

Huntingdon Journal.



Wednesday Morning, November 28, 1855.
WILLIAM BREWSTER, & EDITORS.
SAM. G. WHITTAKER.

Proposed State Convention.

We see it stated by a number of papers in this State that efforts are being made for the holding of a State Convention in this borough to be composed of the Anti-Nebraska Editors in Pennsylvania, for the purpose of uniting on a common platform in opposition to the National Administration. Said Convention to be held on the 19th of December, 1855. We have not given this subject much consideration, but we believe if properly carried out, would result in much good. If the anti-administrationists will but unite, forgetting the petty differences of opinions or views which they may have, the result would be such a powerful combination as would effectually wrest from inexperience and inexperienced individuals, the good old ship of State. Let us hear the sentiment of the press.

From the Old World.

By the arrival at Halifax of the steamer Canada, we have Liverpool advices to the 10th. The ridiculous war excitement in England had subsided, and the newspapers which created it are endeavoring to shuffle off the responsibility for what they have done. The British Secretariate for the Colonies is still vacant. Unfriendly relations have arisen between Great Britain and Spain on account of the expulsion of a British subject from Cuba, in April last, and the appointment by Spain of a notorious old trader, as Governor of Fernando Po. There was another rumor of an attempt to assassinate the Emperor Napoleon, but it arose from the accidental dropping and explosion of a pistol from a dragon's holster.

General Canrobert is pressing Sweden for a positive answer, whether she will join actively the Western alliance. A bombardment of Nikolaiopolis is said to have commenced on the 29th of October, and continued through the following day. The Russian and French Emperors are said to favor a renewal of the negotiations for peace. A reconnoissance of the Allies from Eupatoria on the 22d, resulted in their encouering and offering battle to a large Russian force; but the latter retired after a brief cannoneade. The allies burned three villages and one town, besides many farm houses, and returned to Eupatoria. The Russian army in the Crimea has just received provisions for six months. Omar Pacha has commenced his advance on Kutais. A French camp of 50,000 men is being formed at Siliestr. It is said that the Sultan will visit Paris and London in the spring.

Pope Pius has written a letter to Archbishop Hughes, concerning the Catholic Church in the United States, in which he says: "But that you may provide more easily for the wants of your dioceses, and may be able to have skillful and industrious laborers who can help you in cultivating the vineyard of the Lord, we most earnestly wish, as we have already intimated to some of your order, (who o'er our no common gratification were in Rome on the occasion of our dogmatic definition of the Immaculate Conception of the Mother of God,) that comparing your advice, and uniting your resources, you would please to erect in this our fair city of Rome a college appropriated to the clergy of your nation! For your wisdom will instruct you how great advantages may be found to your dioceses from an institution of that kind."

Hon. Henry M. Fuller.

The Danville Democrat has an able article urging the election of Mr. Fuller as Speaker of Congress. It says, and most truly, that his past conspicuous political career has so amply developed all the striking popular elements of his nature, that he has been named recently by several of our contemporaries for the Presidency of 1856. What eminence is reserved in the future for Mr. Fuller, we will not even guess at; but looking only to the present—recognizing his worth and fitness, and his strong claims as a purely national man—we urge him for the Speakership.

The mere fact that such enlistments have taken place in a country forms a precedent and an excuse for a future time. It places the country in an unenviable delicate position, and involves disagreeable explanation. Where had been delighting in for a season. It is suggestive of an extra pair of blankets of nights, a grateful thought of blazing coal fires, griddles full of smokin' g buckwheat cakes, and easy comfort generally, including *taffy-pulling* parties. Some fellow who is *au fait* in these matters, says:

The Cincinnati Convention.

On last Thursday seven states in the Union united in general Thanksgiving and praise for the many blessings bestowed upon us as a people, and the many dire calamities which we have been spared.—In New England the observance of Christmas as a holiday is very light indeed, but Thanksgiving is of all the year the most disastrous to turkeys, pumpkin pies and good things generally. It is a time when old feuds are forgotten for the nonce; families that have been separated all the year assemble around the blazing hearth and family board, and every thrifty New England housewife indulges in commendable rivalry with her neighbor in procuring the good things of the land for Thanksgiving dinner. Some States, it will be noticed, observe the 16th, others the 22d, and still others the 29th of November; but all agree on the same day of the week.

We have often heard the question asked, "Why is it that Thanksgiving Day is always made to come on Thursday?" It has been so in former years and this year, although the Governors of some of the States fix on different days of the month, they all agree on the same day of the week. A question is started that has never been discussed, at least to our knowledge; any suggestions, therefore, we make, must be taken for what they are worth. The custom of annual Thanksgiving arose, we believe, among the Puritans of New England. As they were a Christian people, about to establish a Christian festival, we may reasonably suppose they took the history of Christianity for a precedent. If any one will read over the XXVI chapter of Matthew, he will see why they considered Thursday the appropriate day for this purpose. The time of the Jewish Passover depended on the state of the moon and an astronomy was then but little cultivated it could not always be fixed with accuracy, Hence it is a disputed point whether our Saviour ate the Pasover in the year of the Crucifixion or not. It is certain, however, that on the Thursday evening before, they ate that memorable supper at which the Sacrament of the Eucharist was instituted.

Taylor & Cremer's Nursery.
We invite the attention of the public to the advertisement of the nursery of our enterprising townsmen, Messrs Taylor & Cremer. This nursery is decidedly one of the most extensive and beautiful ones we ever saw, and we may safely say, the thrifty condition it is in tells plainly that the gentlemen are thoroughly acquainted with their business. It is an ornament to our county, and persons desirous of procuring plants or trees of any description, can be accommodated with as good ones as grow in the State. Read the advertisement on the advertising page.

Proceedings of Court.

Commonwealth vs. Nicholas Gooshorn, Robert Gooshorn and Sam. B. McFeater.

These defendants were charged with malicious mischief. Not a true bill returned. Count to pay all costs.

Commonwealth vs. Washington Barkley, J. R. Hunter, Joseph Meredith, William Wilhelm Jacob Firebaugh, Lewis Helpright, Isaac Neff, Jr., Joseph Burkhamer, and William Shay, alias Irish Billy.

These defendants were charged with Riot, riot and pulling down house and riot and assault and battery. True bill in the first three counts of indictment, except as to John R. Hunter. Not a true bill as to John R. Hunter, and do not find on the fourth count. After a hearing the defendants are found guilty of riot on three counts. Sentence—William Wilhelm a fine of \$20, and each of the other defendants \$15 and costs of prosecution.

Commonwealth vs. Richard Trout and John Dunlop.

The defendants were charged with assault and battery. Verdict—not guilty, and that J. Dunlop pay a fine of one cent, and costs of prosecution.

Thanksgiving Day.

The weather was quite favorable to the enjoyment of thanksgiving day. All the places of business were closed, and our good citizens were out in all the smiles of a holiday, to promenade and enjoy the bracing air. Genuine pleasure shone among the home delights of many a family circle, gathered around the festive board—*frolic* play and the demolition of pumpkins being no drawbacks to the general enjoyment.

The day passed off without any display of drunkenness, disorder or rowdyism, but at night observed a trio of young blackguards, exulting in the possession of "five gallon keg," making night bedevils. The various churches were numerously attended in the morning and evening, and several very eloquent sermons, appropriate to the occasion, were delivered.

The Mercury Down.

The cold snap of yesterday was in striking contrast with the balmy Indian Summer which had been delighting in for a season. It is suggestive of an extra pair of blankets of nights, a grateful thought of blazing coal fires, griddles full of smokin' g buckwheat cakes, and easy comfort generally, including *taffy-pulling* parties. Some fellow who is *au fait* in these matters, says:

Spring has passed o'er us since a year ago, Summer has crowned us with her perfumed flowers;

Autumn our stomachs satisfied—and snow Will soon suggest new flannel shirts and drawers.

And gloves and warmer counterpanes—a cup Of something hot at night, and "tucking up."

Splendid Books.

We invite attention to the advertisements in another column of Messrs. Pierce & Co.

Also Henry W. Law's, Robertson's History of America, &c., most magnificent works. We have received the books and we are much pleased with them.

See advertisements.

YOUNG AMERICA, OR YANKEE DOODLE—is the title of a new paper proposed to be published in New York, by T. W. Strong, at \$2.50 per annum. Its prospectus states that it is to be devoted to the annihilation of Old Fugitives, Haubum, Charlatanism, and all the ills the body politic is heir to.

GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE.—The December No. of this elegant work is before us. It contains an immense amount of reading, and some very elegant engravings, fashion plates, &c., &c.—Only \$3 per annum.

YANKEE NOTIONS.—This popular comical work, for December, has been received. It is an excellent *enmity* preventative, and we recommend it to all who desire to "laugh and g row fat."

Read the new Advertisements.

News of the Week.

Wonderful Snake Story.

There is a good deal of excitement in Rockingham county, N. C., on account of a snake having been seen which has a human head.—The animal was only seen by a son of Mr. O. B. Stone. He first saw it at his father's pentine still. His father, to whom he attempted to point the monster, was never able to see it, though the boy declared it was under his feet. Several attempts were made by the boy to shoot him, but the different guns he used would never explode when he pointed in the direction of the snake, though they would, if turned another way. The father in a letter to the Madison, N. C. Democrat says:

"Some of my neighbors came in again to see the snake, and to see if they could find any mark it made, so we sprinkled ashes all over the Still House, and in the hole where it always came in, and we laid my son, fast, so he could not make the track himself, in any way whatever, and then we left him tied in the Still House, by himself, and went away, and it was but a few moments before he let us know that the snake was in the Still House again, and we went to see if there was any mark; and behold there was a mark as broad as my hand where he came in and went out, and they were convinced it was something; I did not suffer Alfred to stay about the Still-House, but a little for whenever he goes there he is sure to see it, and it also appears to him in different parts of the farm but not so as it does at the Still House, and he was told to talk to it, and it would tell him what it wanted; and he said he asked it in the name of the Lord what it wanted, and he says it said to him that it wanted to destroy the Still-House, and sneaked off, so then to be convinced, I tied Alfred in the Still House again, and he was told to wear clover in his hat and then he could see what it was, and while he was tied in the Still House he had clover in his hair, and he saw the snake come and peep in the house, having a face, eyes, mouth, tongue and all, precisely like a man perfectly knew, and all but the head was precisely like a rattle snake, and it scared him prodigiously. Then on Sunday last, 28th Oct., there was a great many persons who came to my house, who doubted the reality of the mark of the snake, came to see if they could find the mark, and I tied Alfred again, in order that they might be convinced, all of them respectable men, saw the mark distinctly, and were convinced of the mark of the snake."

The truth of the statements contained in the farmer's letter to the Democrat, is attested by a dozen of the prominent men of Rockingham county, who saw the marks of the snake in the ashes, and know that the boy was tied too close to make it himself. The Democrat says that the boy is very much alarmed, and his health is fast giving way under the mental effects of this horrible delusion. This snake bids fair to rival the great Silver Lake serpent.

Daring Burglary—The Burglar Arrested.

A most exciting and daring burglary took place somewhere in New Garden, Chester county, very recently. A keeper of a store in that town, who was working early, long before day, with the intention of going to the city of Philadelphia. While moving about the house he heard a noise in his store, and going to the outside of the house found one of the panels of the store door broken in, and he immediately had the building surrounded by the forces he could muster, and then collected an additional from the immediate neighborhood, and the little army shouldered muskets and called loudly upon the robber, who they still heard within, to come forward and deliver himself up. Ist. The reason given why the bones of those who were crucified should be broken and their bodies taken down, was that was the Sabbath—that is, our Saturday. The Crucifixion, therefore, occurred on Friday, and the supper being the evening before was on Thursday, or the Jewish Friday, since their day began at sundown instead of midnight. It is, we suppose, because the Lord's Supper was eaten on Thursday that our stern and God fearing old puritan fathers fixed upon that day for Thanksgiving, and the custom has since become a permanent one among our States.

The British Recruiting Service.

Our readers will remember that we stated, several weeks since, on the authority of the *Koelische Zeitung*, that Mr. Curtis, the British Consul at Cologne, had been arrested and imprisoned on a charge of being accessory to the enlistment in Prussia of recruits for the English service. We learn by the Arago that he has been sentenced for this crime to three months' imprisonment and to a fine of fifty thalers—about \$37.50. In Vienna at present the large reward of one hundred gold ducats is being offered for such evidence as will lead to the conviction of those men who are to be condemned in iniquity into the wars of other nations those men who are needed at home. If the offence be weighed with regard to the evils which it inflicts on society, and the apparent complicity which it must frequently involve, candor must compel us to admit that no punishment as yet applied to it is sufficiently severe and that every possible means should be taken to manifest our disapprobation of it.

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