

Political.

SHAFFER ON FREMONT AND FILLMORE.

HUNTINGDON, Aug. 24, 1856.

MESSES EDITORS:—Will you please publish the following letter from the Hon. Chauncey Shaffer, of New York. I think a careful perusal of what is written therein will at least bring many of our friends to meditate thoughtfully before they can cast their votes for any man for President of the United States, who asks their suffrages and who does not distinctly define his position against the horrors of the Slave power. This black cloud of oppression, which is sweeping away all our free institutions; the free press, free speech, the ballot-box, and religious liberty, are all prostrated before the march of this devastating curse, and should a man be elected to begin the ruin where the present administration has left off, in four years more, don't be surprised to see your ministers of the Gospel torn from their pulpits in the Free States, as the Slave power did attempt to do in Virginia, not long since, and is now doing in Missouri and Kansas. I don't suppose that these outrages will always be confined to the Methodist Episcopal Church and her ministers; but may not the Protestant Churches expect the same fate, if it dares to preach against this sin.

I know that all Mr. Shaffer says upon the subject of admitting the Papists into the Convention over the Protestant delegation at Philadelphia, to be true. I there said to Gov. Johnston, Mr. Riddle and other gentlemen of the Convention that it seemed to be an African Convention.

Mr. Shaffer was a delegate in the New York Convention, in June last, and where every Northern State was represented, and acting upon the solemn obligation which every American understands, and there nominated Col. J. Charles Fremont, and on the very grounds that he was in heart and practice a Protestant, and that we all knew him to be so. Mr. Shaffer is a member of the Methodist Church in good standing, and no man in New York occupies a more elevated position as a man of talent and Christian gentleman.

Yours truly,
JOHN WILLIAMSON.

SARATOGA SPRINGS, Aug. 14, 1856.

U. DENN, Esq.—My Dear Sir: I have just received, by way of New York City, your note of the 9th inst., inclosing the following extract from the *Phila. Citizen*, to wit:

"COMING BACK TO WISCONSIN. Shaffer, who was one of the most prominent bolters from the Philadelphia American Convention, and who has been stamping the river counties in this State at the Fremont meetings, has returned to hearty support of Fillmore and Donelson."

Mr. Shaffer is an eloquent speaker, and was District Attorney in New York City. He belongs to the Methodist Church, and his recent conviction that Mr. Fremont is a Roman Catholic, is the reason why he withdrew his support from the Republicans. He has candidly examined all the evidence, for and against, which has appeared, and has looked closely into the statements of Palmer and the opposition against them, and declares that the evidence in favor of his being a Papist is conclusive, for which reason he cannot support him."

You assure me that the above is producing an impression in your region, and desire me to inform you whether it is true or not. I answer that it is a sheer fabrication, a "broadsheet."

That no further mischief may occur from the circulation of that article, I will set the matter of my preference of candidates right at once.

In the first place, I was not a prominent or other "bolter" from the Philadelphia American Convention. I was not a delegate to that Convention. There were reasons why I should not be a delegate. I had too much to do with me in doing the work of a pre-bis Council in Philadelphia assembled: too much to do against the slave propagandists at Philadelphia last August and was too little inclined to see Americanism sold out, to be considered a safe man to go to Philadelphia.

I stand as before against my will, I admit. Moreover, that Convention was not an "American" Convention.

As far as the North was concerned, it was a Silver-Gray Whig Convention; as far as the South was concerned, it was a Convention for the Propagation of Human Slavery, and the result was a compromise between two men, one of whom gloried in being the owner of a hundred slaves; and the other (Mr. Fillmore) in being a most subservient instrument of the Slave Power, as is manifestly proved by his course while acting as President of the United States; also by his speeches made during his Southern tour in pursuit of a re-nomination, as well as by his notification of Alabama and elsewhere on his return from his visit to the Pope.

Hence the leading Silver-Gray newspapers of the North (including the *New York Express*) claim Mr. Fillmore as the regular Whig nominee for the Presidency, while the South claims him as the champion of Southern rights, (meaning the extension of Southern Slavery by the action of the General Government) while Mr. Fillmore, to justify the claims the South, in effect says, "Elect me, or the South, that loves me so well, shall not remain in the Union."

As an American, I am not bound by the action of that Convention; rather, let me say, I cannot submit to be bound by its action, any more than can any free citizen of Connecticut, and of every New England State. The American party of Massachusetts, in solemn council assembled, has declared for Mr. Fremont, and nominated electors favorable to his election; and so has the State of Connecticut, and so will all New England do, (for New England has a history) and so will the American party of this State Whig, excepting at ways a portion of the Silver-Gray portion of that party. The latter portion will stand by Mr. Fillmore, notwithstanding he "has adopted the leading principles of that platform," the section of which commits the American party to Slavery extension under the guise of squatter sovereignty, because this "portion" came into the order with the design of retrieving the fallen fortunes of Mr. Fillmore, as is proved by the attempted ostracism of the liberal minded men of the Order, and by the threats proceeding and accompanying the Philadelphia Convention, that in the event of George Law's reelection, and in the event of the Presidency, they, with the Whig party proper, would nominate an out-and-out American Whig, (meaning Mr. Fillmore, I presume), and also by letters now in existence, and which, I hope, will yet be published.

I have not returned to the hearty support of Fillmore and Donelson, nor will I do any act or thing tending to sanction the outrages of Pro-Slavery, Nullification Border Ruffians, who in addition to their outrages in Missouri and Kansas, of themselves sufficient to turn the cheek of darkness pale, have, from 1852 until now, wrested the high powers of the nation from their legitimate purpose to the strengthening of the Slave Oligarchy.

There are other objections to my supporting Mr. Fillmore, founded upon the fact stated by the *Citizen*, that I belong to the Methodist Church.

The church owes Slavery no particular good-will, for Slavery has rent that church in twain; has imprisoned women for teaching the slave to read the Bible, and has sought in every way to destroy that church, as being the opponent of Slavery most to be feared. Let facts speak. Last winter a minister of the Methodist Church in Missouri, was arrested while in the pulpit by a gang of men (who, if they live, will probably vote for Mr. Fillmore), who wantonly and falsely charged him with horse-stealing; and, with out allowing him time to put on his overcoat, mounted him on a horse, drove him some seven or eight miles (the weather being intensely cold), threw him into a cheerless room, without fire, there left him to die, and there he died!

My informant is a Bishop of the Methodist Church, and spoke of his own knowledge.

Another instance: The Rev. Mr. Wiley, and about thirty other ministers of the Methodist Church have been assaulted in their churches, and driven from place to place, like beasts of prey, their lives being every day in imminent peril.

Another instance: In Kansas a Methodist minister was whipped, tarred and feathered, and to a log and set afire on the Missouri river.

Another instance: Very recently, a Methodist minister in Missouri, while preaching, was dragged from his pulpit and tarred and feathered; while an old Methodist layman for the crime of expostulation against such conduct, was shot; and it is a notorious fact, that a minister of my church cannot preach the Gospel in the State of Missouri, or the Territory of Kansas, but at the peril of his life and yet I find no reproach of these outrages either in the Philadelphia platform or in any of the speeches of Mr. Fillmore.

As to having examined "all the evidence" in relation to Mr. Fremont's religious creed, I have to say that I have examined all the evidence including Alderman Palmer's statement, and exhausted the means of information within my reach, and have arrived at the following conclusions:

1st. That Mr. Fremont's father was a French Huguenot, and his mother an American Protestant lady.

2d. That Col. Fremont was born a Protestant, baptized a Protestant, married a Protestant lady, had his children baptized by a Protestant clergyman, educates them in the Protestant faith, while he is a Protestant in practice in all the relations of life.

I admit that he was married by a Catholic clergyman, under circumstances peculiar to himself, and with which the public is already acquainted.

3d. I conclude that Alderman Palmer's statement is altogether untrue. Col. Fremont was not in Washington at the time Palmer says he conversed with him, nor within several months of that time. He was on the Pacific Ocean, or the Indian Ocean, or on the steamer George Law, from Aspinwall to New York City, at the time fixed by Palmer.

I should add that upon Col. Fremont's arrival in New York City he sailed to Europe without visiting Washington at all, and that he remained in Europe more than a year.

4th. I further add, that the conclusion in my mind that Alderman Palmer has here false witness against his neighbor is strengthened by the contradictory statements that I am credibly informed he has made concerning this pretended conversation, and by the further fact that among his immediate neighbors his statement is not believed.

But if I should refuse to vote for Mr. Fremont because of his being a Roman Catholic, I could not vote for Mr. Fillmore, and for the reason that the Convention which nominated Mr. Fillmore was controlled by Roman Catholics as well as by Slavery Propagandists. This is the fact.

Two sets of delegates appeared from the State of Louisiana—one Protestant, and the other Roman Catholic—both demanding admission. The Roman Catholic delegation was rejected, and the Protestant delegation was rejected.

For the reason, I understand, assigned for this singular admission and rejection, was, on the Roman Catholic delegation did not acknowledge the temporal supremacy of the Pope; but did the Protestant delegation acknowledge the temporal supremacy of the Pope?

There are other objections to my supporting Mr. Fillmore, and as an American, and a man who, at the commencement of his political life, resolutely set his face against the false aggressions of the Slave Power, I cannot be accused by any special pleading, or by any "broadsheet," that may be hatched in the hot-bed of political zeal, to vote for any other man for President than Col. Fremont, inasmuch as I see no other way of putting an end to the terrible aggression of the Slave Power.

I believe upon the election or defeat of Col. Fremont will depend the question, whether or not the black column of Slavery will be pushed to the Pacific Ocean; whether or not the African slave-trade, the sum of all wickedness, will be revived; and whether or not practical Slavery will be forced into the States under the decisions of Federal Judges, appointed by Mr. Fillmore sought to appoint and did appoint some of his judges; and, in short, whether this country shall have a constitutional Government for the Slave Oligarchy; whether or not we shall recover our lost national honor, and go on in peaceful progress to the climax of human greatness, or whether we shall be destroyed by the aggressive system of the Slave Power.

Very truly yours,
CHAUNCEY SHAFFER.

Political Changes.

A newspaper published at Plymouth, Indiana, called the Banner, has hailed down the banner of Freedom, and has declared for Fremont.

A German domestic paper, called the *Zeitung der Nordsee*, which has all along supported the Pierce administration, has declared against the Buchanan ticket, and come out in support of the Philadelphia Republican nominations and platform, placing the names of Fremont and Dayton at the head of the column.

The Hon. John Knox, of Illinois, a Pierce elector in 1852, and always a Democrat, addressed a Fremont meeting at Rock Island lately, and came out boldly in favor of a Republican ticket. A friend in Massachusetts who knew him, doubted the truth of this statement, and to him propounding an inquiry on the subject, whereupon he declared himself unhesitatingly for Fremont. The Northwestern Democrat, published in Minnesota, and heretofore a supporter of the Pierce administration, has insisted the Fremont and Dayton flag.

The Louisville Aegis, a German paper published in Kentucky, has hailed down the Buchanan flag. John Stuart, a prominent and influential Democrat of Mansfield, Ohio, has declared for Fremont and Dayton.

To render Mr. Fillmore more palatable to Northern voters, it has been strenuously represented in his behalf that he is a fugitive slave law only under the advice and encouragement of his Cabinet, and particularly that of Mr. Crittenden, his Attorney General, against his own wishes. Mr. Crittenden has written a letter putting the clapper on his electioneering representation. He says:

"There was no urgency or solicitation to Mr. Fillmore to sign the bill that I know of. I certainly used none, nor did I ever suppose that any was necessary. Mr. Fillmore, I have no doubt, signed the bill freely, and in obedience to his own convictions and sense of duty."

Rumor says that there is one Buchanan man in Compton, Rhode Island.

There will be but two parties in Ohio—Buchanan and slavery on one side, and Fremont and Freedom on the other. The *Cleveland Herald* says the entire Fillmore ticket is now out of the field.

An intelligent correspondent at Meadville Bridge, N. H., thinks that no Fillmore ticket will be started in that State, and that the Buchanan men will let the election go by default.

The Meadville (Crawford co.) *Spirit of the Age*, an independent paper, has also come out for Fremont and Dayton. The editor has heretofore been a Democrat.

Full River seems not to know that Fillmore and Buchanan are in the field. There are but two parties in that city: one for Fremont and Dayton, and the other for Fremont and Johnston.

The Erie *True American*, which halted for some time between two opinions, comes to us this week with the names of Fremont and Dayton at the head of its columns. This makes the fourth Fremont paper in that county.

The Rochester Democrat says "an effort is being made by the doughfaces to unite the Fillmore and Buchanan strength in this State. The headway made by Fremont has thrown those parties into perfect consternation."

We find that in the entire State of Vermont there are twenty-eight political newspapers. Of these there are:

For Fremont, 23
For Buchanan, 3
For Fillmore, 2

There is no Fillmore paper in the State, nor does any Fillmore organization exist.

We cut the following from the *Clarion* (a Fillmore paper): "A old and true writing from Crawford county says: 'It is a long time since I heard from you. Twenty-one men at work for me, took a vote and only one Buchanan man was in the crowd. This county will make clean work for Fremont this fall.'"

papers. circulation.

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MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS.

ORPHANS' COURT SALE.

In Pursuance of an Order of the Orphans' Court of Huntingdon county, will be sold at Public Vendue, on Saturday, the 6th of September, 1856, on the premises, late the property of Hugh Andrews, dec'd., a Farm, situated in Shirley township, in said county, on the road leading from Mount Union to Shirleyburg, containing:

170 Acres, 91 Perches.

110 of which is cleared, divided into fields of convenient size and well watered, the balance is wood land thickly set with oak and pine timber. There is about 100 acres of the cleared land river bottom of the first quality. The improvements are a new

two story brick dwelling, with a well of water convenient, a Log Cabin, Barn, Wash-house. Also, two good Orchards, one of which is young and of choice fruit. There is an abundance of limestone on the place, and a kiln for burning the same. There has been several thousand bushels of lime put on within the last three years, and it now produces well—the crops, at the present season, will compare favorably with any in the neighborhood.

This property is situated within one and a half miles of Mt. Union, where the Central Railroad and Pennsylvania Canal both pass, affording a good market at all seasons of the year. A further description is deemed unnecessary, as persons wishing to purchase will view for themselves or address to R. R. Andrews, Mt. Union, Huntingdon county, Pa.

Sale to commence at one o'clock, on said day, when conditions will be made known by the undersigned.

R. R. ANDREWS, Adm'r.

Aug. 20/56.—30.*

EXAMINATION OF TEACHERS.

The undersigned will meet the School Directors, and Teachers for examinations in the respective districts as indicated in the following list:

Tell, Friday, Aug. 29, Union School House.

Todd, Tuesday, Sept. 2, Newburgh.

Morris, Thursday, Sept. 4, Spruce Creek.

Franklin, Friday, Sept. 5, Hook School House.

Warwick, Saturday, Sept. 6, Warwick.

Alexandria, Monday, Sept. 8, Alexandria.

Porter, Tuesday, Sept. 9, Alexandria.

Walker, Wednesday, Sept. 10, McCombs.

Henderson, Thursday, Sept. 11, Court House.

West, Friday, Sept. 12, S. C. Hill.

Barre, Tuesday, Sept. 13, Manor Hill.

Jackson, Wednesday, Sept. 14, McAlary's Pt.

Penn, Friday, Sept. 16, Marklesburg.

Hopewell, Saturday, Sept. 17, Marklesburg.

Brady, Sunday, Sept. 18, Mt. Union.

Shirleyburg, Thursday, Oct. 1, Shirleyburg.

Shirleyburg, Friday, Oct. 2, Shirleyburg.

Cromwell, Saturday, Oct. 4, Ohio.

Dublin, Monday, Oct. 6, Dublin.

Shirleyburg, Tuesday, Oct. 7, Shirleyburg.

Case, Wednesday, Oct. 8, Casville.