THE ERIE OBSERVER.

BENJ. F. SLOAN, EDITOR.

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SATURDAY, ... MARCH 15, 1856.

DEMOCRATIC STATE NOMINATIONS.

CANAL COMMISSIONER,

GEORGE SCOTT, Columbia Co.

AUDITOR GENERAL,

JACOB FRY, Jr., Montgomery Co.

SURVEYOR GENERAL,

TIMOTHY IVES, Potter Co.

☞ If any apology is due for the contents of the paper this week, our readers will find it in the fact that the Editor only returned to his post in time to resume charge of the paper yesterday morning Intending to be absent but a week, like hundreds of others similarly situated, he has found that rail road traveling, usually certain, is at the mercy of the elements at this season of the year, and that the best laid plans must some times yield to the impassable barriers of March snow banks To be more explicit—we left Washington city on Saturday evening, intending to reach home on Monday, or Tuesday at farthest; but on Tuesday morning we had only reached Rochester, N. Y., and there we found ourselves, in company with from two to three thousand other passengers, detained by a storm that had completely blocked up the road west; and it was not until Thursday morning that it was opened Of course, with loss of sleep, and the wear and tear of a week spent in fruitless efforts to reach home, we are in no condition to resume our place at the table, much less to notice the various subjects, local and otherwise, that have accumulated during our absence

One Word.

We find, upon our return, that a good deal of dissatisfaction is expressed by a portion of our readers in regard to the notice of the proceedings of the Sunbury and Erie meeting, held last week, and published in the last *Observer* Perhaps, had we been at home, the paragraph complained of might not have appeared; still, we can neither see the force of the objections urged against the tone of this offending paragraph, nor the utility or justice of the hue and cry which has been raised against it We are disposed at all times to yield much to our friends; indeed, we have sometimes yielded the convictions of our own better judgment to theirs—yet, it would be folly for us, as well as an outrage upon our own sense of manhood, to yield the right of this paper to speak upon all questions as the publishers deem proper. Newspaper censors may do in France, or Russia, or Spain, but we mistake the intelligence of this community if such an institution will be countenanced here In regard to the matter itself, we yield to no man in friendship for the Sunbury road We have contributed what little time and talents we possess to further its construction, and we will continue to do so. Neither the denunciations of those who live but to denounce, nor the misrepresentations and abuse of others, shall deprive us of that priviiege For this, we ask neither reward nor emolument; we look for neither fat contracts, should the enterprise be put in a condition to give such, nor the honors of place under its officers, but we do look for the liberty of enjoying the rays of prosperity which its completion would shed upon our almost native town.—Perhaps, in the language, of the resolutions of the meeting of Tuesday night, we may, by this course, deserve to be called a "croaker and a grumbler," but we prefer to let the unerring hand of Time bear witness to the truth of the charge, rather than the unsubstantial assertions of any resolution writer, no matter how high his position or exalted his talents When the busy hum of labor is heard swelling up from our harbor, and echoes along the line of the Sunbury road to the McKean coal fields—when active operations shall have been commenced upon this end, and the worthy and respected contractors shall find themselves so busy in superintending their laborers that they will not have time to call public meetings to denounce "croakers and grumblers,"—then, and not till *then*, will it be time to decide whether we are a "croaker" or a "grumbler," or whether we have not, as faithful sentinels at the post of duty, given our readers such facts—and such facts only—as would enable them to form a correct estimate of the condition and prospects of that great enterprise. We repeat again, that henceforth, as heretofore, to that enterprise, as well as every other designed to promote the interests of Erie, our pen, our time, and what little money we have to give, shall be devoted; and in saying this we hurl back the lying charge, no matter from what source it emanates, that we have endeavored to injure the prospects of the Sunbury and Erie road We repel with scorn, the base and malevolent insinuations of the busy back-biters and tattlers who, having nothing to do themselves, have improved the hours of our absence in libeling us. If they want peace they can have it; but if they want war, why, they can be accommodated Fealty to the Democratic party we owe; but fealty to any man, or set of men, who arrogate to themselves the control of the columns of this paper, we shall never acknowledge. We hope we are understood. We want to labor for the interests of Erie, for the interests of all the projected roads centering here, but we want to do it in our way, and in our own good time

City Election

Friday next, the 21st inst., is the day of our election, at which the following Officers are to be elected:

One person for Mayor,
One person for High Constable,
Three persons for Select Council,
Twelve persons for Common Council,
Two persons for Constable,
Two persons for Assessor,
Four persons for School Directors,
Two persons for Judge of Elections,
Four persons for Inspetots of Elections,
Four persons for Auditors

Democratic Triumphs.

At the municipal election held in Fredrick City, Md., on the 25th ult., the Democrats elected the Mayor, and *four* out of the five Aldermen, by a handsome majority. At the Corporation election held in Georgetown, D. C., the same day, the Democrats swept the board clear—electing 5 Aldermen and 10 Council men. The Know-Knothings did not elect a single man.

One year ago the Hindoos had full control of both cities.

☞ A despatch from Washington states that the Secretary of the Navy has determined to order the steamer Merrimac to the Gulf Squadron. Her officers will be detailed in a few days.

Democratic State Convention.

In pursuance of the call of the Democratic Central Committee, the Democratic State Convention for appointing Delegates to the Cincinnati Convention, and also for nominating candidates for Surveyor-General, Auditor-General, and Canal Commissioner, assembled in the Hall of the House of Representatives, at Harrisburg, this morning.

Long before the appointed time of meeting, the Hall was crowded with Delegates and others who vied with each other in their expressions of regard and enthusiasm for Pennsylvania's Favorite Son It was with feelings of delight that we saw these men, the representatives of the Democratic masses of our State, and fresh from their midst, so unanimous in expressing the sentiments of their constituents.

At ten o'clock the Convention was called to order by James F. Johnston, Esq., Chairman of the State Central Committee.

On motion of Mr. Piollet, of Bradford county, Gen J P Brawley was appointed temporary Chairman, and Messrs. R. Biddle Roberts, of Allegheny, and B F. Sloan, of Erie, Secretaries.

The following is a list of Delegates to the Convention:

SENATORIAL DELEGATES

1. Philadelphia city—F. C. Frazier, C. McGrath.
2. Philadelphia county—J. D. Campbell, Wm. Lamb, G. R. Bergill
3. Montgomery—Ed. Sattertwaith.
4. Chester and Delaware—O. E Strickland
5. Berks—James Hagerman.
6. Bucks—F Vanzant.
7. Lancaster and Lebanon—James L Reynolds, W W Murray.
8. Dauphin and Northumberland—Jacob Leisenring
9. Northampton and Lehigh—Col Hansum.
10. Carbone, Monroe, Pike and Wayne—Wm. Lilly, of Carbon or Lafayette Westbrook, of Pike.*
11. Adams and Franklin—Wilson Riley.
12. York—John Rankin.
13. Cumberland and Perry—Hon John Stuart.
14. *Centre*, Lycoming, Clinton and Sullivan—Wm R Packer.
15. Blair Cambria and Huntingdon—Adolphus Patterson.
16. Luzerne, Montour and Columbia—H B Wright.
17. Bradford, Susquehanna and Wyoming—J P Means.
18. Tioga, Potter, McKean, Elk, Clearfield, Jefferson and Forest—De Witt C James.
19. Mercer, Venango and Warren—J Y James
20. Erie and Crawford—Vincent Phelps.
21. Butler, Beaver and Lawrence—Lewis Z Mitchell.
22. Allegheny—R Biddle Roberts, J A Gibson.
23. Washington and Greene—J A J Buchanan.
24. Somerset, Bedford and Fulton—Wm M Hall, or J S Robinson.
25. *Armstrong*, Indiana and *Clarion*—Charles L Lamberton.
26. Juniata, Mifflin and Union—Reuben Keller.
27. Westmoreland and Fayette—Wesley Frost.
28. Schuylkill—Clement Foster.

REPRESENTATIVE DELEGATES.

Adams, 2—Joel B Danner, H J Staly
Allegheny, 5—S W Black, Charles Barnett, Henry McCullough, Matthew Harbeson, P C Shannon.
Armstrong, Clarion and Jefferson, 3—W Ralston, Seth Clover, David Barclay
Beaver, Butler and Lawrence, 3—Gen Charles Carter, John N Purviance, David Lidball.
Bedford, Fulton and Cambria, 2—George H Spang, Rich. White.
Berks, 4—Jacob Wichline, H L Miller, C W Keser, W N Potteiger
Blair and Huntingdon, 2—Theophilus Snyder, Thomas P Campbell
Bradford, 2—I. Piollett, W H Peck.
Bucks, 3—Paul Applebach, W Harris, C H Mann.
Carbon and Lehigh, 2—A G Broadhead, J D Stiles.
Centre, 1—Samuel Strohecker.
Chester, 3—J Hodgson, J D Evans, Rolph Marsh.
Clearfield, McKean and Elk, 1—J L Gillis.
Clinton, Lycoming and Potter, 2—John Platt, Miles White.
Columbia and Montour, 1—J G Montgomery.
Crawford, 2—J P Brawley, David M Bole.
Cumberland, 2—E Corsman, Moses Bricker
Dauphin, 2—Samuel Bigler, O Barrett
Delaware, 1—John P James.
Erie, 2—Wilson Laird, B F Sloan.
Fayette and Westmoreland, 4—J I. Dawson, Robert Given, Wm Rose, E J Keenan.
Franklin, 2—G W Brewer, J M Cooper.
Greene, 1—Jesse Lazear.
Indiana, 1—Adam Lowrie.
Lebanon, 1—W M Breslin.
Lancaster, 5—Dr James Cushman, H S Magraw, Dr. Samuel Parker, James McMahon, Abraham Peters.
Luzerne, 2—*Dr D B Troup*, Samuel G Turner.
Mercer, Venango and Warren, 3—James Hazleton, Arnold Plumer, G W Schofield.
Mifflin, 1—Gilmore.
Monroe and Pike, 1—Oscar Mott.
Montgomery, 3—Phillip S Gerhard, John C Smith, Jacob Jacoby
Northampton, 2—J M Forter, John Davis.
Northumberland, 1—David B Montgomery
Perry, 1—James Black.
Philadelphia city, 4—Charles Brady, Thomas Ellis, Andrew O'Harra, John McCombs.
Philadelphia county, 11—Thomas Corgee, Edward Wiler, P McDonough, Andrew Noble, George W Wander, Frank McCormick, A Browne, John Crawford, Emanuel Street, James F Nicholas, John K Hassinger
Shuylkill, 2—Edward Kerns, H J Reeler
Somerset, 1—John D Roddy.
Susquehanna, Sullivan and Wyoming, 2—W C Ward, Dr J V Smith.
Tioga, 1—H A Guerney.
Union and Juniata, 1—A P Lusk
Wayne, 1—F M Crain.
Washington, 2—Wm Montgomery, Col Wm Hopkins.
York, 3—Ely Patterson, Wm H Welsh, S Anderson.

After disposing of the contested seat of Senatorial delegates for Carbon, Monroe and Pike by admitting Mr. Lafayette Westbrook, and for Somerset, Bedford and Fulton, Mr J. S. Robinson, the Convention, on motion of Mr. Purviance, of Butler, directed the Chairman to appoint a committee of one from each Senatorial District, to nominate officers for a permanent organization.

The Chairman appointed the following gentlemen as a committee on permanent organization:

DIST.	DIST.
1 J D Campbell,	15 Ed Patterson, Blair,
2 John McComb,	16 J S Montgomery,
3 Ed Satterwait,	17 W C Ward,
4 J Hodgson,	18 De Witt C James,
5 C W Reser,	19 J Y James,
6 Frank Vannant,	20 V Phelps,
7 Jas Cushman,	21 J N Purviance,
8 Jacob Leisenring,	22 S W Black,
9 John Davis,	23 W Montgomery,
10 A S Broadhead,	24 Geo H Spang,
11 J M Cooper,	25 Chas L Lamberton,
12 Ed Patterson, York,	26 A P Lusak,
13 John Stewart,	27 Robert Green,
14 John Platt,	28 Clement Foster.

Mr Hopkins, of Washington, stated to the Convention, that his name had been mentioned by a number of gentlemen in connection with the office of President of the Convention, and having determined not to permit his name to be used in that connection, he felt due to those gentlemen, as well as to himself, to make a public avowal of that determination.

He did it that the utmost harmony might prevail, and to this end he hoped the Convention would start right. [Applause.]

On motion the Convention the adjourned until three o'clock, to afford the committee on permanent organization an opportunity of consulting together

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention re-assembled at two o'clock, Mr. Brawley in the Chair. Gen. Purviance, from committee on permanent organization, made the following report:

FOR PRESIDENT,

Hon HENDRICK B WRIGHT, of Luzerne Co.

VICE PRESIDENTS,

Thos Corgee, Wm Lamb, Philadelphia,
Philip S Gerhard, Montgomery, (withdrawn.)
John James, Delaware,
Jacob M Kline, Berks,
Paul Applebaugh, Buck,
Abraham Peters, Lancaster,
Samuel Bigler, Dauphin,
Mifflin Hemnum, Lehigh.
F M Crain, Wayne,
H J Stahley, Adams,
John Rankin, York,
James Black, Perry,
Dr Samuel Strawhecker, Centre,
Thos Sayler, Blair,
Dr B H Throop, Luzerne,
John Means, Bradford,
David Barclay, Jefferson.
G W Schofield, Warren,
Wilson Laird, Erie,
David Tidball, Lawrence,
Henry McCullough, Allegheny,
Jesse Lazear, Greene,
John D Reddy, Somerset,
Seth Clover, Clarion,
Reuben C Keller, Union,
Westley Frost, Fayette,
Edward Kerns, Shuylkill.

SECRETARIES.

B F Sloan, Erie,
Edward J Keenan, Westmoreland.
D W C James, Potter,
Wm M Breslen, Lebanon,
George R Bergill, Philadelphia,
John M Cooper, Franklin,
Lewis Z Mitchell, Butler,
Wm M Pottinger, Berks,
Lafayette Westbrook, Pike,
Charles McGrath, Philadelphia City,
Matthew Harbeson, Allegheny,
Moses Bricker, Cumberland.

On motion the report was unanimously adopted, and Gen. Wm. Packer and Col. Wm. Hopkins appointed to conduct the President elect to the chair.

Gen. John N. Purviance offered the following preamble and resolution, which was adopted, for the purpose of ascertaining the sense of this Convention, representing as it does the Democracy of every County in Pennsylvania, and of designating their choice for the Chief Magistracy of the Union.

Resolved, That the members of this Convention do now proceed to vote *viva voce* for the candidate for the President of the United States, as the choice of Pennsylvania.

The sense of the Convention being taken, in compliance with the above resolution, resulted in an unanimous expression of its members in favor of James Buchanan for the Presidency

Hon. James M. Porter, when he recorded his vote in favor of Mr Buchanan, said that it was very well known what the personal relations between Mr. Buchanan, and himself were, and that he was elected at a County meeting wholly uninstructed as to his vote; but waiving all personal considerations, and looking only to the integrity and the union of the Democratic party, he voted for James Buchanan. [Great applause.]

Mr Wilson Rielly offered a resolution, which was adopted, directing the President to appoint a committee to select and report the names of four Senatorial Delegates from the State at large, and two Representative Delegates from each Congressional District, to represent the Democracy of the State in the national Convention to be held at Cincinnati, in June next, and for the purpose of advocating, with earnest sincerity, before the delegated power of the Democracy of the Union the true position and sentiments of the people of our State. The said committee should report no person as a delegate not known to be a firm, consistent, and under all circumstances, reliable friend of James Buchanan, and who feels no other preference.

On motion of Hon J L Dawson, of Fayette county, a resolution was adopted directing the Chair to appoint a committee of thirteen to prepare resolutions for the consideration and action of the Convention

The convention then adjourned until seven o'clock this evening

EVENING SESSION

The Convention met again at seven o'clock, and the President appointed the Committee on Delegates to the National Convention and Committee on Resolutions.

There being then no business before the Convention, by unanimous request, Hon Wm Bigler, Buckalew, and Black of Allegheny, addressed the Convention in an eloquent and patriotic manner, eliciting great enthusiasm and applause. At their conclusion, the Committee on appointment of Electors and Delegates to the National Convention, made the following report:

ELECTORS AT LARGE

Charles R Buckalew, Wilson McCandless.

DISTRICT ELECTORS

District 1st—Geo W Nebinger, of Philadelphia County	
" 2d—Pierce Butler, Philadelphia City	
" 3d—Edward Wartman, Philadelphia County	
" 4th—Wm H Witte, Philadelphia Co.	
" 5th—John McNair, Montgomery Co	
" 6th—John H Brinton, Chester Co	
" 7th—David Leary, Lehigh Co.	
" 8th—Charles Kessler, Berks Co.	
" 9th—Joseph Patterson, Lancaster Co	
" 10th—Isaac Slenker, Union Co.	
" 11th—Thomas W Hughes, Schuylkill Co	
" 12th—Thomas Osterhout, Wyoming Co	
" 13th—Abraham Edinger, Monroe Co	
" 14th—Reuben Wilder, Bradford Co.	
" 15th—George A. Crawford, Clinton Co	
" 16th—James Black, Perry Co.	
" 17th—H J Stable, Adams Co.	
" 18th—John D Reddy, Somerset Co.	
" 19th—Jacob Turney, Westmoreland Co	
" 20th—J A J Buchanan, Green Co.	
" 21st—Wm Wilkins, Allegheny Co	
" 22d—James G Campbell, Butler Co	
" 23d—Thomas Cunningham, Beaver Co	
" 25th—John Keatly, Clarion Co	
" 25th—Vincent Phelps, Crawford Co.	

DELEGATES AT LARGE.

Arnold Plumer, Venango; Henry D Foster, Westmoreland; David R Porter, Dauphin; Jas L Reynolds, Lancaster.

DISTRICT DELEGATES

District 1st—Edward G Webb, John McCarthy.	
" 2d—James C Vandyke, Chambers McKibben.	
" 3d—John Robbins, jr., Charles W Carrigan.	
" 4th—Joseph Lippincott, Jno G Brenner.	
" 5th—Owen Jones, Montgomery; Thomas J Roberts.	
" 6th—John Rather, Chester; Charles D Manley, Delaware.	
" 7th—John D Stiles, Ed Nicholson.	
" 8th—J Glancy Jones, P K Miller.	
" 9th—H B Swarr, Joseph B Baker	
" 10th—John Weidman, J M Kreider	
" 11th—Wm L Dewart, C M Straub.	
" 12th—H B Wright, J G Montgomery	
" 13th—John N Hutchinson, H B Beardsley	
" 14th—V E Piollett, C L Ward.	
" 15th—W F Packer, John H Munson.	
" 16th—Henry Welsh, John Crossman.	
" 17—John Cessna, A P Lusk.	
" 18th—John C Everhart, Richard White	
" 19th—Jacob Turney, Alex McKinney	
" 20th—John I. Dawson, Wm Hopkins	
" 21st—Andrew Burke, Charles Barnett.	
" 22nd—Samuel W Black, James A Gibson	
" 23rd—M C Trout, John M McGuffin	
" 24th—J L Gillis, J Y James.	
" 25th—J Porter Brawley, Wilson Laird.	

The Convention then adjourned until next day at ten o'clock

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The Convention met at ten o'clock, and was called to order by the President, Hon. Hendrick B Wright.

Mr. Reilly moved that a committee of five be appointed to inform the Hon. James Buchanan of his nomination by this Convention for the Presidency; which was unanimously adopted.

The Chairman appointed the following gentleman on said committee:

G. W. Brewer, Franklin; Hon. J. M. Porter, Northamton; Hon Joel B. Danner, Adams; J. A. Gibson, Allegheny; and George R. Berril, Philladelphia.

Mr. Brawley offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the State Central Committee may be increased to any number under seventy-five, at the option of the President, and that any ten, on the call of the Chairman, shall be a quorum to transact business.

Mr. John L. Dawson, from the committee, reported the following admirable series of resolutions; which were read and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That in the present distracted condition of parties, in which sectional and partial issues have been allowed to attain a dangerous supremacy, we recognise in the policy of the Democratic party, that which rests upon the Constitution as its basis; and that it is the party which above all others has, in the language of the illustrious Madison, ever continued "to hold the union of the States as the basis of their peace and happiness; to support the Constitution, which is the cement of the Union, as well in its limitations as its authorities to respect the rights and authorities reserved to the States and to the people, as equally incorporated with and essential to the success of the general system; and to avoid the slightest interference with the rights of conscience or the functions of religion, so wisely exempted from civil jurisdiction."

Resolved, That by the general consent of the wise and virtuous of all nations, the framers of the Republic of the United States, exhibited in their individual characters and in the result of their public deliberations, a degree of virtue and a practical statesmanship, to which the history of the world affords no parallel: that in no part of the Federal compact is the wisdom of our fathers more conspicuous, than in leaving the *whole question of slavery to the States* in their separate capacities; and that in the provision for the re-delivery of fugitives escaped from labor or service, they demonstrated a sense of justice—an appreciation of the value of the Union—an attachment to its preservation, an avoidance of one side philanthropy, and impracticable theories of government—which present a proper example for the guidance and imitation of us, their descendants.

Resolved, That we look only to the Constitution, and the exposition thereof which has been afforded by the practice of Democratic administrations, for the chart of our policy. That those constitute, till the fundamental law is changed by methods which itself provides, the highest law of our obedience as citizens; and that we utterly discard that partial and exaggerated sympathy, the attempt to carry which into practice, is at the peril of our dearest interests as a nation, and threatens the infliction of evils of tenfold magnitude to those which it proposes to heal.

Resolved, That the equality of the States is the vital element of the Constitution itself, and that all interference with the rights of the States by those who seek to disregard the sacred guarantees of the past, and by all others, should be rebuked with the same spirit that would denounce and repudiate all attempts to erect odious distinctions between those who are entitled to share the blessings and benefits of our free institutions.

Resolved, That the effort to direct the power of the Government by anti slavery agitation, under the various names and phases of Free Soilism, Anti-Nebraskaism, Fusionism and Republicanism; and by interfering with the rights of conscience in establishing a religious test as a qualification for office, by the secret oath bound society of the Know Nothings, is opposed both to the letter and the spirit of the Constitution, and to the earnest teachings and practice of its earliest and most honored administrators.

Resolved, That we are now as ever unalterably opposed to the doctrines and designs of all organizations which contemplate the overthrow of the civil and religious rights of the citizens; that the equality of the citizen, like the equality of the States, is a sacred and inalienable right, never to be interfered with by factious parties and reckless legislation, without a subversion of the primary objects of our political system, and a repudiation of the guarantees of the past and the hopes of the future.

Resolved, That in the repeal of the act known as the Missouri compromise act, and the passage of the act organizing the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, free from unconstitutional restrictions, the last congress performed a work of patriotic sacrifice in meeting the demands of sectional excitement by unshaken adherence to the fundamental compact.

Resolved, That this legislation cannot be deemed unnecessary, but that it was expedient to meet the questionings which it disposed, and which could neither admit of a more easy settlement than at present. That we recognise in the application to the Territories of the United States, of the rule of "equal and exact justice to all men" of all sections of the confederacy, which was designed by the framers of our government, and which was defined as one of its essential principles by the immortal Jefferson.

Resolved, That the Democracy of Pennsylvania, following the counsel of some of the wisest statesmen of the north and south, were ready on more than one occasion in the past, to extend the Missouri compromise line to the Pacific, so as to make it the basis of a final settlement of the question of slavery in the Territories; but when this proposition was rejected in 1848, on the ground that it involved an undue concession to the south, by the very men who now clamor for a restoration of the Missouri line, there seemed to be but one alternative left, and that was to refer the whole question of slavery in the Territories to the people thereof, to be regulated as they might deem proper, and we therefore cheerfully extend our hearty support to the policy of the government as recognised in the compromise measures of 1850, and embodied in the laws organising the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska.

Resolved, That unerring indications point to the Hon. James Buchanan—distinguished alike by his high personal character, his tried Democracy, his great abilities, experience and eminent statesmanship—as the nations choice for the office of President of the United States, for the term commencing on the 4th of March, 1857; and that we do hereby instruct our delegates to the National Convention to assemble in Cincinnati in June next to use their efforts to secure him the nomination to that office.

Resolved, That at a period when sectionalism, in its worst aspects, attempts to undermine the foundations of the federal constitution, when an abolition majority aspires to supremacy in the popular branch of the national legislature, and with the prospect of difficulties with foreign nations, who for their purposes may seek to intercept and stay the progress of free institutions on this continent, in order that they may more effectually arrest the advancing footsteps of our republican example, the statesmanlike qualities of James Buchanan—his long and well tried services in defence of the Constitution—his intimate knowledge of our relations with foreign countries—his large and enlightened experience—point to him as pre eminently the man to lead the victorious columns of the Democracy in November next.

Resolved, That we fully endorse the administration of President Pierce as national, faithful, and efficient—fully equal to all the important emergencies which the country has had to encounter, and that he has worthily maintained her interests and honor at home and abroad.

Resolved, That in the rise at home of factions based upon a single principle inimical to our government and constitution, and in the stirring and warlike condition of the times we behold dangers to our peace and prosperity, if not to our perpetuity, which should cause every good citizen to ponder well the steps of his political action; and that we earnestly invite the lover of his country, of whatever name or creed, to join us in upholding the constitution in its purity, and transmitting it unimpaired to our successors.

Resolved, That whatever causes of dissatisfaction with the working of our laws and institutions, may exist in different sections of the country, the proper remedy is to be sought in the temperate exercise of the right of discussion, and the ballot box; that all other evils are insignificant in comparison with that of danger to the Union; that all others can wait the sure amelioration of time, if the Union is maintained; but that disunion would at once prove the destruction of our present interests and happiness as a people, and the death knell of our hopes

Resolved, That it was upon the soil of Pennsylvania that Independence was declared, and the Federal constitution constructed, and that it therefore becomes in a special sense the duty of Pennsylvanians to watch over its safety, as secured by the great charter of the Union, to resist the first approaches of danger to its perpetuity, and I forever to cherish and maintain it inviolate, as the palladium of our happiness, political social and civil

Resolved, That all vacancies that may take place in the delegation to Cincinnati, now selected, shall be filled by a majority of the whole number there present, and that the said delegation shall have full power and authority among themselves to regulate by whom and how there votes shall be given in the Convention.

Resolved, That the Democratic State central committee shall require a pledge from each elector, to vote for the candidates for President and Vice President of the United States, when they be nominated by the Cincinnati convention, and in case of the neglect or refusal to any elector so to do within a reasonable time, the State central committee be and they are hereby empowered to substitute

On Motion of Mr Montgomery, of Montour it was

Resolved, That this Convention now proceed to the nomination and election of candidates for Canal Commissioner, Auditor General and Surveyor General

The Convention then proceeded to ballot for a candidate for Canal Commissioner The first ballot resulted as follows:—George Scott 41; Nimrod Strickland 33; J H. Zimmerman 15; Bernard Reily 11; Edward Nicholson 6; Wm. Hatfield 7; A Patterson 6; J T Hoover 7; Joseph Morrison 7. No choice

On the second ballot, George Scott received 71 votes, Nimrod Strickland 49, J H. Zimmerman 9, and Edward Nicholson 3

George Scott, of Columbia county, having a majority of all the votes, was then declared nominated as the candidate of the party for Canal Commissioner

The Convention then proceeded to ballot for a candidate for Auditor General On the first ballot John Rowe had 23 votes; Jacob Fry 46; Murray Whallan 29; Jool B Danner 15; H L. Deffenbaugh 12; Wm Workman 8; Daniel Kane 2.

There being no choice, three other unsuccessful ballots were had On the fifth ballot Jacob Fry received 78 votes, and Murry Whallan 51

Jacob Fry, of Montgomery, was thereupon declared duly nominated

The Convention then balloted for a candidate for Surveyor-General, with the following result

	1st	2d	3d	4th
M K Boyer,	12	—	—	—
John Horn,	1	—	—	—
Philip Johnson,	1	—	—	—
Wm Fry,	9	—	—	—
J W Moore,	21	21	21	9
Hugh McKee,	13	14	—	—
John Hodgson,	4	—	—	—
Timothy Ives,	15	29	45	60
Thos. J Rohrer,	15	—	—	—
Wm S Alexander,	21	25	32	40
Wm S Garvin,	—	1	—	—
Scattering,	—	11	22	—

Timothy Ives, of Potter county, having on the 4th ballot a majority of all the votes, was declared duly nominated.

On motion, the President was directed to appoint a Finance Committee.

The Convention then adjourned till afternoon.

AFTERNOON SESSION.—The Convention re-assembled at 3 o'clock, when, after the adoption of a number of business resolutions, speeches were made by Col. S W Black, Hon. James W Porter, J Biddle Roberts, G W Brenner, Wm H. Welsh, and others.

A resolution was offered and adopted, congratulating Virginia on the election of Henry A. Wise.

A despatch was received from Trenton, stating that the members of the Legislature of New Jersey had united in expressing a preference for James Buchanan, for the Presidency, which was received with enthusiastic applause

The Convention then adjourned *sine die* with hearty cheers for its nominees.

VIRGINIA DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.—This body met at Richmond on Thursday last a week, adjourned on the following Saturday, after appointing a presidential electoral ticket with district and county electors, and adopting a platform which re-affirms the rights of the States, deprecates the granting of public lands for internal improvements, opposes any increase on the duty on imports, endorses the whole Baltimore platform, recommends the Cincinnati Convention to nominate the candidates most likely to be elected, denounces the views and purposes of the American order, and endorses the present National Administration. No expression of opinion was made in favor of any particular candidate for the Presidency, and the only incident of moment was a speech from Ex-Gov Smith, the present member of Congress from the Alexandria district, supposed to have been elected by the Know Nothings, in which he announced that he was still a Democrat, and intended to support the nominees of the Cincinnati Convention.

RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—The express train from Norfolk for Weldon, on Monday went through a curve in a bridge at Marardville killing Messrs. Adams & Co,'s Express Messenger, Mr. Dougherty, mail agent and a boy. The engineer and several passengers were severely injured. The train, after the accident, took fire and was entirely consumed.

Which is Sam!

Puzzled by the contending claims of factions—pro-slavery, anti-slavery, anti-catholic, anti-catholic, pro-foreign, anti-foreign—each claiming to be the only original "American party," the *N. Y. Cour. & Enq.* philosophises thus:

"Physiologists tell us that an alligator, when cut in two, keeps on manifesting for a while equal vitality in the head and tail The one snaps, the other slaps. It has been a mooted point which extremity in this condition was the true alligator. Now 'Sam' has been often heard to say there was much of the alligator in him He, too, has been dissected, aye, he has been quartered; nay he has been torn into more pieces than was ever Acteon by his own hounds. They halved him in June, at Philadelphia, on the Twelfth Section. They quartered him in November, at Cincinnati and Springfield, on the Fusion Plank And last week they cut him into mincemeat, at Washington, in the grand final fight for Speaker Pieces were found in all parts of the field of battle. Every camp has something of him to show. His skin is already, like Zisska's, in a drumhead, the Democrats' big war tom-tom. But of all these pieces which is 'Sam?' *the* Sam?—the true 'Sam?'—the veritable, identical 'Sam?' Aye, there's the rub We can't answer it Who can?"

The *Courier & Enquirer* is right; but the above article was written before the recent meeting of the Know Nothing assemblages in Philadelphia. That paper would now be more puzzled *than ever to discover the simon pure*, unadulterated 'Sam?' It is very doubtful whether that distinguished personage, about whom every body has been talking for the last two years, is even conscious of his own identity at the present time.

The Governor of Indiana and Kansas.

Gov Wright of Indiana, having been requested by the free State men of Kansas to urge the people of his State to interfere in their quarrels with the Missourians, has written a reply, in which he says:

Indiana, as a State, has wisely selected her own domestic policy She is willing to give her neighbors the same right, and to suppose them capable of choosing and deciding for themselves. She has never given any cause of complaint to any of her sister State or Territories. And I do most sincerely hope that none of her citizens will so far forget the relation they sustain to their neighbors, and the national compact, as to take any part in the strifes and contentions of others who are openly violating the laws of the land

* * * *

There are those who indulge in the use of hard names and sectional phrases, such as subserviency to southern interest, doughfaces and the like, in order to influence the public mind, and to arouse our people to a violation of law All this, however, I ardently hope, will not lead our people away from the great principle that underlies all our institutions—the absolute right of each State and Territory to make its own institutions, without the influence of others

Upon this principle we can stand and maintain the peace and harmony of the Union with safety and honor It is the corner-stone upon which the security and perpetuity of the Union rest

Having the utmost confidence that the people of Indiana will not under any circumstances, abandon this high position, I frankly say to you, no effort will be made by this department to induce a solitary citizen to enter upon a crusade against any portion of the people of the Union or their institutions IF OTHERS DO WRONG, WE WILL DO RIGHT

British Command of the Lakes.

The London *Telegraph*, in a very lengthy article full of boasting and bravado towards the United States, winds up with the following allusion to this section of the country:

Independently of our vast military resources in our thoroughly royal provinces, we must not forget that we can command the lakes We could despatch a powerful fleet of stamers and gunboats up the St Lawrence to Quebec, and from thence via Montreal and the Rideau canal, into Lake Ontario, through the Welland canal into Lake Erie, and via Detroit and Lake St. Cair into Lake Huron To lessen the draught of water, the heavy guns, our thirty-two and sixty-eight pounders, and chief stores of shot and shell, could, if necessary, be sent per rail from Quebec to Canada West, there to be reshipped at our lake ports on board our men-of war Thus we could sweep the lakes, and every American town and village, from Mackinw, Michigan, to Oswego, Lake Ontario If war was declared, our fleets would at once appear before the chief of the Atlantic cities, Boston, New York and Charleston; and simultaneous with the first American soldier who crossed the Canadian frontiers, these towns would be battered to the ground, and Canada will be safe for a generations to come And doubtless such would be the policy

In regard to which the Boston *Courier* very coolly remarks.

It occurs to us also that it would not be amiss for this Britishor to wait until that canal is done from the Lake Ontario to Georgian Bay, then he could pass "that powerful" fleet into Lake Huron, and get rid of that pesky little Lake Erie, where there wasn't time nor room enough to beat Perry in: or, if he would only give the Yankee railroads the job, they could carry over some prime English guns from Lake Champlain, without any of the risks that attended their last freighting in that neighborhood, when McDonough was ugly enough to interfere with the navigation around Plattsburgh

Later from Mexico.

The Washington correspondent of the Courier and Enquirer writes: Neither our government nor the Mexican Legation have recieved any very recent despatches from Mexico; but private advices, communicated to the embassy, contained matters of importance. It is submitted in letters to Mr Iturbide, that President Comonfort had marched to Peubla with 4,000 of his best troops, and no doubt is entertained that before this date the place has submitted, and that the insurrection of Tamirez is everywhere suppressed.

It is probable the failure of the last steamer to bring despatches to or from either government is caused by the occupation of the road from Vera Cruz to the Capitol by the insurgents.

The letters further state the Constituent Congress assembled on the 18th ult., and are at work framing a new Constitution or restoring the old one, which will be completed in a couple of months

REVENUE CUTTERS FOR THE LAKES.—The Secretary of the Treasury sent in a communication to the House of Representatives on Thursday last, recommending that authority be given to construct and equip six revenue cutters of small size for use on the lakes, and to dispose of the two large cutters now stationed in those waters; which was referred to the committee of Ways and Means, and ordered to be printed.

☞ The Baton Rouge, (La.,) Advocate, is informed by Sugar Planters, from different portions of the State, that the growing crop of cane has suffered material injury from the unusual severity of the Winter, and there is every reason to fear another short crop of sugar.

☞ The body of Capt. Palmer, of the schr. Eudora Imogene, the vessel scuttled and sunk near City Island last fall, and whose fate has since remained a mystery, was discovered Saturday afternoon in the river at Williamsburgh. The body was sewed up in a coal sack. Two or more wounds were visible.

THE OBSERVER.

LOCAL, LITERARY & MISCELLANEOUS.

An Unfortunate Occurrence.

An unfortunate and disastrous affair occurred in this place, this city on Tuesday last, between Mr. J. R. Thompson and H. Caughey, Esq., one of the Editors of the *Constitution*, in which the latter was very seriously, and some say, fatally injured. We trust, however, this last is incorrect. As there are a dozen conflicting accounts of this affair, the true one of which will most likely be elicited in a legal way, we forbear stating either of them authoritatively. It is said upon the one side, that Thompson met his antagonist, and felled him with a club, and then jumped upon him with his feet; thus injuring him internally. It is claimed upon the other side that no club was used, but that it was a mere street fight, in which our cotemporary came off second best. In either case, the affair is very discreditable, though we confess not unprovoked. We say this with no design of extenuating the outrage; for there can be no possible circumstances where resort to personal violence is justifiable We say it, because we have read the article which is supposed to have produced this sad result, and we have the very best authority, (obtained within the last week) that the insinuations it contains against Judge B. (the father of one of the parties) are barely false. And being so, that they should have aroused the feelings of young Mr. T. we can well understand; but that such fact is any palliation for an attack upon a person so physically his inferior as Mr. C. we deny. Nay, we go further, and say that if this system of redressing private grievances, either real or fancied, is not soon put down by the strong arm of the law, personal safety is at an end. We bring it home to ourself. *We may be the next victim*, for has ever circumspect we may be in our Editorial conduct, we cannot help sometimes giving offence; and the person who feels aggrieved, be being himself the Judge, may deem it his duty to chastise us. True, we have thus far escaped, but how long we are to escape, if public sentiment is to sust