



TERMS:

The "Huntingdon Journal" is published at the following rates, viz: \$1.75 a year, if paid in advance...

No subscription taken for less than six months, and no paper discontinued until all arrears are paid...

Hon. S. CALVIN will please accept our thanks for favors from Washington.

Holiday Presents.

Those of our friends who desire to make Holiday presents, are referred to the cards of Jas. T. Scott, and Neff & Miller...

GREAT NEWSPAPER SALE.—We learn that over 80,000 copies of the Mammoth Pictorial Brother Jonathan for Christmas and New Years were sold during the month of November...

Christmas.

This is Christmas day! What an animating announcement for the ears of the young. What an innumerable number of youthful hearts have been longing for the dawn of this glorious day...

Poor House.

For the information of the citizens of the county generally, we would state that petitions are now circulating and being numerously signed, praying the Legislature to authorize the Commissioners of Huntingdon County to purchase a farm and erect thereon a County Poor House...

Doings of Congress.

There still continues to be no organization of the House, and as a consequence, no message from the President. It is idle to recapitulate the ballottings, for they afford no indication of the sentiments of the members...

Charge to Naples.

Jas. M. Power, Esq., has declined the appointment of Charge to Naples, and E. Joy Morris, Esq., appointed in his place. We regret to learn that Mr. Power was constrained to decline this appointment on account of the delicate state of his health.

The Blue Hen's Chicken.

A paper published in Delaware, where slavery now exists, but is becoming very unpopular, thus speaks of Congress:—

CONGRESS.—This body has been in session since Monday week—have had about 40 ballottings and have not yet elected a Speaker. The main cause is that the Southern men want to extend the course of slavery, instead of promoting the cause of Liberty...

While disorganization thus continues to hold sway in the House, the Senate is fairly under way, having communicated to the President the fact of their organization and readiness to cooperate in the transaction of Executive business.

DICKINSON SEMINARY, WILLIAMSPORT, PA.—Rev. Charles McClay, Agent for this institution, has sent us a catalogue for 1848-9. From it we would judge that the institution is in a flourishing condition—the total number of pupils being 210. It was opened in September 1849, under the patronage of the Baltimore and Philadelphia conferences of the M. E. Church.

The purpose in view embrace a liberal course of education, so as to qualify the students for teaching, for any department of business, or for admission to any college. The agent, Mr. McClay will visit this place the present week, and will preach in the M. E. Church, in this place on Saturday evening next.

Some of the members of Congress are getting desperately short of cash, and their washerwomen and boarding-house keepers have to call on their reserved fund for patience in consequence. The members, it seems, cannot draw their appropriations till the House is organized.

The hands in the employ of the State at the Parkesburg shop, stopped work on Thursday, the 6th inst., in consequence of not having received money for several months. So says the Columbia Spy. Who is keeping the poor laborers out of their money now, we wonder?

A Sabbath convention at York, Pa., on the 5th inst., Hon. Samuel G. Bonham, presiding, adopted a memorial to the Legislature, requesting that all the locks on the canals be closed, and the running of the cars on the railroads in the State be suspended on the Sabbath day.

The editor of a country paper says that he never saw but one ghost and that was the ghost of a sinner who died without paying for his paper.—'T was terrible to look upon—the ghost of Hamlet wasn't a circumstance.'

PETER PRINGS.—The Catholic Magazine gives the amount of contributions for the Pope from the United States, as \$26,018 00.

Mr. Collector Lewis.

The Perry Freeman, in alluding to the fact that a few Whig papers are urging the rejection of Wm. D. Lewis, Esq., Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, so fully expresses our own views, that we adopt the remarks of that paper in relation to this matter.

First.—Mr. Lewis' rejection, or the attempt of a portion of the conductors of the Whig press to secure it, might tend to embarrass the Administration of Gen. Taylor—a course of policy certainly not desired even by those who may not think favorably of Mr. Lewis' official action in relation to appointments, &c.

Second.—Mr. Lewis may yet remedy any errors of omission or commission, which are, or may be the grounds of complaint against him by our respectable and zealous co-laborers in the good Whig cause.

For these reasons, candidly stated and honestly entertained, we do hope that no Whig will attempt, in any way, to defeat the confirmation of Mr. Lewis. For we cannot now see that any good could result from it. If, in our opinion, a bad business to advocate the rejection of the Presidential nominations. The work may be carried too far, if it is introduced by the Whigs. Gen. Taylor's nominations must be sustained by all who would sustain his Administration.

BACK-BITING.—A spirited article, commendatory of this nefarious vice, appears in the last Blair County Whig. Those addicted to the practice in Hollidaysburg will, we hope, be benefited by this just and withering rebuke.—We rejoice to believe that we live in a community so entirely free from the despicable habit of back-biting, that it is altogether unnecessary for us to publish any strictures on the subject.

We neglected to notice in our last that the "Whig" and "Standard" of Hollidaysburg had both decided against us "in the matter" pending before the editor of the "Register" and ourself—of course! It is strange that the common jealousy of Huntingdon entertained by the people of Hollidaysburg, should be so strong as to even warp the judgment of the editors of that place! Why, brethren, if Huntingdon is rapidly advancing, and Hollidaysburg standing still, we can't help it. You need not spit your spite at us. It is but the natural result of a train of circumstances, for which we should not be held responsible—not having the vanity to suppose that we ever did anything to produce them.

Executive Interference.

The non-interference of the President in the affairs of the House of Representatives is construed by some of the opposition journals into an acknowledgement of weakness. 'Among all the recusants,' says one of these journals, referring to the impracticables of the House, 'he has not been able to change a single vote.'

The charge betrays more than it imputes. A familiarity with the usages and modes of corruption is often intimated unconsciously, and never more strongly or more suspiciously than when the upright course of another is ascribed to such lack of power or means as alone could keep the accuser honest.

The President, we may presume, in view of his constitutional duties, does not consider himself called upon to interfere in one way or another with the organization of the House. The people elected the members of that body, and if they have sent representatives there who will not put themselves in a condition to transact the public business, the constituencies have no one to blame but themselves. The President is not responsible. He is ready to do his part, whenever Congress is prepared to come into its proper sphere and perform its allotted functions.—Lancaster Exam.

Suicide of a Unitarian Minister.

The Rev. James H. Perkins, Pastor of the Unitarian church, in this city, committed suicide last night, by jumping from a ferry boat into the River, whilst crossing. He left his hat, cloak and memorandum book on board. It was the impression he was laboring under temporary insanity. He was much esteemed by all who knew him, and leaves an interesting family to mourn his untimely end.

THE MORRIS STATE BANK.—The three indictments growing out of the failure of the State bank at Morris, N. J., one being against six of the directors for conspiracy, one against the President for perjury, and one against the cashier for the same offence, were called up in the Court of Oyer and Terminer, at Morristown, and on application of Counsel, removed to the Supreme Court.

The Capitol of Alabama was consumed by fire on the 15th inst. The public documents and books in the libraries were saved, together with the principal portion of the furniture. The building is represented as having been very beautiful.

The Ohio Senate still continues disorganized, although it commenced its attempts to organize on the 1st Monday of the month. The Hamilton County Senator causes the difficulty. The Speaker pro tem. recognizes the Locofoco claimant, but the whole body of the whigs refuse to vote for Speaker under such circumstances.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—The 'Willow Bank Mill,' situated in Elizabeth township, Lancaster county, and owned by Mr. Elias Eby, was destroyed by fire on the 10th inst. There was about 15,000 bushels of grain stored in it.

Loss, \$12,000; of which \$2,000 only is covered by insurance.

THE ROTHEILDS.—The N. Y. Tribune says that the Messrs. Rothelds have concluded to establish a branch of their house in that city, at the head of which will be placed the young Rothchild, son of the Paris brother, who came to this country last year. We understand that although young he already evinces much of the financial acumen which distinguishes this family. The details of the arrangements, and what relation the present agent will bear to the new house have not yet been settled.

Post Office Robberies.

As we expected (says the Carlisle Herald,) most of the recent Post Office depredations can be traced home to the locofoco ranks, just as was the Susquehanna Bank swindle. The new administration has been foully abused for the small number of removals it has made, but as facts now show, the public safety would have been better secured by a few more still. Young Gearhart, who recently robbed the Danville Post Office, is as we learn from the Danville Democrat, a regular locofoco, and last week Wm. S. Hunt, the Post Master at Erwinna, Bucks county, whom the mistaken kindness of the administration had retained in office, was also arrested for depredations upon the mails! Hunt was arrested through the vigilance and energy of Col. Ottinger, of Bedford county, one of the most active agents of the Department. Suspicion having rested upon him, Col. Ottinger mailed a letter at Philadelphia, containing an amount of counterfeit bills, addressed to Mauch Chunk. He found that it got no further than Erwinna. He promptly arrested Hunt, who afterwards confessed his crime and was committed to prison. He has heretofore borne a good character, and has stood high among the Democracy. He was a candidate for the nomination for Sheriff in Bucks county in 1818, and again for county Commissioner in 1849, and if nominated for either would have been elected. He has held a commission of Postmaster for many years, and had the administration dared to remove him, there would have been no end to the groans it would have occasioned.

We hope that in all cases of mail depredations the politics of the thief may be published. The locofoco press has been endeavoring to cast suspicion on the new appointments, and the public want to know when robberies are committed whether the offenders are locofocos or Whigs. If the latter, let all the punishment and odium be visited upon them that they merit. But justice demands that when depredations are committed by locofoco officers who have not been removed, the fact should be made known and the administration relieved of all odium.

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The "Union Right or Wrong."

The above is the sentiment of HENRY CLAY. It is a glorious, patriotic, American sentiment, and will find a hearty response in every true American heart. Now, that a few Southern factionists and traitors are threatening dissolution in the Capitol, it becomes the lovers of Liberty and Union to speak out in such tones as will cause these plotters of treason to hide their heads in shame.

Immediately after the Southern members, Meade and Toomes, had hurled their impotent threats against the Union in the House last week, amid an effort at applause from the southern Locofoco members, Col. BAKER, the Whig member from Illinois, rose and raised his voice for the Union. His remarks were received with such a shout of applause from the Whig side, and the galleries, as fairly shook the dome of the Capitol. We give an extract from this eloquent speech. Col. Baker said:

Gentlemen, when you threaten a dissolution of the Union, we shall doubt. When you protest, we shall disclaim; but no fervid declarations, no fiery appeals to southern feeling, no solemn invocations to the Almighty, (as if indeed he was a God of discord,) will make us believe that here, in this Hall, there is one man who chambers in his secret heart a purpose so accursed and so deadly. Sir, we do not believe that the Union can ever be dissolved. No evidence shall convince us, until the deed is done; yet if such a thing be possible it shall not be our fault. We shall not be intimidated by threats of violence. We shall not shrink from the calm expression of our deliberate judgement. We are here as freemen, to speak for freemen, and we will speak and act as becomes us, in the face of the world and of posterity. Gentlemen, who is there among us, amid all this talk of dissolution, that does not love the Union? Is there a man in this vast assemblage, who, on the coolest reflection, would not give his blood to cement it? Is not this our country, and is it not all our country?—[Applause.] Sir, I confess this response gladdens my heart; and already I reproach myself that I could waver in my confidence but for a moment. It was a mournful spectacle to a true minded man, when threats of disunion, fierce and bitter, could draw forth shouts of applause from gentlemen on the other side of the House, as triumphant as if disunion were glory, and as if, indeed, the threat were already accomplished. And yet, sir, the echo contradicts the utterance. This shout for the Union will be taken up by the masses until it becomes a perpetual anthem of hope and joy. It will swell among the mountains of the north, and travel with the winds across the prairies of the West. It will reverberate through all the vast extensions of the confederacy, and be repeated by a thousand advancing generations. Sir, in the name of the men of the north so rudely attacked, and speaking what I know to be their sentiments, I say a dissolution of the Union is, must be, shall be, impossible, as long as an American heart beats in an American bosom, or the Almighty sends His wisdom and His goodness to guide and bless us.

Empire Decision.

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania made, a few weeks since, the following important decision under the new law for protecting the rights of married women. 1. The guardianship of females under age is terminated by marriage, and the husband, before the act of 1848, relative to the rights of married women, might call on the guardian to settle his account, and pay him the balance; but that act has worked a radical change in the condition of married women.—

2. By the act of 1848, a married woman must be considered as single, in regard to any estate of whatever name or sort owned by her before marriage, or which shall accrue to her during marriage, in any way; and the husband is not entitled to the possession of his wife's funds.—

3. The consent of the wife that the husband shall have her funds, being a minor, is of no avail.

VERY NAUGHTY.—The Boston Herald heard an abolitionist say, the other day, "that he wished the Lord would rain down the gun cotton preparation on the cotton fields of the south let it dry in, and then send down a shaft of lightning to blow up the whole country to glory!" Hold him!

CASE OF DR. PARKMAN.—The Coroner's jury have returned a verdict that the remains found in the Massachusetts Medical College are parts of the body of DR. PARKMAN, and that he was killed by Dr. JOHN W. WEBSTER.

CHURCH AND STATE.—The Frankfort Commonwealth says that the Convention now having under revision the Constitution of the State of Kentucky, have inserted a clause, by a vote of 76 yeas to 17 nays, declaring preachers and ministers of the Gospel ineligible to seats in the Legislature.

MILLERISM AND INSANITY.—The New Hampshire Asylum for the Insane was opened for the reception of patients, in the autumn of 1842. The first one received was rendered insane by the doctrine of the end of the world in 1843, generally called Millerism. During the seven years it has been in operation, 22 have been sent thence from the same cause.—Western News Letter.

The Legislature of this State will meet at Harrisburg on Tuesday the 1st day of January next.

The Editors of Easton, Allentown, and several other places make it a rule to issue no papers on Christmas week.

Slavery and the Union—Threats of Dissolution.

From the N. Y. Tribune.

For several years the right of the people of these States to petition their Representatives in Congress was practically disallowed and annulled, so far as any portion of said people saw fit to exercise that right with any sort of relation to Slavery. By the influence of Slavery, acting through its own Representatives and upon the hopes and fears of others, this serious abridgment of a fundamental Right was effected. The Free States renounced, established, and in a legal, peaceful manner, resisted, but they never threatened to dissolve the Union.—At no time were those who threatened or contemplated dissolution a twentieth part of the voters of the Free States.

As early as 1834-5, intrigues looking to the annexation of Texas to the Slave holding end of the Union were commenced, and thence unremittingly pursued until crowned with complete success in 1845. By this consummation Slavery obtained an accession of territory exceeding the entire area of the Revolutionary States now free and containing seven millions of people. Slavery obtained by this accession two Senators and two Representatives in Congress, with the raw material for half a dozen future States. And it was distinctly avowed by her champion Calhoun, then holding the commanding position of U. S. Secretary of State, that our Government embarked in this Annexation crusade for the purpose of fortifying, securing and perpetuating Human Slavery.

That whatever of moral sense and enlightened conscience there was in the Free States should resist this perversion of our common Government to sectional and revolting ends, was inevitable. Before the self-styled "Democracy" had been formerly involved in it by its Baltimore Convention of 1844, its journals and other authentic utterances were vehement in denouncing the project. It was characterized as "black as ink and bitter as hell" by a leading journal of New Hampshire which was in full cry for "Polk, Dallas and Texas" was months afterward, and this is a fair sample of the spirit in which the plot was regarded by the Northern "Democracy." The Locofoco Members of the Massachusetts Legislature united in resolutions denouncing the Annexation project in the most unqualified terms. In our State, the opposition of Van Buren, Wright, Bryant, Walker and the greater portion of their leaders of the "Democracy" was equally determined and definite. Yet they bowed to the Baltimore flat, and keeping as still as possible about Texas and Slavery, carried the State for Polk and Dallas. By Polk's influence and patronage, Annexation was driven through Congress, receiving a bare majority of votes in the Senate.

The Free spirit of the North was shocked, it was outraged; but how many of us talked of dissolving the Union? What one State, among which had resisted Annexation as the remedy? Next came war with Mexico—the natural fruit of Annexation. It was foreseen, foretold, deemed inevitable. "Annexation and War with Mexico are identical," was the warning seasonably uttered by Mr. Clay. Mr. Van Buren said substantially the same; so did many others. Not, indeed, that War might not have been avoided after annexation, but that it would not. The spirit that impelled to the first wrong would be certain not to stop at that. The appetite for acquisition would be sharpened, not sated, by its first gratification. So it proved.

Nothing could have tried the fidelity of Northern men of conscience to the Union more severely than this War. Having observed and resisted all the steps by which it had been reached, they felt conviction of its atrocity and inexorable perfidy which language can but faintly express. They resisted it, of course; not only by endeavoring to drive its authors from power; they resisted as loyal freemen; not as disorganizers or factionists; they interposed no obstacle to the constitutional action of the Government; they paid their taxes without resistance or scruple; no considerable, scarcely an audible fraction of them talked of dissolving the Union. Perplexed, distracted, revolting at the daily spectacle of their blood and treasure lavished in the prosecution of a war they knew to be unjust and detestable, they still clung with unshaken tenacity to the ark of Nationality wherein their fathers had found peace and security.

The scene changes. New and spacious conquests from our feeble and disastertous foe become inevitable. The Representatives of the Free States in the House—some moved by principle, others by shame, and many by fear of their constituents—unite in a declaration that no territory acquired by us shall in our hands become Slave Territory. The propriety of this was urgent, yet the notification was reasonable. If the South did not choose to prosecute the war for the sake of Free Soil, she had, thro' the President, the effectual control of the Government, and might stop it at any time. Indeed her President need not recall our troops within our own boundaries, and it would be stopped at once. The South chose to have the war go on.

Nation had in former years acquired Louisiana, Florida, Texas—all upholding Slavery. We heard nothing about the pretended compromise with regard to Slavery in Texas. The South had uniformly assumed that territory whereof Slavery was the law when acquired must remain Slaveholding after its acquisition—not a part of it; but the whole. It is a poor rule that does not work at least as well for Freedom as for Slavery. When they were about to divide Texas in 1845 they scouted the proposition. With what face then, do they ask us to divide New Mexico and California?

But, argument failing, and strength moving inadequate, we are now to be overborne by threats. The dissolution of the Union is openly, hourly threatened in Congress if the Wilmot Proviso be applied to the new Territories; threatened by men who are eager for fight if any one calls them Disunionists. Their fondness for the thing seems to run parallel with their hatred of the name.

What is this execrated Wilmot Proviso? Simply a provision that Slavery shall not be extended to and established in territory where it has no legal existence. It does not touch Slavery where it now is, or has any right to be. It simply provides that it will not diffuse itself elsewhere—shall not subject new realms to its sway.

Thomas Jefferson, a slaveholder and the representative of slaveholders, originated this proviso in 1784, when it was adopted, by a Congress representing Slave States almost exclusively. It was then applied not to legally Free but to Slave Territory—to the territory north-west of the Ohio, ceded by Virginia to the Confederation, and now forming the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, &c. Slaveholders voted that the magnificent domain should be freed from slavery forever, without suspecting that they were betraying the South or doing wrong to any one. They lived too near the days of the revolution to imagine or assert that "slavery is the corner-stone of our political edifice," or regard its perpetuation as one of the cardinal duties of our Government. What slaveholders did without a murmur with respect to Slave Territory, we propose now to do with respect to Free Territory. Is that aggression? But they say they will dissolve the Union.—Who will? The slaveholders? They are but one-fourth of the free white voters of the slave States. Admit that these would desire to do

it, will the other three-fourths let them? Why should the eight hundred thousand adult free men in the slave States, who own no slaves, consent to break up the Union because the two hundred thousand slaveholders chafe in California and New Mexico? What interest have these non-slaveholders in the extension of slavery? What good would it do them? Even if they want to become slaveholders, will such extension reduce the price of negroes? Is it not urged as a measure calculated to increase that price? And if they wish to remain as they are, why should they wish slavery extended? How is any man not a slave owner or overseer profited by slavery? He should pour out his blood for it? See southern Illinois and Iowa flooded with poor white men who have fled from cheaper land and a more genial climate in Slave States, to settle where they can till the earth and follow the mechanic arts without being degraded by the competition of chattels. Mark in how large measure the Military Bounty Lands won by the services of southern men (but rarely slaveholders) in the Mexican war have been located in free States. Why should these non-slaveholders desire the extension of Slavery? Rely on it, they will be inflamed and exasperated by cries that the North is struggling to degrade them, deprive them of their rights, &c., but when you come to ask them to dissolve the Union because Slavery is not allowed to enter the new territories, they will think twice before they do it. It is easy to be deceived in this matter. The Southern Press is the mouth-piece of the slave-holding aristocracy; Southern meetings are got up, officered and managed by them. Men who fancy their means of living depend on the free market, seem to join in the hurrahs for disunion, but they can never mean it. They will show you so when the time comes for action.

We think some Northern members made a mistake when they suffered themselves to be bullied into reconsidering God's Resolution last winter. They doubtless acted as they thought for the best, but their course was an invitation to more bluster and new threats of dissolving the Union. We know it is best to avoid or allay jealousy by a conciliatory course; but the truth must be spoken, even when it has an edge. That resolution was true, and the judgement of the country so affirmed. Being true and not irrelevant, it should have been stood by. Giving it up invites farther dictation.

We would not pass such a resolution nor enact the Wilmot Proviso except to some practical end. Show us that; either is needless and we waive its abstract soundness. Show us how Freedom is to gain and not lose by waiving the Proviso, and we are ready to waive it, as we offered to last winter if we might thereby wrest New Mexico from the grasp of Texas. But the slavery propagandists do not make all this uproar for an abstraction. They mean to force a compromise which will surrender a portion of the territories to slavery. That must be resisted at all hazards.

The Union of the States.

The newspapers are now so full of discussions in which the integrity of the Union is involved, as a question to be considered, that it may be well to remind the agitators who are fond of speculating upon the probabilities of such an event, that the thing is utterly impossible. It might save a great deal of bold talk and bluster if this fact were always kept in mind.

So long as threats of disunion are likely to create alarm in the public mind so long will they be resorted to for political effect. But let it once be understood that such threats are idle, and that those who indulge in them are in a fair way to make themselves ridiculous—that the unity of this Republic is a primary fact from which our whole political system takes its character and pursues its destiny—that the continuance of such unity is postulate, not to be argued about, nor requiring proof, not admitting of doubt—that any theory of disunion is as absurd as it would be to suppose that the body of a man might be severed in two and both parties remain alive—if these things were rightly appreciated it might then follow that the public councils of the country would be relieved from much useless confusion, to the great benefit of the public business and to the promotion of the national welfare.

The profound assurance which dwells in the public mind, in relation to the security of the Union, is so intimately blended with the very elements of our political being, that all the efforts of all the agitators, in different sections of the country, have not been able to disturb the calm serenity of that assurance or to excite alarm. Moderation and forbearance are usually the characteristics of conscious strength, and we doubt not that the great National Party which may be summoned in due time to put down disorganizers from whatever quarter they may come will be as magnanimous as it must be powerful. It will breathe the true spirit of the Constitution; it will remember what is due to every portion of the Union; it will cherish the sentiment of national fraternity while its stern rebuke falls upon the factions that may seek to obliterate that sentiment. The question of slavery and other questions may have their proper prominence, but the integrity of the Union, with its high supremacy, must rule paramount over all.—Balt. American.

SENSIBLE.—Several marriage notices lately sent for publications, were accompanied by requests to enter the bridegroom's names on our list of subscribers.—[Bucks Co. Intelligencer.]

This we call a sensible remark, and no mistake. It is not to be expected that every young man shall take a paper while living in his father's house; but when he is about to forsake it and "cleave unto a wife," if he can content himself without a paper in the house, we warn all the dear ladies to be cautious, and remedy the defect in their lord's character as soon as possible. So says the Pottstown Ledger.

Falling in Love.—Getting knocked down with a frying pan by the wife of a