# Democrat and Sentinel.

H. C. DEVINE Editor and Proprietor.
C. D. MURRAY, Assistant Editor.

EBENSBURG.

WEDNESDAY MORNING....DECEMBER 2.


**Wanted.**—WE MISS out of our files, Vol. 3, the following numbers of the Democrat & Sentinel. Nos. 1, 6, 38, 23, 36, 37, 40, (50, three numbers.) Post Masters or subscribers, having any of the above numbers, will oblige us by sending them to our address.

## Apoligy.

Two of our hands were compelled to attend Court last week as witnesses Consequently we were unable to issue our paper on the regular publication day. We however last Friday furnished our subscribers with an "Extra," containing the Presidents Message. Read it carefully.—It is an able and statesmanlike document. It will amply repay a perusal.

## The Kansas Difficulty.

The condition of affairs in Kansas and the National Capitol at the present time is well calculated to excite the alarm of all true members of the Democratic party. It is vain to deny that the aspect of the political horizon is dark and lowering, and that all the signs indicate an approaching storm, which may severely test not only the stability of the Democratic Party, but of the Union also. Hon. Stephen A. Douglass, of Illinois, who has long been regarded as one of the boldest and most efficient champions of our party, has openly assumed a position antagonistical to that occupied by the National Administration with regard to the most important political question now agitating the public mind. His friends openly boast that he will be sustained by a large majority of the Democratic party in the Northern States and that the course of the administration will be condemned. Senator Douglass is certainly a man of giant intellect, and we have always regarded him as a pure patriot. But if he is egotistical enough to suppose that he is such a prodigy of intellectual might and power, that instead of his following the Democratic Party, the Party must follow him, it is highly probable that he may find himself ere long like Martin Van Buren and Thomas H. Benton, an "outsider," without even a corporal's guard of friends to sustain him; the common fate of "vaulting ambition overleaping itself."

The convention which assembled in Lecompton, Kansas, on the third Monday of September, for the purpose of framing a constitution preparatory to admission into the Union, submitted only that portion of the Constitution which they framed, to a vote of the people, which relates to slavery. Mr. Douglass contends that the whole of the instrument should have been submitted to the people for their sanction or disapproval. Mr Buchanan holds that although this would have been the better course to have pursued, the fact of the convention having failed to do so, does not invalidate their proceedings; the Kansas Nebraska Act containing no provision requiring that any portion of the constitution should be submitted to a vote of the people, other than that relating to slavery, and the "act of the territorial legislature having omitted to provide for submitting to the people the constitution which might be framed by the Convention Mr. Buchanan as an executive officer has no right to repudiate and reject the constitution framed by the Lecompton Convention, merely because he does not approve of the submitting of only that portion of the Constitution which relates to slavery to a vote of the people. He has no right to declare the proceedings of the Convention illegal and void unless he is convinced that its members convened without authority, and that their proceedings or a portion of them, were in violation of the constitution of the United States or the provisions of the Kansas Nebraska Act, or the act of the territorial legislature which called them together. The President has no right to reject every measure brought before him which does not meet the unqualified approbation of his judgment. That we are right in this we think the most ardent friends of Mr. Douglass will not deny.

That the slavery clause in the Lecompton Constitution is fairly submitted to the people no candid man will deny. They will consequently have an opportunity of peaceably deciding at the ballot-box the great and paramount question which has so long been agitating the minds of the people in every quarter of the Union. It is the only clause in the Constitution which excites any comment, and the only clause to which the people of the Territory would have paid any regard in casting their votes even if the whole Constitution had been submitted to them for their sanction or disapproval.

☞ We neglected in our notice of the Poor House in our last issue, to mention that the Board of Directors have appointed James M'Dermitt, Esq., Steward of the institution. Mr. M'Dermitt is well qualified for the post. He and his amiable Lady will, we have no doubt, fully succeed in securing the comfort of the inmates, and in giving entire satisfaction to the Directors and the public.

## The President's Message.

We have perused the Message of President Buchanan with feelings of pride and pleasure. It is a clear, logical and statesmanlike document, every way worthy of the exalted reputation of its illustrious author. The bold and fearless manner in which he expresses his views with regard to Kansas affairs proves that he is not a "reed shaken by the wind," that he is determined to uphold the doctrine of popular sovereignty, and that like General Jackson, he is ready to take the responsibility of upholding the cause of truth and right when circumstances require that he should do so.

The President, in referring to the Convention which recently assembled in Kansas for the purpose of framing a Constitution preparatory to the admission of the territory into the Union, says:—

The convention to frame a constitution for Kansas met on the first Monday of September last. They were called together by virtue of an act of the territorial legislature, whose lawful existence had been recognized by Congress in different forms and by different enactments. A large proportion of the citizens of Kansas did not think proper to register their names and to vote at the election, for delegates; but an opportunity to do this having been fairly afforded, their refusal to avail themselves of their right could in no manner affect the legality of the convention.

A large majority of the convention were in favor of establishing slavery in Kansas.—They accordingly inserted an article in the Constitution for this purpose similar in form to those which had been adopted by other territorial Conventions. In the schedule, however, providing for the transition from a territorial to a State government, the question has been fairly explicitly referred to the people, whether they will have a constitution "with or without slavery." It declares that before the constitution adopted by the convention "shall be sent to Congress for admission into the Union as a State," an election shall be held to decide this question, at which all the white male inhabitants of the Territory above the age of 21 years are entitled to vote. They are to vote by ballot; and "the ballots cast at said election shall be endorsed 'constitution with slavery,' and 'constitution with no slavery.'" If there be a majority in favor of the "constitution with slavery," then it is to be transmitted to Congress by the President of the Convention in its original form. If on the contrary, there shall be a majority in favor of the "constitution with no slavery," "then the article providing for slavery shall be stricken from the constitution by the president of this convention," and it is expressly declared "that no slavery shall exist in the State of Kansas, except the right of property in slaves now in the Territory shall in no manner be interfered with;" and in that event it is made his duty to have the constitution thus ratified transmitted to the Congress of the United States for the admission of the State into the Union.

At this election every citizen will have an opportunity of expressing his opinion by his vote "whether Kansas shall be received into the Union with or without slavery," and thus this exciteing question may be peacefully settled in the very mode required by the organic law. The election will be held under legitimate authority, and if any portion of the inhabitants shall refuse to vote, a fair opportunity to do so having been presented this will be their own voluntary act and they alone will be responsible for the consequences.

The sentiments contained in the above extracts may not exactly suit the camp followers of the Democratic party, but we are confident, that they will be endorsed by every true patriot in the country, by every sincere friend of the Union and Constitution As the President justly remarks in a subsequent part of the message; "Whether Kansas shall be a free or a slave State, must eventually under some authority be decided by an election; and the question can never be more clearly or distinctly presented to the people than at the present moment. Should this opportunity be rejected, she may be involved for years in domestic discord, and possibly in civil war, before she can again make up the issue now so fortunately tendered and again reach the point she has already attained.

Prominent on the list of the camp followers we have mentioned above stands the name of John W, Forney, editor of the Philadelphia "Press." We are free to confess that in days gone by we admired the man. We knew his faults, we knew that he was ambitious and aspiring, but we never for a moment supposed that he would make common cause with Abolitionists and Black-Republicans, and attempt to break down the administration of the man who "warmed him into life." Had he been elected United States Senator last winter, or had President Buchanan seen proper to appoint him Post Master General, his mind would not have been haunted by "dark visions of broken hopes and honors lost forever," and he would have had no wrongs, real or imaginary to revenge on the Democratic party or the national administration. If he wishes to break down the administration of Mr Buchanan, why don't he go over at once to the opposition, body and breeches, The American Democracy will endorse the course of Mr. Buchanan in the Kansas matter, the efforts of John W. Forney to the contrary notwithstanding.

The King of Prussia.—According to the last European news, the King of Prussia has completely lost his reason He is said to entertain the most extravagant delusions; among others that he is a sub-lieutenant in the army, and frequently complains to the Queen of the obstacles thrown in the way of his advancement.

The King's body physician, the well known Dr. Schoenlein, has tendered his resignation, which is tantamount to a dismissal, and an expression of opinion that his treatment of the royal patient is not approved at Court.

## Proceedings of Court.

The attendance at Court this week is larger than usual Of course all sorts of characters are in town; the righteous and the ungodly, "Black Spirits and White, Red Spirits and Gray;" the learned Disciples of Blackstone "full of wise saws and modern instances;" the unfortunate client in the pursuit of justice under difficulties, and last but not least, the vender of the magic powder for Razor Straps, and *the Linament*; an infallible remedy for "all the ills which flesh is heir to."

All the cases on the civil List were continued by consent on last Wednesday morning. No cases of importance have yet been disposed of in the Quarter Sessions. Capt. Alexander Lane of the borough of Johnstown, was arraigned on the charge of Arson, pleaded "not guilty," and was graciously pleased to consent to be tried by "God and his country." It appears that sometime last September, the Captain while engaged in discussing with several friends, the issues involved in the approaching election, imbibed rather freely, and having finally started for his lodgings, singing "Willis brewed a peck of malt," in a tone of voice calculated to terrify all peaceable citizens, Constable Gageby seeing him on his "winding way," furnished him with lodgings in the "Lock Up," for the night. The next morning about daylight, the "Lock Up," was discovered by a man on his way to the Market House, to be on fire. The alarm was instantly spread, the door was burst open, and Captain Lane made his egress slightly scorched, and almost suffocated to death. All attempts to stay the progress of the devouring element proved abortive, and in less than half an hour, the noble edifice which had long been the ornament and boast of the "city of corporations," was a heap of mouldering ruins. The Captain having been the only inmate of the building during the night, he was at once charged with being the "guilty agent," in originating the fire, and was accordingly indicted for the crime of Arson. The Jury after hearing the testimony *pro* and *con* and the arguments of the learned counsel engaged, returned a verdict of "not guilty." We could not avoid remarking, the stolid indefference the Captain manifested during the progress of his trial With the prospects of lodgings in the Western Penitentiary before him, he seemed to be the happiest man in the Court room, and his first act after his acquital was to take a "drink." However, the philosophy of the Captain does not differ much from that of the mass of mankind. But few are willing to "foresee the evil," or meet sorrow halfway. Hood has described this feeling, so truthfully in two stanzas of one of his tragic comic poems that we cannot forbear quoting them:

"But life is sweet, and mortality blind,
And youth is hopeful, and fate is kind,
In concealing the day of sorrow;
And enough is the present tense of toil—
For this world is, to all, a stubish soil—
And the mind flies back with a glad recoil
From the debts not due till to-morrow.

"Wherefore else does the spirit fly
And bid its daily cares good-bye,
Along with its daily clothing?
Just as the felon condemned to die—
With a very natural loathing—
Leaving the sheriff to dream of ropes,
From his gloomy cell in a vision slopes,
To caper on sunny greens and slopes,
Instead of the dance upon nothing."

The Court was engaged on last Thursday in the trial of three boys, from 16 to 18 years of age, named Samuel M'Keehan, Albert Heslop and David Morgan, indicted for setting fire to a haystack, belonging to Mr. George Mitchell of Conemaugh township. A number of tippling house cases have been disposed of.

P. S.—Since the above was written the boys have been acquitted.

Deer Mortality.—The *Wire Grass Reporter*, published at Thomasville, Ga., says that the deer in the counties of Irwin and Worth, in that State, are lying in great numbers. Many have been found dead in the woods, and many others caught by dogs after a short chase A hunter discovered a large buck by hearing him cough, a few days since and killed him. He was diseased The blood was thin and watery, and the joints seemed to be bloodshot.

☞ Thomas P. Fenlon, Esq., was on motion of Hon. T. White, last Wednesday morning admitted to practice as an Attorney, in the several Courts of this County. Mr. Fenlon is a young man of fine talents, a close student and a clear, logical and eloquent speaker. We sincerely hope that his brightest hopes may be more than realized, and that he may find himself e'er long, surrounded by hosts of paying clients.

The Prince of Wales.—The Prince of Wales celebrated his sixteenth birthday early in the present month, so that he only lacks two years of the age at which members of the royal family of England attain their majority. The event was observed at Windsor with the customary honors—military salutes and parades, ringing of bells, display of flags, and other manifestations of loyalty. The week previous he visited the *Illustrious*, (training ship, which he is to join in March next as a cadet.

☞ We understand that the Rev. D. Jenkins, Pastor of the Welsh Baptist Church, of this place, baptised a number of persons on last Sabbath a week in the stream of the Blacklick by confession of faith.

## The First Message of President Buchanan.

The Message of President Buchanan is comparatively brief. This we regard as a decided merit. It is smoothly and gracefully written, and contains several important suggestions. But what, the reader may be disposed to ask, are its prominent points? We will endeavor to notice these, in as brief limits as possible.

OUR MONETARY TROUBLES.

The monetary troubles of the nation are alluded to, and it is intimated that a loan may be required before the close of the present session.

THE CAUSES.

In all former revulsions, says the President, the blame might have been fairly attributed to a variety of co-operating causes; but not so upon the present occasion. It is apparent that our existing misfortunes have proceeded solely from our extravagant and vicious system of paper currency and bank credits, exciting the people to wild speculations and gambling in stocks. These revulsions must continue to recur at successive intervals so long as the amount of the paper currency and bank loans and discounts of the country shall be left to the discretion of fourteen hundred irresponsible banking institutions, which, from the very law of their nature, will consult the interest of their stockholders rather than the public welfare.

THE BANKS.

Exercising, says Mr. Buchanan, the sovereign power of providing a paper currency, instead of coin, for the country, the first duty which these banks owe to the public is to keep in their vaults a sufficient amount of gold and silver to insure the convertibility of their notes into coin at all times and under all circumstances.

THE FUTURE.

Deplorable, however, as may be our present financial condition, we may yet indulge in bright hopes for the future. No other nation has ever existed, which could have endured such violent expansions and contractions of paper credits without lasting injury; yet the buoyancy of youth, the energies of our population, and the spirit which never quails before difficulties, will enable us soon to recover from our present financial embarrassment, and may even occasion us speedily to forget the lesson which they have taught.

THE SUB TREASURY.

This is warmly eulogized.

A BANKRUPT LAW.

Congress, in the opinion of the President possesses the power to make a uniform bankrupt law, applicable to all banking institutions throughout the United States, and he strongly recommends its exercise. This would make it the irreversible organic law of each bank's existence, that a suspension of specie payments shall produce its civil death. The instinct of self-preservation would then compel it to perform its duties in such a manner as to escape the penalty and preserve its life.

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

These are said to be in a highly satisfactory condition. With all the European Governments except Spain, our intercourse is as peaceful as we could desire. But no progress whatever, has been made in the settlement of American claims upon that country.

CHINA.

Whilst our Minister has been instructed to occupy a neutral position in reference to the existing hostilities in Canton, he will cordially co-operate with the British and French Ministers in all peaceful measures to secure by treaty stipulations, those just concessions to commence which the nations of the world have a right to expect, and which China cannot long be permitted to withhold. From assurances received, I entertain no doubt that the three Ministers will act in harmonious concert to obtain similar commercial treaties for each of the powers they represent.

NEW GRANADA.

Our difficulties with New Granada, which a short time since bore so threatening an aspect, are, it is to be hoped, in a fair train of settlement, in a manner just and honorable to both parties.

FILLIBUSTERO EXPEDITIONS.

When it was first rendered probable that an attempt would be made to set up another unlawful expedition against Nicaragua, the Secretary of State issued instructions to the Marshals and District Attorneys, which were directed by the Secretaries of War and the Navy to the appropriate Army and Navy officers, requiring them to be vigilant, and to use their best exertions in carrying into effect the provisions of the act of 1818. Notwithstanding these precautions, the expedition has escaped from our shores. Such enterprises can do no possible good to the country, but have already inflicted much injury both on its interests and character.

KANSAS.

The condition of affairs in Kansas is reviewed in considerable detail. The action of the Lecompton Convention is sustained, and Mr. Buchanan says:—

Whether Kansas shall be a free or a slave State must eventually, under some authority, be decided by an election; and the question can never be more clearly or distinctly presented to the people than it is at the present moment.—Should this opportunity be rejected, she may be involved for years in domestic discord, and possibly in civil war, before she can again reach the point she has already attained.

UTAH.

The conduct of Brigham Young is alluded to, his position of defiance is noticed, and the President says:—

A great part of this may be idle boasting; but yet no wise government will lightly estimate the efforts which may be inspired by such phrensied fanaticism as exists among the Mormons in Utah. This is the first rebellion which has existed in our Territories; and humanity itself requires that we should put it down in such a manner that it shall be the last. To trifle with it would be to encourage it and to render it formidable. We ought to go there with such an imposing force as to convince these deluded people that resistance would be vain, and thus spare the effusion of blood. We can in this manner best convince them that we are their friends, not their enemies. In order to accomplish this object it will be necessary, according to the estimate of the War Department, to raise four additional regiments; and this I earnestly recommend to Congress. At the present moment of depression in the revenues of the country I am sorry to be obliged to recommend such a measure; but I feel confident of the support of Congress, cost what it may, in suppressing the insurrection, and in restoring and maintaining the sovereignty of the constitution and laws over the Territory of Utah.

ARIZONA.

A new Territorial Government is recommended for Arizona.

THE TREASURY.

The public expenditures for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1857, amounted to seventy million eight hundred and twenty-two thousand seven hundred and twenty four dollars and eighty five cents, ($70,822,724 85,) of which five million nine hundred and forty-three thousand eight hundred and ninety-six dollars and ninety-one cents ($5,943,896 91,) were applied to the redemption of the public debt, including interest and premium, leaving in the treasury at the commencement of the present fiscal year on the 1st July, 1857, seventeen million seven hundred and ten thousand one hundred and fourteen dollars and twenty-seven cents, ($17,710,114 27.)

The other portions of the Message are of less general interest, and the document as a whole, so far as the composition is concerned, is highly creditable to its distinguished author.

Railroad Accidents.—No fewer than five railroad accidents, involving injury to passengers and considerable destruction of property occurred on Friday morning, within a few hours, on the Pennsylvania and Ohio Railroad, between Pittsburg and Crestline. The express train, coming westward at a high rate of speed, between Palestine and New Waterford, at daylight encountered a broken rail. The engine, tender and baggage car jumped the break in safety, but the passenger cars, two in number, were thrown from the track and dragged with fearful violence over the sleepers for some two hundred yards, when the forward truck of the hindmost car became disconnected, and the shock as the body of the car ploughed its way among the sleepers, tore seats, stove, and every other moveable from their fastenings, which, together with the passengers, some twenty in number, suddenly awakened from their slumbers, were piled in fearful confusion together. In an instant the car was filled with smoke, and in a moment after broke out in a blaze, but before any serious damage was done the passengers from the first cars, who were uninjured, quickly cleared the wreck and extinguished the flames, when it was found that, excepting a few ugly cuts, bruises, bruises and terrors the occupants' men, women and children, had miraculously escaped. The passengers being huddled together on the baggage car, the train proceeded, but had gone but a few miles when it was stopped in a deep cut, eight miles east of Alliance, by a freight train, also wrecked by a broken rail, and presenting an appearance more chaotic than chaos itself. We did not learn whether any one was injured. Of the other accidents we have no reliable information, but believe no loss of life occurred.—[Cincinnati Commercial.

### How Brigham Young Passes a day.

Brigham Young has many small children, below, and one of his wives is schoolmistress to the whole. His two large houses are well furnished, and his daughters play on the piano and melodeon. He is a great lover of fruit, and a warm patron of the horticultural societies of Utah.—Brigham's time is completely occupied. He rises early, and calls the whole of his family together. They sing a hymn and he prays fervently, and they then separate for the duties of the day. He takes his meals at the long table, and as he has no taste to see the gastronomic refinements, his fare is simple. A bowl of bread and milk often comprises his breakfast. His next duty is to make the rounds, "to see the women folks." To these he is cordial and kind, but no more. He is not Brigham the lover or husband, but Brigham the Prophet and President. They feel for him more reverence than love, watch his face and treasure his words, torturing each of them into the key of some great mystery. He then goes to his office, which is already besieged by his visitors who have to take his advice Brigham is by no means a paragon of temperance. He likes a cup of good liquor now and then as well as another man, and is sometimes seen after having taken a drop too much.

A Sampson in Shackles.—The Monroe (Wis.) *Press* says, they have a prisoner in the Green county jail, by the name of Sam Willam, who has been amusing himself and astonishing the jailer, with his feats of strength. Unaided by a single instrument, he broke a set of the strongest patent handcuffs, rent the shackles from his feet, tore off several locks from the door of his cell, broke a large iron door which served as an additional fastening, and passing out into the hall of the jail, exercising himself in the mysteries of a pigeon wing! A night or two since he concluded to give another entertainment which consisted of breaking two of the iron bars of the grates of his cell door, but his performance being unseasonably checked by the entrance of his keeper, he retired from the scene in evident confusion.

A Curious Case.—A curious case with some novel features, was recently determined in a Court in Southern Kentucky. A man of wealth had an intrigue with a married woman, whose husband was then absent. She exacted a pledge from her paramour for the payment of $8,000, in the case she should become *enciente*. Her hopes or fears in this case (we don't know which) were realized.—The sum of money promised was demanded and refused. Suit was instituted, and judgment for the amount obtained.

Fire.—The office of the Tyrone Herald took fire on Sunday evening week, and before the flames could be extinguished, considerable damage was done to the roof and frame work of the building. The printing materials were all saved, and we presume it will not be long till the energetic boy editor 'breaks out in a new place'.—*Standard.*

Mexico.—It is reported that private advices received in Washington, represent the political condition of Mexico as worse than is reported in the published accounts, and that the next advices thence are looked for with deep anxiety by the Mexican legation in that city.

### A Romance of Real Life.

The following incident which we extract from the Bucyrus *Journal*, published at Bucyrus, Crawford county, Ohio, claimed to be strictly true, possesses sufficient romance to make half a dozen novels:—

In Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, some seven years ago, lived a wealthy farmer, who was blessed with a family of six children, the eldest of which was a beautiful girl of sixteen summers A young man in the neighborhood, who was of good family, feigned attatchment to her. Young and inexperienced she fell into the snare set for her. Shortly after her ruin was accomplished, the young man fearing the wrath of her father, when the consequences of villany should become apparent, absconded. The young girl saw in the full horror of her situation. She could conceal her situation but a short time, and her destroyer had fled. She could not, dare not, endure the shame and reproach that would attatch to her when all should be discovered She determined upon leaving the country side, and performing to be conveyed as dead, rather than disgraced, matured a plan to cheat her parents into the belief that she had been drowned A wreck occurred on her father's farm and emptied into the Susquehanna a short distance away. At this time of year (spring) it was swollen by freshets and it was dangerous to venture on the frail plank that had been thrown across. One evening when the water was very high, she proposed going to a neighbor's who lived across the creek. Her father objected to the proposal, but she urged that she could get over safely. She crossed her log and started. She had proceeded a few minutes when she was overtaken by her father with her. Arriving at the bridge she threw her bonnet into the stream, well knowing that it would be caught on the bushes that skirted the stream, and hurrying on some distance in the road, and walked along in the direction of Harrisburg. The consternation of the family, after the lapse of two or three hours, may be imagined. One went to the house, the bell started for, but she had been there it was supposed immediately after she had fallen off the bridge. Search was made and her bonnet was discovered hanging some overhanging willows, where they supposed in the darkness she had fallen into the stream and was carried by the current far below. Search was made for her body, but it was in vain. After her supposed death, her father, in whose mind the event weighed heavily, according to leave the scene of his affliction, sold his farm and removed to this county.

In the meantime she had reached Harrisburg, taken the cars west, and in a few days found herself at the only tavern in a retired village in the interior of Michigan. Providentially was a kind-hearted woman, and at that particular time was in need of an assistant. She heard the story of the poor girl, sympathized with her and liked her appearance. Here, insisted on her making their home, and in this house she passed six years of contentment. Her hostess introduced her as a widow—she gained friends and received many advantageous offers of marriage

One morning about six months ago she was in the sitting room when the stage drove up. The windows of the room were open, and she could see most of the passengers. Among them was a face that set her faculties to work. She looked again, and then, fainting on the floor, was carried to her bed. She had finally seen a face that she was determined that in the world she would never see, sought him, told him the facts and swore that he should never see her. To this he once consented. Three months after she received from Pennsylvania, a letter with the intelligence that her father's farm had started back with the intention of remaining her. On the very last page of the newspaper, which contained an account of the fire, was a notice of the death of a young man, whose name was very high, and proposed going to a neighbor's who lived across the creek. He [illegible] of the present of the paper, not thinking that she could get over safely. He missed her by a few minutes,