

The Potter Journal

SINGLE COPIES,

Devoted to the Principles of True Democracy, and the Dissemination of Morality, Literature and News.

FOUR CENTS.

VOLUME X.—NUMBER. 9.

COUDERSPORT, POTTER COUNTY, PA., THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 1857.

TERMS.—\$1.25 PER ANNUM.

The Rural Minstrel.

A lady residing a few miles from this place, a few days since handed us the following lamentation with a request that we would give it an insertion in the *Journal*. We give it, *verbatim et literum et punctuatum*, relying on the good nature of our readers for pardon for the *indulgence* of our accommodating spirit has entailed upon them. Should any of our readers wish to sing it they will find the tune of "Villians and Djah". A medium for transmitting the words through their vocal organs.—*Ed. JOURNAL.*

MARTHA DECKER August 2, 1857.

O Oh cruel tyrant why came thou so soon
Why didst thou not spear this fife flower ti
soon.

And let her fond parent in hope realize—

And rot the cold grave of its victory and prize
She was scarcely thirteen obedient and kind
Posessed like a lady of temper and mind
The youngest of all being handsome and bright

Her Mother being dead she was her fathers delight
She started from home with her nice still more young

To go to her sisters beyond thechemung
To pay a short visit and then go and see
Her sister the mother of her company

The horse being antje a blonder did make
The girl of the saddle did instantly brake
Which plunged this fair damsel beneath the rough waves
And no one there able her life to save

The horse running home soon alarmed all her friends
While going to the river and wringing their hands
Crying oh dearest martha are you in the storm
Are there none able nowe sole your life to redeem

The people collected a hundred or more
They raked the deep edge and searched well the shore
No traces of martha could find any where
But still they continued their searching with care

But all was in vain till four days had expired
When three were the people who virtue admired
Who saw her caught fast on the mill dam below
And quickly the news to her friend the did show

A servant of Jesus came down in great haste
To rescue her body from that doleful pelice
She then was convide to her sister from whence
She had started on monday to go with such care

Oh now hear the valleys and hills how they mourn
While nature it self ought to weep in return
While loud peals canons descend to the skies
They are trying her slumbering body to rise

Oh now see the father and hear his deep sighs
While going to the cargo to sap were she lies
He raises his eyes up to heaven in tears
Crying martha child but I cant make you hear

Are you my dear martha who alred I see
Who oftentimes I have dandled and daced on my knee
Well pleased with prattle when rolled in my arms
Now must you be food for the hungry

In factory ville churchyard her body now lies
We hope her dear soul lives in god's paradise
Forever tosing sweet redemption from sin
Through the blood of christ Jesus made holy & clean

Correspondence.

FROM KANSAS.

Communicated for the *Potter Journal*,

CRESCEINT HILL, KANSAS, 7th mo. 17th, 1857.

DEAR FRIEND.—Thine of last month was duly received. I deferred a reply until after I should have attended the State Convention at Topeka, on the 15th inst., to which I was appointed delegate. The object in calling this Convention, was to nominate candidates to fill some of the State offices at the election on the fourth of next month, under the Free State Constitution, and to nominate a candidate for Representative to Congress; but it seemed that another work awaited the Delegates in the Convention. Gov. Walker, since the time of his arrival in Kansas, has been industriously trying to sow the seeds of discord among the Free State men. There was evidently nothing which he desired more than to see the Free State party broken up, and the Topeka Constitution abandoned. That

accomplished, the way would be clear for the organization of a National Democratic Free State party in Kansas, and the making of Kansas a Free State to the glory of the Democratic party, and thus pave the way for the Governor to reach the whitehouse. There are many Free State Democrats in Kansas, most of whom are aspirants for office, and many of them

came up to the Convention with a manifest determination to overthrow the Topeka Constitution, and break up the Free State organization. At first they were bold and bitter in their opposition to the Constitution, and seemed very confident of the success of their infamous schemes; but long before the organization of the Convention, it became very manifest that this faction was largely in the minority. Col J. H. Lane, who seems to possess almost unlimited influence over the Free State people of Kansas, made a speech in the evening before the meeting of the Convention, in which he set forth in an unmistakable light, the importance and the necessity of maintaining the Free State organization under the Topeka Constitution; and set forth in the most glaring colors, the corruption and wickedness of the so-called Democracy, and the utter folly of abandoning our organization in obedience to its wishes. It was clearly shown that such an abandonment would play into the hands of the Slavery propagandists, and an open confession that all our labors for the last two years past were wrong, and those who had fallen in the struggle must be branded as felons. It was clear as the light of day, that any opinions so expressed would have reference to circumstances and contingencies necessarily qualifying them. To avoid misconstruction, however, I think it proper to say that I never expressed the opinion thus ascribed to me, because I never entertained it. At the time the law passed organizing the territorial government, there were few with whom I conversed who did not believe that the future state would take its place with those recognizing and cherishing the condition of African slavery. There was at that time, certainly, every reason to believe why this should be so, and none why it should not. The state of Missouri, bordering its eastern frontier, was a slaveholding state, holding at that time nearly an hundred thousand slaves, and these were chiefly held in the border counties.

The state of Arkansas, adjacent to the territory on the south, was likewise a slaveholding state. The soil and climate of Kansas were adapted to those valuable products, chiefly hemp and tobacco, which gave value to slave labor in Missouri. The proximity of its population, with the attractions of new, fertile and cheap land, I believed would lead the slave holders in Missouri to diffuse themselves speedily over Kansas, and the prohibitory line of 36° 30' being obliterated, there was no reason why they should not. I had no fear of fair competition in such appropriation of the new territory from any quarter. Unfair competition I did not look to.

What may be the result as to the condition of Kansas, notwithstanding the extraordinary and unscrupulous efforts of Northern Abolitionists to force a population there, I cannot undertake to say. Nor will I alledge in this place to the new and unexpected aspect now exhibited of affairs in that territory, with so much propriety reprehended in the columns of the "South." Whatever may be the information of others, I certainly am not sufficiently informed of the existing state of things in Kansas to form a clear opinion one way or the other; yet I will venture to say this much, that if African slavery be ultimately excluded from Kansas, it will be effected by the numerical force of organized majorities, operating against the usual laws which govern emigration; and will present a new and most instructive lesson to the Southern States.

Very respectfully, I am yours, &c.
J. M. MASON.

The Administration Foot-Tracks in Kansas.

The following letter from a former resident of Susquehanna County shows how Buchanan and "free Kansas" work:

LAWRENCE, K. T., June 25, 1857.

DEAR—Yours of the 8th instant just come to hand. About the state of affairs here, I have not much to say now. Our cause brightens. The great object of the Administration now is to make Kansas a "Democratic" State.

They well know that it is impossible to make it a Slave State, without involving the Union in a civil war.

Now "National Democracy" is all the cry—"come back into the Democratic ranks, and Kansas shall be a free State." Vain fools! What! after we have stormed the last battlement, and crushed the enemy beneath our feet, then surrender to them? None but traitors would do it. We are and will continue free from Black Democracy. No wonder they would like some one to bear the burden of their black and damning crimes.

You all know, in Pennsylvania, I suppose, how well old Buck is keeping his promise of making Kansas a free State.

In the first place, he appointed one Captain Emory, a murderer, and a villain of the darkest dye, to an important office of trust. In fact, all the offices are filled with men that led on the invasions of last summer. Most truly Yours,

N. W. SPICER.

TEXAN advises state that Senator Rusk, of that State, committed suicide at his residence on the 28th ult., by shooting himself through the head with a rifle. No cause is assigned for the act.

The Potter Journal.

COUDERSPORT, PA.,

Thursday Morning, August 13, 1857.

J. S. CHASE, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

Republican State Unionists.

FOR GOVERNOR.

DAVID WILMOT, of Bradford.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER.

WILLIAM MULWICH, of Philadelphia.

FOR JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT.

JAMES VEECH, of Fayette,

JOSEPH J. LEWIS, of Chester.

Announcements of Candidates for office one dollar each, invariably in advance.

Republican County Convention

THE REPUBLICAN ELECTORS of the County of Potter are requested to choose Three Delegates from each Township, on the 24TH DAY OF AUGUST, inst., to represent said township in a County Convention to be held at Coudersport, on

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27TH.

FOR the purpose of putting in nomination Candidates for County Officers to be supported at the ensuing election, and for the transaction of such other business as may come before them.

It is earnestly requested that full delegations be sent from each township. A list of the Vigilance Committees of the several townships is published herewith, whose duty it will be to attend to the organization of the Primary Meetings.

S. ROSS,
Chairman of County Committee.

Coudersport, Aug. 3, 1857.

Vigilance Committees.

Allegany, G. W. G. Judd, Henry Nelson, Samuel M. Mills.

Albert, David Conway, George Rahn, F. Sewer.

Bingham, George Colvin, Isaac Jones Martin D. Briggs.

Clara, W. B. Graves, Samuel Wakeley, S. Stevens.

Coudersport, A. F. Jones, Jacob Reckhow, Benjamin Remond.

Eddington, N. J. Mills, John Taggart, Nelson Clark.

Genesee, O. Chamberlain, O. H. Perry, H. H. Munson.

Harrison, Z. P. Robinson, Israel Dodge, Charles Howard.

Hector, A. A. Amesbury, Francis Strang, Cyrus Sunderland.

Homer, A. U. Crosby, Jacob Peet, Dennis Hall.

Hubron, W. P. Cool, George Estes, Julius Baker.

Jackson, David Crowell, A. A. Crowell, Pliny Harris, Jason Lewis, Eleazar Dingley.

Oscago, E. Lyman, H. H. Lyman, Jerome Chesebro.

Pike, John Carrel, H. S. Martin, J. Q. Merrick.

Portage, Edward Huff, E. D. Sizer, William Easton.

Pleasant Valley, Samuel Palmer, Henry M'Dow, Lewis Lyman.

Roulette, Seneca Pomroy, Christopher Knowlton, John Lyman, Jr.

Stewardson, Henry Anderson, J. Williams, Joseph Lieb.

Sylvania, John M. Reess, William Carson, William Keefer.

Summit, Merrick Jackson, George Ayres, J. M. Bassett.

Seiden, G. L. Catlin, Edwin Lyman, H. L. Bird.

Sharon, L. H. Kinney, R. L. Nichols, Asa Lee.

Clydesdale, Ambrose Corey, O. A. Lewis, N. H. Hullock.

West Branch, J. W. Joselyn, J. M. Conable, Erastus Crippen.

Wharton, Geo. A. Barclay, John Bensley, K. H. Hopkins.

We invite the attention of our readers to the Kansas letter in another column. It will amply repay a perusal.

RAIN prevails in this particular region of country almost daily, and semi-weekly without fail. This is a serious detriment to farmers in harvesting their grain and hay crops, but gives the corn and other similar crops a chance to grow.

The McKean Citizen censures us

for being in advance of it in furnishing

the public with some recent interesting

mineral developments in that county, and

requests us to consult its columns for

correct mining news. We will do so,

friend ALLEN, but we reserve our right

to be ahead of you with news whenever

an opportunity occurs. We have thus far published nothing but actual mineral

intelligence furnished by residents of the

sections in which it was developed, (not

by "itinerant passengers,") and do not de-

serve your very ambiguous censure.

AUGUST ELECTIONS.—The elections

of this month have just come off, in Mis-

souri, Kentucky, Alabama & Iowa. Our

latest returns from Missouri indicate the

election of Rollins, emancipationist for

Governor, a success which will have a

powerful influence on Kansas affairs. In

Iowa the Republicans are successful. In

Kentucky the Americans are ahead, by

the latest accounts, while we rejoice in

the probable defeat of James B. Clay, for Congress, who turned Democrat last Fall and supported Buchanan, his noble father's most vindictive enemy, for the Presidency. In Alabama the Democrats are still in power, as a matter of course.

Later.—Returns from 50 counties give Rollins 4,720 majority, in Missouri, which we think cannot be overcome in the remaining 10 or 12 counties.

AMOS CHAPMAN.

Wellsboro, Tioga Co., July 20, 1857.

The Challenge.

The following letters show the difference in the confidence with which the gubernatorial candidates enter the political arena. The Shanoocadic Central Committee find it inexplicable to let their champion enter the field, not because they fear his ability to put the best face on their policy, but because they know that in its best countenance it will be revolting to the taste of the people:

TOWANDA, July 14, 1857.

HON. W. F. PACKER:

DEAR SIR—I purpose to spend some time during the Summer and Fall, in canvassing before the people of the State, the principles and issues involved in the pending State election.

Party meetings bring out only that portion of the people to whom the call is made, and the addresses are necessarily all on one side; whereas it is desirable that the whole people, so far as may be, should hear both sides fairly presented before them at the same time.

If it should meet your views, I propose that we canvass so much of the State as is practicable, in company, addressing alternately the same meetings. Should this meet your assent, please so inform me at your earliest convenience, so that we may arrange the time and places of meetings, order of speaking, &c., &c.

Very respectfully,