mrs. White prisoner. Gen. Green came in sight of where the Indians were encamped, when, perceiving him, they shot Mrs. White, and fled, leaving their camp, equipment and two Indian children. The body of the lady was recovered, but no trace of the child could be found. It will be recollected that her husband, with eight others, were killed, when she and her children were taken prisoners.

An affair occurred at Santa Fe lately, between Captain Alexander Pappin and a man named Wheeler, in which the former was killed.

A man named John Adams was murdered at Perra Blanca.

A. J. Limms was to be hung at Santa Fe, on the 12th November, for the murder of John Jackson.

Col. Calhoun, the Indian agent, had failed in treating with the Indians.

Thomas Boggs had arrived at Santa Fe, from California. He brought reports from Santa Fe miners, representing them to have been very successful.

Mrs. M. Jones is successfully conducting a Theatre at Santa Fe.

A new paper, called the New Mexican, has been started. It advocates the claims of Texas.

Hon. James Buchanan, late Secretary of State, has arrived in Washington, and taken rooms at Gadsby's Hotel.

Tin is now imported from China.