THE ERIE OBSERVER.

BENJ. F. SLOAN, Editor.

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SATURDAY ..... APRIL 4, 1857.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

FOR GOVERNOR,

HON. WILLIAM F. PACKER,

OF LYCOMING.

FOR SUPREME JUDGE,

HON. ELLIS LEWIS,

OF PHILADELPHIA.

FOR CANAL COMMISIONER,

NIMROD STRICKLAND,

OF CHESTER.

News of the Week.

—A year ago, says the Buffalo *Republic*, a woman named Mrs Rice was living in the that city in good style, moving in good society, and quite as extravagant as she could be under the circumstances. To day this same woman is an inmate of the county jail, clad in the most indifferent garments, and pacing melancholy through the iron grates upon the liberty and freedom outside, which, for a considerable period, she will not be permitted to enjoy. The circumstances of this affair are as follows:—She was at one time matron of the Erie Co Poor House. In a short time afterwards it became noised around that she had inherited a large property, and on the strength of these representations, which she encouraged, she obtained quite an amount of money, dry goods, groceries, &c., from different individuals. She swindled the Buffaloians out of not less than $2 000 The inheritance was to come through a Mr Carpenter, at Newburgh, a guardian of hers in that State. Some little suspicion was aroused, and Mr Carpenter was written to. His reply was that was the first he had heard of any money being left her. A general astonishment was the consequence. When it became known she immediately sold her furniture and left the city She was indicted by the Grand Jury for obtaining money on false pretences A warrant was put in the hands of officer Toles, and having obtained news of her whereabouts, he left Buffalo Wednesday morning last for New York He found she had been stopping at the Girard House under an assumed name, and had been living there in style She had left there. From there she came to the Clinton Hotel, that city, and thence to the Union House, Troy. Officer Toles followed her in close pursuit, and on Friday found her in a private boarding house on Mount Ida, about a mile from Troy, under the assumed name of Mrs Pratt. Officer Toles took her to Buffalo Saturday night, and committed her to jail.

—The Cleveland *Plaindealer* relates the particulars of a very painful accident which occured in that city on Saturday last At a rope walk, it says, on that day, while the machinery was in motion, two or three boys were engaged in running around after the horse, inside of the ring, when one of them, named Robert White, was caught between the end of one of the shafts and the walls of the building, and so badly injured that he died in half an hour. He was between ten and eleven years of age, and the son of a lady residing between Eagle and Bolivar streets, near Erie st. The injury received was in the stomach, and the little fellow was not at first aware how badly he was hurt, but got up without assistance, and walked a few steps when he was seized with violent fits of vomiting. He was carried in to the house where he bore his sufferings like a hero. His mother having been sent for, arrived, and finding her son in such a condition, was giving away to expressions of grief, when the little fellow attempted to cheer her up, saying he should get well, he was not badly hurt. And even in his last moments he persevered in his efforts to soothe the heart broken parent by saying—"It's all right, mother, don't cry" Poor woman! She is stricken indeed! On her way to Cleveland, her husband was seized with the cholera, at Dunkirk, and died in a few hours. Her younger child died a short time previous, and now the only one left her has been taken.

—Bear baiting and cock fighting are thrown into the shade by the following:—It is said that at a great dog fight at Bronte, Canada, on Thursday, 5th ult., the match was for $ 000 a side, and the result was the death of the Buffalo dog, which expired after a severe combat of two hours and fifteen minutes, the Montreal dog, although victor, barely escaping alive. Parties of the "fancy" were there from all parts of the United States and Canada. $10 000 to the American party After the death of "Tinker" he was deposited in a handsome black walnut coffin and brought to Buffalo for burial It is said that many of the Buffalo gentry were so affected at the death of their favorite, that they actually shed tears over the dead body of "Tinker"

—The appointment of Mr. Medill, as first Comptroller of the Treasury, vice Mr Whittelsey, resigned, is announced in the *Union*. The new Comptroller is quite a conspicuous man in his party having been for several years a member of Congress from that State, and subsequently its Governor. During the administration of Mr Polk he filled the post of Assistant Postmaster General, and afterwards was placed at the head of the Indian Bureau. He is a man of good administrative talents, excellent faculties, with quite as high a sense of integrity and honor as his predecessor, with none of the man's foolish propensity for parading his own purity on all occasions.

—Several shares in the Pittsburg *Commercial Journal* are offered for sale by the proprietor of the establishment. There is a chance for some one who is ambitious to fight political battles and perhaps win honors. The editor of the *Journal* has enjoyed a pretty good share of public favor. He has been Postmaster for one term. He has been Mayor of the city one or two years. And he is going to be a candidate for something else yet no doubt, and then the Democrats will defeat him if they can.

—The wife of a quadroon musician in Cleveland, Ohio, suspecting that her liege lord was not kept out so much o'nights by his business merely, watched him, and Tuesday night found he visited a buxom white woman. The wife got an officer, went to the house, and entered, but the woman was not out. A close search found her locked in a big Dutch chest, in which she was conveyed to the Police station, with the unlucky musician close after. They were both imprisoned.

—Some researcher after curious statistics has made an estimate of the probable amount which it costs the individual members of the different churches in the United States to sustain their respective churches. The estimate is found to stand upon the last United States Census. A Baptist or Methodist, three dollars and forty cents; a Presbyterian, seven dollars; a Congregationalist, ten dollars; a Roman Catholic, fourteen dollars; an Episcopalian, eighteen Unitarian, dollars; a Reformed Dutch, twenty-two dollars; a twenty-three dollars.

—The house of a man named Taylor, near Brownstown, Ind, was consumed by fire one night last week, his wife and three children perishing in the flames. Taylor was absent from home at a religious meeting, and on returning discovered his house in flames; and instead of rushing in to rescue his family, went to a neighbor's house and returned with assistance, when the woman and her children were seen falling from their beds in a state of insensibility.

—An accident occurred on the Pennsylvania Railroad, Friday afternoon, from a defective rail, by which the locomotive, tender, and three passenger cars were precipitated down an embankment fifty feet—the locomotive exploding at the bottom There were a hundred passengers in the cars, only one of whom was seriously injured.

—Four Republican Members of Congress, and one American, who voted for Mr. Banks for speaker, voted against Mr. Aiken's resolution of thanks. They were Edie, of Pa, Hughston, of N. Y., Scott, of Ind., and Wade, of Ohio.

—A very great brute named Livingston, recently married a widow, with two children, at Byron, Ogle Co., Ill. He abused one of the children in a most shocking manner, when the citizens seized him, carried him into the street, and there administered a most deserved flogging.

—Ex-President Pierce, it is stated, will settle down on a farm in the interior of his native State, where, for the rest of his life, he will devote himself to the raising of horses and stock cattle.

—Indications point to Hon. John Slidell, of Louisiana, as likely to succeed Mr. Mason as Minister to France.—He is pretty sure to receive either this or the mission to Madrid.

—The Mississippi Legislature, at its last session allowed its laws to go to Boston to be printed, and made an appropriation of three thousand dollars to pay one of its members to go there and read the proof-sheets.

—Miss Rockwell, daughter of a respectable citizen of New Haven, went to Hartford on Friday evening, and committed suicide at the American Hotel by taking arsenic.

—The Dallas-Clarendon Treaty has been considered and approved by the Cabinet at Washington, as it passed the Senate. It will be immediately sent to England, by special messenger.

The Black Republican State Convention.

When a huge serpent undertakes to swallow an ox, he always finds the process somewhat difficult. The animal must first be closely entwined in its death-like embraces for a protracted period, until every vestige of vitality is destroyed, the bones of the victim are crushed, and its once fair and goodly proportions lost in a shapeless mass of flesh. The next task of the serpent is to bedaver the remains with its slime, and it is not until these preliminary arrangements have been concluded, that the prey can be gorged by its destroyer. Gradually, for the last two years, has an operation of the above character been progressing in this State, in the effort of Black Republicanism to swallow Know-Nothingism. At last the task has been accomplished, and DAVID WILMOT is presented as the opposition candidate for Governor. He claims no distinction as a Whig—no distinction as a Democrat—no distinction as a Know Nothing, but owes his present position altogether to his persistent efforts as a sectional agitator.

His only ambition has been to march under the black flag of Abolitionism, and his only care to bring to that standard as many recruits as possible, and to become their chosen leader. For this he has betrayed his ancient party, soiled the judicial ermine, turned brawling demagogue while occupying a seat upon the Bench, and bent all his energies to engender bitter sectional feeling, and to arouse the fierce furies of sectional strife. With WILMOT as the opposition candidate for Governor, there can be no disguise or concealment as to the nature of the Gubernatorial contest. No man with a vestige of national feeling can support such a candidate. He is no half white and half black, no half sectional and half national nominee,—he can be supported only as an Abolition agitator. Against his distinctive views, and against him as their representative, we believe that an immense majority of the people of Pennsylvania will be found arrayed in October next as they have always been on former occasions. No Democrat, no national Whig, no national American, no patriotic, Union loving man can support him, and with all these classes against him, there can be no earthly prospect of his election.

So far as State affairs are concerned, WILMOT possesses little or no knowledge of our interests. He has confined his attention exclusively to National politics, and is destitute of experience and practical information in regard to the legitimate duties of a Governor. He would aim solely to Abolitionize the State, unmindful and regardless of all other considerations.

The candidate for Canal Commissioner, Hon. WM. MILLWARD, was the active operator in Phila. last Fall in carrying the Know Nothings over to the support of the "fusion" electoral ticket. He was a member of the last Congress, but made no figure there, and was defeated last Fall. In capacity and fitness for the post he is in all respects infinitely inferior to the Democratic nominee.

The candidates for Judges of the Supreme Court are JOSEPH J. LEWIS, of Chester county, a renegade Democrat, and a lawyer of some considerable talent, who has become a violent Black Republican within the last few years, and JAMES VEECH, of Fayette county, who gained some notoriety in 1855, by the publication of an ingenious but unsound opinion as to the legality of a certain proposed action in the then pending Senatorial election.

The platform as reported by Judge KELLEY, seems almost entirely made up of the Black Republican platform of the late Presidential campaign, with one or two new features,—a denunciation of the late decision of the Supreme Court of the United States—and a small spice of Know Nothingism, contained in the seventh resolution which is rendered ridiculous by the language of the tenth.

The Convention had quite a stormy time on various questions, and the Know Nothings made a slight show of vitality on one or two occasions, but Black Republicanism was too strong for them. The revolution in the political character of the opposition is complete. All disguises have been stripped off, and the battle is plainly between Democracy, Nationality, the Union and the Constitution on the one hand, and Abolitionism, Sectionalism, Disunion and crazy negro fanaticism on the other.—*Pennsylvanian.*

FUNNY.—There are a great many funny things in politics, and political Editors are forced, from party necessity, to often make their beds with funny bed fellows—but the funniest thing we have ever seen in the way of politics is the alacrity with which the *Gazette* snuggels itself down under the same blanket with WILMOT. Of all the members of Congress from Pennsylvania, Wilmot alone voted to repeal the *Gazette's* idol, the tariff of '42, and establish that of '46.—To see the *Gazette* support a man with such antecedents, therefore, is funny enough; but when we add to this the fact that it is scarcely three weeks since this consistent tariff advocate denounced Bigler for "betraying" the iron interest of Pennsylvania, while it now has two candidates at its editorial head who are ultra free traders, and [illegible] ed the highest round in the ladder of political absurdity. But this is not the funniest feature of our neighbor's position; for, while its candidates are thus ultra, the platform upon which they are placed before the people, is studiously silent upon all the great issues the *Gazette* used to deem so important. As is well remarked by the Philadelphia *News*.

"Not a word is said on the subject of the great industrial interests of Pennsylvania. *For the first time in the history of the State have we had a Convention proposing opposition to the Loco Foco, shrieking the Tariff question, and ignoring the doctrine of protecting American labor.* Pennsylvania interests are to be disregarded and lost sight of, to accommodate political hucksters who have always been against them. Not only is the Pennsylvania policy of protecting home labor ignored, but no honest recognition and endorsement of American principle can be found in any of the resolutions."

The reason why the "doctrine of protecting American labor was ignored," which, as we before remarked, was the corner stone of political orthodoxy in the opinion of the *Gazette* three weeks since, is graphically and truly stated by the *News*, when it charges that the Convention was controlled by—

"men like David Wilmot, Joseph J. Lewis, Wm. D. Kelley, *Morrow B. Lowry*, B. Rush Petriken and others, who have worn out themselves in the Loco Foco party, and are no longer able to obtain office from it. Men like these are the chiefs of the Republican Party, who, though they make violent professions of hostility to slavery, are still Loco Focos in all their feelings and sentiments, and the advocates of all the radical measures of that Party, including British Free Trade, and everything else that is obnoxious and repulsive to conservative minded men. They are, in few words, political demagogues, whose only principle is self interest, and who will adopt any *means to promote* that, and support no man who will not allow himself to be used by them for that purpose."

Verily, what a funny position for the protective whigs of Erie county, and their protective Editor.

PERFECTLY NATURAL.—Speaking of the violent and partizan resolutions against the Supreme Court introduced in the Senate of this State by the negro-bit politicians of that body, the N. Y. *Express* quaintly observes that—"One would have thought, whatever may have been these men's opinions, they would have clothed them in decorous Parliamentary language." True, "one would think" so, if one did not know that the men who introduced and advocated these resolutions were raving fanatics instead of sensible politicians, but when one knows this, one can readily perceive how unnatural "decorous, Parliamentary language" would seem in the mouth of such men, —as unnatural, let us add, as pure English in the mouth of a Dahoma negro.

A FIRST RATE APPOINTMENT.—All our readers who had the pleasure of listening to the eloquence of Judge Bowan, of Maryland, during the last campaign, will be pleased to learn that he has received the appointment of Naval Officer at the Port of Baltimore, from President Buchanan. Among the many eloquent defenders of the Democratic party, who left their private business at the call of duty, and came to the "Old Keystone" to persuade and convince her honest yeomanry of the value of the Union, Judge BOWAN stands pre-eminent. Eloquent and ardent, his voice was heard from the Delaware to the Lakes, and wherever he was seen and listened to, he made friends, not only for himself, but for the party. His appointment therefore is a just recognition of his eminent services, as *well as his undoubted fitness for the office.*

☞ A glorious opportunity for an exercise of an enlarged discretion is offered to the Postmaster at Uniontown, Belmont county, Ohio, in the delivery *of a letter* which was mailed in the Wheeling Post Office, Saturday, directed "To the bigest fool in Uniontown, Belmont county, Ohio." If such a letter should come to the Erie Post Office, we'd know exactly who to deliver it to—viz: the man that gets in a pet and stops his paper, and thinks the loss of his name from the list, will blow the concern up.

☞ Two of the individuals that escaped from the Meadville jail last week, and noticed in our last—Powell and Weaver—have been arrested. They were caught in Trumbull, O. The others are still at large.

DAN RICE.—Dan Rice, the humorist, "our Dan," is creating a furore in Baltimore equal to the excitement he produced at Washington during the inauguration. The other night, after he had concluded his performance at the Front Street Theatre, a committee of citizens escorted his carriage to Barnum's Hotel, where a fine entertainment was prepared by "nine host." At a late hour a serenade was tendered Dan by the "Crack" Brass Band. We understand that Mr. Rice has treated a Rhinoceros to perform the most wonderful tricks.

☞ A sect of religionists has arisen in England calling themselves the disciples. They believe that Christ will appear in 1864, and that the Russians will trample over the Turks, and the Jews over the Russians, and finally the Jews will become again a nation in the Holy Land.—Christians are to sleep eternally.

SYMPTOMS OF A REVOLT.

We should infer from the ominous sounds of discontent and revolt that comes up from the ranks of the opposition that the labors of the recent pie-bald convocation at Harrisburg—renegade Democrat, negro-bit whig and pope-bit followers of Sam—would not prove a very paying investment, either to the candidates put in nomination, or the gentlemen who hope, in the event of success, to "be the power behind the throne greater than the throne itself." The Convention itself was very decidedly unharmonious—so much so, indeed, that it is conceded on all hands that it had more the appearance and characteristics of a mob, than a grave deliberative body. Warm words, resulting in recrimination, and ending in "lies" and "coward," were freely bandied by the leaders of "all the decency." But how could any thing else be expected when we look at the antagonistic elements brought together in this hunt after the spoils and—philanthropy! There were old line whigs, like Ex Senator Cooper, hungry as wolves and vindictive as lucifer—there were renegade Democrats, like Judge Kelley who, *despising the company they were in*, and themselves into the bargain, were ready to pick a quarrel upon the first opportunity—and last and least, there were the genuine "spread-eagle" sons of "Sam," hunting for "patriotism" with a "dark-lantern," and ready, at the "sign given," to "pitch in" and blow up the whole concern. Each faction had its axe to grind, and each desired his open colaborers, but secret antagonists, to turn the grind-stone. What wonder, then, with such elements, assembled under such circumstances, and beat upon such ends, that riot and disorder should have reigned rampant in the Convention, and that open discontent should manifest itself after it had adjourned. And as one of the "signs of revolt" appropo to this view, we quote the following emphatic paragraph from the *Daily News*, the organ of "Sam" in the Quaker City. It is a wet blanket to the hopes of "fusion."

"Not having yet all the particulars, we refrain from commenting at length on the character of the proceedings of the Convention, or the candidates nominated by it.—So far as the candidates are concerned, they could not well be more obnoxious to Americans than they are. Not one among them will be owned by them, as of their kith and kin. Wilmot and Lewis are well known as out-and-out Republicans, of the most ultra *stripe*, who are, in truth, nothing more nor less than Abolition demagogues. Both are *Loco Foco radicals, in favor of free trade*, and have not a single sentiment or feeling in common with the conservative views of the American Party. Veech was formerly a Whig, then an American, and is now a Republican, having acted with that party for Fremont last Fall.—As for Millward, an apostate, he is known here, and wherever he is know, it will be fully understood that this nomination for an office for which he is notoriously unfit, is his reward for base treachery to the Fillmore cause, and a shameless attempt to betray the American party into the hands of Black Republicanism. His selection, as a pretended peace offering to the Americans in this community, is a flagrant insult, and will be so treated by them. In speaking thus freely, and making known our determination not to support these candidates, we wish to be understood to speak only for ourselves. What will be the course of the American party, we do not stop to inquire. It is enough for us to know that to call these candidates the exponents of American principles would be a fraud, to determine our course. They are nominations not fit to be made, and unworthy the confidence and support of Americans. It remains, now, to be seen what they will do. If they nominate their own candidates, as we confidently expect they will, we are heart and soul with them, and shall labor earnestly in support of such nominees. That such is the determination of all honest and true Americans, at least in this part of the State, we are well satisfied; and hence we await with anxiety for a movement for an American State Convention, to nominate American candidates. Let a call be issued at once, and it will meet with a cordial response."

Again, the *News*, of a subsequent day, returns to the charge after this style.

"This radical Loco Foco element had everything its own way in the late Harrisburg Convention. Though probably in a large minority, so far as mere numbers were concerned, these belonging to it made the nominations by virtue of their superior skill and tact as political managers and intriguers. It was so in the election of Speaker Banks, and again in the nomination of Col Frémont. Convened by arrangement as the Convention was, these Loco Foco radicals had the whole game in their own hands, and most successfully have they played it in nominating David Wilmot, who is Loco Foco in all things but the slavery question, and is not only an avowed Free Trader, but whose name is recorded in the journals of Congress as the betrayer of the industrial interests of Pennsylvania in 1846. Solitary and alone from Pennsylvania he spoke and voted in favor of the repeal of the laboring man's Tariff of 1842, and the enactment of the Walker British Free Trade policy to 1846. Why was he nominated in preference to such men as Franklin, Kunkel, *Ball*, Todd, Jordon, and others whose views are in harmonious accord with nine-tenths of the opposition to Loco Focoism? Because the whole aim and purpose was to impress upon the action of the Convention, and the party, the distinctive and unmistakable character of being Black Republican, *and entirely free from* all possible taint or suspicion of Americanism. For this reason, and the one already given, that these Loco Foco radicals will support no man whom they cannot see for their own selfish purposes, was made the nomination of David Wilmot, *the Free Trader.*"

[illegible] paragraph in the *North American*:

"The National Americans of Northampton county held a meeting on the 21st inst., at Easton, and adopted resolutions recommending the call of a State Convention, to meet at Harrisburg on the fourth of July, to nominate an exclusive National American ticket for State officers.—They declared their opposition to a union with any party calculated to destroy their distinctive national character, or Americanism, and recommended the Hon. E. Joy Morris as their first choice for Governor."

It is evident the "happy family" of the opposition are going to have a good time generally. The "National Americans" numbered last year just about 80,000, as the vote showed. They seem now more resolved than ever to keep up their organization, and their nationality of character. The nomination of Wilmot has no doubt strengthened this determination. *He is purely an Abolitionist. He is* the embodiment of sectionalism and Abolitionism. That vote last November did not exceed *one* hundred and thirty thousand The Democratic vote was over *two* hundred and thirty thousand, hence it is easy to see that Wilmot is going to have a "hard road to travel."

NEW GOVERNOR OF KANSAS.—Elsewhere we give the letter of Hon. R. J. WALKER, *accepting* the appointment of Governor of Kansas tendered him by the President. It is manly, straight forward and explicit, and indicates that in accepting the trust, he does so fully understanding its responsibilities, and with a determination to *discharge the difficult* duties devolving upon him with impartiality—"without fear, favor or affection" And that the country is prepared to receive his appointment in *this spirit*—to accord to him *impartial views*, and exalted fitness for the position—is evident from the tone of the press. Not only have the public journals in the interest of the Democracy responded with enthusiastic gratification to his appointment, but many of the opposition join heartily in commending the choice of the President.—Among these is the New York *Times* and the Philadelphia *News*. We have not the former to quote from, but the latter says—

"Mr. Walker is well known to the country, and, whatever opinions may be entertained of him as a politician, the fact is undoubted that he is not only an able man, but possesses all the qualifications for the office that are requisite to restore order, and give peace and quiet to the Territory, if he chooses to do so. Mr. Stanton formerly represented the Memphis District, Tennessee, in Congress, and while a member of that body was Chairman of Naval Affairs He is a lawyer and a gentleman of decided talent, and considerable public experience. Both these appointments are from the South, but they ought not to be objected to on that account, if they accept them under instructions of the character intimated by the Washington *Union*, the organ of the Administration. Probably Southern men are more likely to succeed in ruling Kansas in a satisfactory manner than Northern men could hope to be; and we are not disposed, therefore, to condemn these appointments in advance"

But, probably the most striking article of commendation from an opposition journal—because most unexpected—is the following from the Pittsburg *Commercial Journal*, one of the most ultra Republican papers in the State.

Speaking of Gov. Walker, that paper says:—

"He will take no unmanly, unlawful and dishonorable advantage of his position to promote the Pro-Slavery movement, and he will assuredly give no countenance to the Border Ruffians of Missouri.

As a man of highly honorable character, we should far rather trust Robert J. Walker in the Governorship of Kansas, Southern man as he is, than any northern Democrat, save one, whom President Buchanan could place there.

Whilst the New York *Tribune* treats Mr. Walker's hesitation to accept the nomination as an affectation of coyness which will terminate in eager acceptance of the honor, we think we can *well* understand the manly impulse of self distrust, which prompts the delay of Mr. Walker's answer. He sees at a glance how high expectations Border Ruffianism would build on his well known sentiments in relation *to slavery*, which he *would* be compelled to disappoint in the full extent to which they contemplated prostitution of his position to the promotion of their schemes. He sees that the expectations of even moderate southern man would fetter the freedom of an honorable, high minded man in the Executive chair of Kansas.

He sees what the fair and moderate men of the North, in and out of his own party, would expect at the hands of a man who should carry with him into the place vacated by Geary, so high a character as crowns the life of Robert J. Walker. It is natural he should pause to take counsel of what is due to himself, and how far he can usefully lend himself to the extension of Slavery into Kansas, aspared that he must disappoint all these expectations which the lawless and violent will build upon his acceptance of the Government.

Our interpretation of Mr. Walker's hesitation is consistent with integrity of purpose on his part, and we regret to see such unconsidered disparagement as the *Tribune* lets fall in passing upon Mr. Walker's tardiness. He may accept the office. We devoutly hope he will. All the free State men in Kansas, and the free State movement out of Kansas ask or ought to ask, is a free field and fair play at the ballot box. That they would have under Robert J. Walker. He would give his countenance, his hopes and his wishes to the *slave* clause in the Constitution.

But he would enforce, like an open, honest, brave man, free speech and freedom of the ballot. The Northern Emigration would have a fair chance. With Robert J. Walker, Governor of Kansas, we should have no fear that Kansas would come into the Union as a slave State.

Would that Mr. Walker could be induced to accept this office, and proceed forthwith to the discharge of its duties. Will he accept? We fear, very much fear, he will not.

He (Robt. J. Walker) is a Southerner, with Southern prejudices, and will, we fear, prove obedient to the pressure from the South in favor of a policy which will forever fix slavery upon the soil of Kansas.—*Lancaster.*

This "Southerner with Southern prejudices" was born and raised in Pennsylvania—is a cousin, we believe of J. B. Walker, Esq. of this city—and since 1845-9 has been residing in the city of New York. Our neighbor had better try again.

NEW YORK.

[Correspondence of the Erie Observer.]

NEW YORK, March 29, 1857.

What sort of news will you be served with this morning? Our Vanity Fair is a paradise for the news epicure, and can furnish at the shortest notice, a smoking hot dish of fashionable, commercial, criminal or political scandal.—Froth always rises to the top, and so the fashionable intelligence shall have the first place. The upper tendom is at present in half mourning from two reasons; first, the lack of gaity attendant upon the Lent season; and, second the scandalous defection of the wealthy Miss Boker, and her audacious lapse from the arms of her dear five hundred friends into the warm but not fastidious embraces of an Irish coachman. John has got his wife at last, but she does not turn out to have $100,000 in her own right as was first reported. Mr. Boker's purse strings are closed, of course, and the pair have gone into the country to set up housekeeping on a very small scale indeed. The spring fashions are opened, and are wonderfully gay and correspondingly extravagant. The silk used, however, in robes and trimmings seems to be generally of a less costly quality than heretofore, as the best qualities bring enormous prices.

Your country readers can hardly appreciate one of our New York dirt storms, still I must tell you that we had a splendid one the other day, whirling and sweeping through the streets like a veritable snow squall of mid-winter.—Immense clouds of the raw material surged along Broadway like an ocean in a tempest. Somebody says that the Maelstrom, so long the wonder of juvenile students of geography, is a humbug; but that is a mistake—the great whirlpool has gone through and come up on this side; dirt is substituted for water, and the *Maelstrom* is in active operation in Broadway. All day it was impossible to walk or ride the streets without being blinded or at least catching a violent osmaurosis. Everybody who went abroad was mantled in a coating of gray filth, the very dust and ashes of degradation.

Business has been very quiet during the whole week, as the Western trade is very backward. There have been a great many failures in that section which comes heavily upon the jobbing houses of this city. There have been one or two large failures here during the week, but they were generally expected, as the firms had long been considered "shaky." The dry goods houses here which do an exclusively Western trade will have a hard time of it for a little while, and some breaking up may be looked for among concerns which have been accustomed to do a large business on a small capital at long credits. *Dry Goods of all kinds are quiet, owing to the high prices asked and necessitated by the advance in all materials.*—Every thing adapted to clothe the naked has risen simultaneously, while the produce employed in feeding the hungry has experienced a corresponding decline in value. Cotton, wool, silk, hemp and leather are all on the upward track, while breadstuffs look downward. This, however, in a politico-economical point of view, is encouraging.

Margaret Cunningham, the girl who jumped out of a window on the corner of Broadway and Ninth street, to escape from a young man named Barr, still remains at the New York Hospital, and it is thought, will recover. Barr's wound is more serious, the pistol ball which he fired at his head having fractured his skull. He is at his father's house, and his condition is more serious than was at first supposed.

Saturday's *Times* says: Seraphine Peterson, recently sentenced by Judge Betts to five years' imprisonment for manufacturing and uttering counterfeit money, was educated for a clergyman and is a fine gentlemanly looking man, and is a splendid linguist. This is the third time he has been imprisoned for the same offence. Huntington has gained fifteen pounds since his imprisonment. He drives nails in the morning and keeps books in the afternoon.

The trial of Layman, the spiritualist shoemaker, for the murder of Cannon over in Brooklyn, has turned out just as we predicted. Layman is to be sent to a lunatic asylum. We wish, however, it were possible for the law to reach the parties whose influence crazed his mind and made him labor for the rest of his life under the delusion that he is advised and controlled by apparations of the departed.—They should be punished for making him a murderer, just as much as the accessory who puts a knife into the hands of an assassin and directs him where to strike the fatal blow.

By California papers received on Saturday, we learn that on the 21st of February a thirty mile race came off, over the Union Course at San Francisco, between two horses respectively named, Rattler and General Taylor. Persons went to the course almost assured that neither animal would *survive the contest!* On the twenty-ninth mile General Taylor came in the winner, but it was feared he would not live through the last heat sufficient to keep him on. The poor horses were urged to complete their torturing task. General Taylor was the winner. The aggregate time was one hour, forty nine minutes, and seventeen seconds. The owners of these horses ought to be sent to a treadmill for life, and their aiders and abetters in the race should each be treated to thirty lashes—a lash for every mile run.

The city is full of hungry politicians who have come back from Washington with empty pockets and heavy hearts since the New York appointments were made out. Verily, blessed are they who expect nothing for nothing shall they receive. This liturgy is commended to the especial consideration of politicians. ERIE.

JUDGE LEWIS DECLINES.—Judge LEWIS, the Democratic nominee for the Supreme Bench, has written a letter to the Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee, declining the nomination tendered him. This course on the part of the Judge has taken almost every body in the State by surprise. We had supposed, in common with the mass of the party, that he was very anxious for the nomination—hence, when his determination to decline was announced, we were anxious to see the reasons. Whether, now that they are before the public, they will prove satisfactory to those who urged his nomination, is not for us to say. We give his letter, and let every one judge for himself:

PHILADELPHIA, March 25th, 1857.

TO CHARLES R. BUCKALEW, Chairman of the Democratic State Committee:

Dear Sir—At the late Democratic State Convention, the local claims of the different sections of the State were generously waived for the purpose of securing my continuance in the high and important office of Supreme Judge. The energy with which those claims are *now* urged for the office recently vacated on the Supreme Bench, shows the sacrifices then made, and the nature of the dissatisfaction which may exist after one section shall be gratified and the other disappointed by the anticipated nomination.—The Convention when re-assembled might be able to harmonize these claims, if that body had two nominations to make, instead of one. I therefore feel at liberty to decline, as I now do, the re-nomination tendered to me by the Democratic State Convention. In thus promoting harmony, I consult my own earnest desire to retire form judicial life, and at the same time put the delegates to no inconvenience, as they will be obliged to come together again for the purpose of nominating a candidate to fill the existing vacancy.

I have been laboriously engaged in judicial duties nearly twenty-four years—a longer period of service than that of any living Judge in Pennsylvania. I have been thus engaged under three changes of the Constitution. I have aided to the extent of my abilities in bringing up the arrearages of business and in re-placing upon their ancient foundations some of the landmarks of the law which had been inadvertently removed; and in maintaining the purity and the independence of the Judiciary. I have constantly endeavored to do justice without delay, fear, favor, affection or ill-will. I now occupy, by the voice of the people of my native State, the highest judicial station in it. My long career as a Judge has received the approbation of the Democratic party in the re-nomination so generously and unanimously made by the State Convention. All my ambition is satisfied. I have but one wish left, and that is to return to the freedom and independence of private life. I do this with a grateful heart for the long continued confidence of my fellow citizens, and in the full trust that they will appreciate and approve of my motives.

Very Respectfully yours,

ELLIS LEWIS.

JUDGE THOMPSON.—From our exchanges we perceive the Democratic press of Western Pennsylvania are urging the claims of the Hon. JAMES THOMPSON, of Erie, for the office of Supreme Judge, made vacant by the resignation of Judge BLACK. The Judge is the most popular man in western Pennsylvania, and his election would be a just tribute for his services. *We* shall not vote for him, however, next election, as there is a "sectional line" between us.—*Buchaya Democrat.*

☞ The "*Western Argus*," is name of a new Democratic paper, the first number of which has reached us from Westfield, N. Y.—John F. Young, publisher! We hope it will live a thousand years, and have ten thousand paying subscribers.

☞ We are pleased to learn that, after a spirited canvass, our old friend LYMAN ROBINSON, Esq., has been re-elected Justice of the Peace in the borough of Wattsburg. Last fall, when Mr. R. threw off the trammels of old party ties, and voted for Buchanan and the Union, the Black Republicans swore by the *True American* and "Jesse," that they would defeat him; but although the borough has never been Democratic, the people determined to rebuke the slanders which have appeared in the columns of the *True American*, and hence this result. We congratulate that paper upon its tremendous influence.

☞ A Man named Lewis Watt, was run over and killed by the cars, near York, Pa., on Monday.

☞ McKNIGHT, the Buffalo forger, has been held to trial in bonds of $10,000—in default of which he was committed to jail.

☞ Lieut. John W. Sevier, formerly local reporter on the Memphis *News*, was killed in the recent battles in Nicaragua.

☞ The Manchester *American* learns from a reliable source that Gen. Pierce will return to New Hampshire about the middle of May next.

☞ Gen. Cass was confined to bed, during Monday, at Washington His complaint is not stated.

☞ The *Gazette* is urging upon our "city fathers" the construction of water works We hope it will succeed in converting them all to Hydropathy.

☞ The late Mr Zimmerman's will was made in 1854, and leaves all his property, some $750,000, to his two sons. All the real estate is to be sold

☞ Rindernecht has got to selling Groceries again. You can't keep him from it—no more than you can learn old birds new tricks Look in at his new Stock in Beatty's Block.

☞ Johnston & Bro, are now "spreading themselves" in the Reed House. Phœnix-like they arise from the flames as good as new, and a little better.

It is stated that Hon. Thaddeus Stevens intends stumping the State this campaign.—*Exchange.*

That is nothing, he "stumped" the devil once by throwing his conscience at him.

☞ The dwelling of Daniel Denison, Esq, in Elk county, was burned down last week, with all its contents Mrs D was badly burned in attempting to save some papers in an upper room.

☞ Two of the most attractive places in town to the Ladies, is Blake's Bonnet Rooms and the Post Office. Sometimes we think one is ahead, and then we think it's 'tother; at the present writing, however, bounets are a little in the *rear*

☞ The *Germantown Telegraph* commenced its twenty-eighth volume on the 18th inst. The Erie *Observer* will do "that same" on the 16th of May, and before that time we want every body to come up to the Captain's office and settle

☞ The *Gazette* pledges Erie county for 3000 for Wilmot Who would have thought that our intense *proto Gee* neighbor would thus turn "free trader," and pledge his county to the same doctrine. But times change, and so has the *Gazette*.

☞ There is a proposition before the Legislature to increase the Governor's salary. We go for that! There is another before the people to place a man with more brains in the Executive chair. We go for *that, too*; and therefore support Packer!

☞ Mr SMITH, paymaster of the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad, was robbed at Steubenville, of $1,800 on the 14th inst. He put his money in a carpet bag, and allowed it *to be* stowed away at the hotel with other baggage When called for it was missing. Served him right; he had no business to be so careless

Mr. SCHOONMAKER, late Auditor of the Bank Department at Albany, is a defaulter to the N. Y. Central Railroad in the sum of $45,000 Mr. S. used to have the reputation of an honest man, but bad company in Albany was too much for him. It ruined Forsyth,—captivated Matteson, and many another Seward man

☞ ELLIOTT E. LANE, Esq, a brother of Miss LANE, and nephew of President BUCHANAN died suddenly, in Lancaster on Thursday morning, of inflammation of the bowels contracted, it is said, at the National Hotel in Washington He was a young gentleman of fine character, and is said to have been quite a favorite of the President.

This (the Dred Scott decision) is an end of the Free Soil party.—*Erie Observer.*

Yes; the but end!—*Warren Mail.*

Our idea exactly. It will sort the "Brains" out of the Democratic party, unless its leaders repudiate the decision, of which there is not the slightest probability.—*Fredonia Censor.*

Perhaps; but even then we shall be as well off as the Republican party; it never had any "brains" to "but" out.

☞ One Charley Traveller, a colored man, lectured to a meagre crowd at Park Hall—mostly colored—on Thursday evening. A democratic friend who was there, says that notwithstanding the "shrieks" of the "freedom shriekers," and the nomination of Wilmot, the space which should have been occupied by our Abolition brethren of the quill, presented a "beggarly account of empty boxes" In a word, those political agitators "*war'nt thar.*" Perhaps, playing porter to Fred Douglas last year did'nt pay, and hence none of 'em are willing to try it this! Sensible, for once!

☞ The Fredonia *Censor* heads an article thus—"Kansas—*Removal* of Geary and Appointment of a Southerner." How much of truth there is in this, is apparent from the fact that Geary was not "removed," but resigned, and that Walker who succeeds him was born and raised in Pennsylvania, and *now* resides in New York. We are almost tempted to join the New York *Express* in saying that "Free Schools, that teach reading and writing, are but curses where only papers of this kind are taken. If the people could not read nor write,—they would get at the truth in *hearing* both sides."

☞ The Bridgeport *Farmer* says when the constitution was formed, every State tolerated slavery—and the "encroachments of the slave power" have increased the number *from thirteen to fifteen*—while the encroachments of the free power have increased the number of free States from *naught* to *seventeen*. This shows a horrible state of things—an *alarming proclivity* to make slavery *national* and freedom *sectional*—"Ring the bell!" "Turn the grind stone!"—"Fire the alarm gun!"

Pen and Scissor Items.

☞ The Prairie State Bank, of Illinois, is defunct. Stand from under, more coming.

☞ Connecticut holds her election for Governor, Congress, &c., on Monday, April 6.

☞ The American *Agriculturist* is a capital monthly—one that every farmer ought to take.

☞ The London Punch has a pitiless and bitter obituary notice of the late Preston S Brooks.

☞ A Man named Lewis Watt, was run over and killed by the cars, near York, Pa., on Monday.

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