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"Oh, God!" she cried with a sudden burst of anguish—"protect my boy! shield him from crime; guard him against vice and the hideous snares which in a thousand forms assail unfriended youth; or take him," she added solemnly, "take him in Thy mercy."
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As Richard Hoffman rushed along the street, scarce knowing whither he went, and only intent on the one idea of getting, by some means, food for his famished mother and sister, he was hailed by Jack Manders, an Irish acquaintance who lived near Richard's home, and to whom he had left the desperate state in which he had left those so dear to him. Jack listened with much interest, and at once proposed to Richard to help him to pick the pocket of an old gentleman, who was starting into a garden on the opposite side of the street. Richard refused with horror, although Jack urged the necessity of it at once getting something to save the life of his mother and little Mary. Jack then undertook the business alone, and just as he had relieved the old gentleman of his pocket-book, a policeman sprang from a doorway to arrest him; but Jack made his escape. "Not so Richard, who was at once seized by the policeman as an accomplice of the escaped pickpocket."
"And no thief, sir," cried Richard, breaking from the strong grasp that held him, and throwing himself at the feet of the old gentleman, who had just come to the spot. "I thought poverty and hunger tempted me to become one. My mother and sister are starving."
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The Potter Journal.
CONDERSPORT, PA.
Published Morning, Jan. 23, 1857.
T. S. CHASE, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.
There will be an Agricultural Meeting on Tuesday Evening of February 10th—1857.
We learn that a concert will be given on Wednesday evening of Court week, by the Condorsport Philharmonic Society, and which eminently deserves a full house.
Peterson & Brothers' new Counterfeit Detector, is now published semi-monthly, at the request of a large number of its patrons. Single copies, monthly, \$1. Semi-monthly \$2. Address T. B. Peterson & Brothers, 306, Chestnut St. Philadelphia.
Don't forget the Republican Meeting on Thursday evening, February 4th, at the Hall of the Sons of Temperance. One evening's deliberation is due from every good citizen; in preparation for choosing the local government of the village for the ensuing year.
Mr. D. W. SPENCER, is now taking subscriptions for the new club for the A. K. Weekly Tribune, to commence the last week in February. We hope all who can will subscribe at once. Subscriptions for one year, in clubs of 20, and upward, only One Dollar. We think the news from Mormondom the coming year will be worth ten times that sum.
For the Journal.
Mr. Trotter—Is there to be a Republican Meeting during next Court? Now that the Free State men of Kansas are receiving the aid of Senator Douglas and

complete, shows 89 Democrats, 42 Republicans, and 2 Independents. The latter (Messrs. Hinrod and Hayes) voted for Mr. Benson. The two remaining Republican votes missing, were Mr. Poyhall, of Lancaster, "paired off" with Mr. Egan, of Schuykill; and Mr. McClure, of Franklin, absent or not voting.
Words that Burn.
While the old fogies and doughfaces are apologizing for slavery, and praising Buchanan; the true democrats of the Nation are indignantly repudiating an administration they helped elect.
At a mass meeting of the Free Democracy of St. Louis on the 8th of Jan., B. GRANT BROWN, Esq., one of Mr. Buchanan's most active supporters; made a speech that gives us new faith in the people. It is the most scathing review of the administration that has yet appeared, and at the same time it vindicates the power and value of free-labor in a style worthy of the best days of the Republic. The following short extract from that speech contains truths that ought to receive the enthusiastic support of every free community. Says Mr. Brown:
The welfare of every community rests upon the labor of that community. Labor itself is the democracy of life, and free-labor and free-democracy are synonymous terms. It is only social drones, or gilded aristocrats who make sport of its oil and mock at its self-elevation. It can with justice, therefore, claim to be in the eye of the law, and to be relieved from degrading servile competition. Freedom is its native air. Strip it of its title to respect, brand it with the brand of degradation, let it once be classed or associated with Slavery, and the fine spirit that gives buoyancy to its effort is gone. Free-labor and slave-labor are incompatible institutions; one or the other must dominate and banish its rival.
Can Virginia Be Made a Free State?
The colonization of the bordering Slave States with the representatives of northern anti-slavery sentiment, as a means of reforming their social system in the present, and the ultimate overthrow of the system of human bondage, is at present—and deservedly—receiving a large proportion of public attention. The contrasting of Free-Labor with Slave-Labor, by bringing it under the immediate observation of the advocates of the latter system, must inevitably prove the stepping-stone to the final abolition of a system which makes our nation the just scorn of even autocrats.
Mr. Eli Thayer, Representative in Congress from Massachusetts, recently made an able and effective speech in that body in regard to the subject of colonization or Americanizing, in which he not only took occasion to present a complete review of the question of colonizing the slave states, but went still further and advocated the colonization of the Central American States with Yankee enterprise and Yankee sentiment—this, in fact, heading off the fillibusters' designs.
But our present object is not to discuss this phase of the question, nor the plans of Mr. Thayer in regard to Virginia. Our object is to direct the attention of our readers to the advertisement headed "Who will help make Virginia a Free State." The advertiser (who appeared recently in our columns with an advertisement headed "A Home for \$10,") is the editor of the *Lehigh Valley Times*, at Bethlehem, Pa., a paper of the right stamp on the slavery question. He writes to us, under date of 19th inst., in regard to the matter, as follows:
"I am, as yet, undecided whether or not to go ahead with the division. There are two objections—because I find it takes nearly a year at the present rate to sell all the shares, and second because I am very much disappointed in those who buy; being mainly persons who wish to speculate—the liberal inducements having been held out with a view to attracting actual settlers. I shall decide in a few weeks whether or not to go ahead with the division. * * * I know from personal observation and intermingling with the people of Western Virginia, that the free-labor or free-state cause is much further advanced than it is thought or supposed to be by people in the free States. It needs but an infusion of a few thousand emigrants of the right stripe to put the cause in the right shape."
Yours respectfully,
J. D. GANGEWER.
Times Improving.
We find in the *Daily Tribune* of the 21st inst., the following cheering words to mechanics and farmers. As the manufactures of Potter county were somewhat affected by the crisis, we hope that both the operators and operatives will take courage of the improving aspect of the times. Our saw-mills should be well supplied with timber during the winter, if the weather will permit, and our farms should be well prepared to receive seed in the Spring to their utmost capacity. The great mistake of our farmers in the

northern end of the county, is in giving their produce to the foreign—out of the State and County—markets, instead of bringing it to this place for home consumption. Every bushel of grain raised in this county and sold in this market, is cash capital retained in the business of the county. The farming interests of the county are now entitled to more attention, from the very fact that they are annually doubling in their importance.
"The Great Revulsion of 1857 has spent its force, and is henceforth to be regarded as a tornado of yesterday. There will, of course, be more failures, for many really insolvent houses which have thus far avoided prostration through skillful and assiduous financing, Bank favor, or the non-maturity of their obligations, must ultimately succumb; but, for the most of the community, the worst is over. There are fewer mills, forges, furnaces and laborers now idle than there were two months ago; there will be fewer a month hence than there are now; and we may confidently look for still further improvement. Unless prevented by an absurd requirement that his money wages shall be paid for labor in 1857, as when everything else but labor was thirty to fifty per cent dearer, there is no reason why any able and willing laborers should stand idle after Spring shall have fairly opened. Let it be clearly understood that ten shillings in January, 1855, is equal to fourteen shillings in January, 1857, and that the laborer in any capacity who receives ten dollars now for the service that commanded twelve dollars a year ago, is actually better paid now than he was then, and all may be easily adjusted. He who remains idle now because he cannot obtain so many dollars for a week's labor as he did a year ago, is deserving neither of sympathy nor better fortune. There are and ever were miserly and grasping employers, lenders, capitalists; but it is a hardship to work for twenty-five per cent less money, with flour, sugar, pork, &c., at their present prices, than was received when the necessities of life bore the prices of twelve months ago."
[Correspondence of the Potter Journal.]
NEBRASKA TERRITORY.
Peculiarities of my New Neighbors—New Minister—Persian Prince, Zoroaster.
NEBRASKA, Jan.—1858.
BROTHER CHASE—Having promised that you should hear from me as soon as I was fairly settled in my new home in this new Territory, I will commence forthwith, to give you some account of how I am passing the winter here, by informing you that we find our log-cabin very comfortable, and have so far been favored with health; yet the many blessings and comforts for which we have to be thankful, do not prevent us from paying frequent thought-visits to our late home and friends, among the quiet hills of Potter. We are becoming somewhat acquainted with our new neighbors, and find among them some very good persons, some real Christians—you know many good things are counterfeited; but the discerning mind readily distinguishes the unstable ring of the true coin from the baser metals.
I believe you used to agree with me when I said it was entirely unnecessary for any person to tell another they were Christians, in order to convince them of the fact, for if the spirit of Christ dwells in the heart, the acts of that person reveals the fact to my mind much more forcibly than any words could; as I believe, though words are good, the spirit in which we act is the highest merit. How true it is, that we may always know the stage of advancement at which any individual, or community of individuals have arrived, by knowing their religious ideas. Some writer says: if a Buffalo had a God, it must necessarily be a Buffalo, though a little fairer limbed, and smoother haired than itself, but it must be a Buffalo; and so many Christians believe God to be a little bigger, and a little better than themselves, yet ascribe to him all the malignant qualities of their own undeveloped natures, and then excuse themselves in pouring out the vials of their wrath upon all who do not see by their own little taper, and even quote Scripture to prove that they have a "thus saith the Lord," at their back. But, Brother C. I do not speak of this as peculiar to the people of Nebraska, for I have always found the same spirit manifested to a certain extent, in all the different places I have become acquainted; and to my mind it always proves a little more than was intended.
Another peculiarity of the people in this new Territory, (which may be owing in part to its newness, and may soon be outgrown,) is the disposition to be looking after each other's affairs. Now this may all be very charitable, as we all like to see things kept straight; but, according to my observation, somebody's affairs must be neglected while these philanthropists are looking after their neighbor's. In the hurry and bustle of this life, I am always wanting more time, and if I had my neighbor's affairs and characters to look after, I could but complain at the additional burden; for it is more than I can always do to keep my own in order; and still more difficult to keep my mind in the right spirit, with the greatest watchfulness.
Alas! for those whose time and thoughts are spent in endeavoring to keep the noxious weeds from their neighbors' gardens, while their own is being fearful-

ly overrun. The garden of the heart needs a constant eye upon it; lest some root of bitterness spring up, and absorb the sun-light and moisture needed for the healthful growth and full development of the most common virtues—and if our attention is directed elsewhere, may acquire a strength and influence that will cost us a mighty struggle to overcome. This carefulness for others may be considered very benevolent by those who exercise it; may be considered a duty they owe to society—to the cause of religion; but in my humble opinion it would be still more benevolent to society, (saying nothing of ourselves,) to look to our own gardens and keep them clean and pure, lest the exhalations therefrom poison the atmosphere around; and this will be unavoidable if we allow such plants as *envy, malice, prejudice, and evil-speaking*, to grow therein.
Many of our people are very religious according to their own ideas, and quote Scripture in abundance to prove the righteousness of their bigotry, and narrow-mindedness. Their selections from this great store-house of truth and beauty, are really very curious and very characteristic, and which they force upon us who may honestly differ in taste or opinion, forgetting that we are nearly all Protestants, and prefer to put our own construction on the text. We are very thankful for instruction from any one whose light is superior to our own; but of that fact we beg leave to be our own judge.
I am often surprised at the readiness with which they quote for their own purposes, but leave untouched, or at least uncomprehended, the beautiful truths contained in *Christ's Sermon on the Mount*, and in His reply to the woman who had violated a law whose penalty, under the Jewish Dispensation, was death. Her accusers, from no love of parity, or justice, brought her before Him who read the hearts of men, to see what He would say. Undoubtedly, He saw her iniquity in her taking all circumstances into consideration, than in her own—and what did He say? "Hath no man condemned thee? Answerest thou; yea, and sin no more." But a very important point in the text is, what He said to the accusers: "Let us all take heed." He did not say, "Let him who is clear of this particular sin, cast the first stone;" but, "let him who is without sin, cast the first stone." Now are we not all dumb? Can we, with this pattern before us, ever again open our mouths? Remember, it is "him who is without sin" that may "cast the first stone." Another thought in this connection—Christ did not seem to doubt the truthfulness of the charge brought against the woman; but where there is nothing but a cruel suspicion, or unjust prejudice, or some end of our own to answer, what would He say to us?
The Scriptures were given to us for instruction in righteousness, says Paul; but if we are not to practice upon that which pertains to actual life, instead of theories, we can be but little benefited. Somebody has said, "Let the Reck and the Inquisition belong to the Past, and the world is ashamed of them; but they still live in the hearts of men"—to which permit me to add, "in the hearts of professing Christian men." In Bible times, it is related of David, that the captives he took in warfare were put under saws, and under barrows of iron, and axes of iron, &c., and we all shudder at the barbarities of those times; but the same spirit still lives, and persecutes the innocent. "What if some are not innocent?" Christ said, "what is that to thee? Follow thou me." It may possibly appear to you, Brother C., that this truly Great Teacher has but few followers at present. However that may be, I will add, for your encouragement, (as you may, perhaps, think of becoming a resident in this new Territory,) that we have great reason to believe that the true way is here being prepared for many more, who will be ready to walk therein so soon as this spirit of vengeance shall have destroyed itself—the which we know of a surety will be very soon, as we have now with us the Reverend Dr. ALDRICH, who is earnestly laboring to establish in the minds of our people a firm belief in the Persian Reformer, ZOROASTER's idea of the manner in which God punishes his disobedient children—which is as follows:
"All those who do believe the chosen Prophet of God, and have not his faith, they shall be brought to hell, and shall open as the worms shall be made to live; but will give them no rest in each other, so that they may within the sharpest torment and the most fearful agony."
And now that I have explained to you the manner in which our excessive fury and vengeance is expending its force, you will undoubtedly agree with me, in thinking that we shall soon be prepared for that milder form of religion, which teaches good will and peace among men.
Yours truly,
TIMOTHY.
Character of Socrates, &c.
For the Journal.
Mr. Trotter: I feel grateful to your correspondent "JUSTITIA," for his kind intentions shown in supposing that your Reviewer had misrepresented me in my statements respecting Socrates, and other worthies of the Heathen. I know that we have all been taught to think differently of the character of Socrates. It is not pleasant to be undeceived. But the truth is, I believe, precisely as I stated in my Lecture, and not long since in a sermon; that "Cicero and Seneca, Socrates, and Plato, were guilty of the grossest immoralities, and such as would forever disgrace the worst man among us at the present day."
The details are not fit for the public. I will only refer your correspondent for

the present, to the 1st Chapter of Paul's Epistle to the Romans, (18, 24, 27 seq.) and "Barnes' Notes" thereon; with the authorities therein cited; stating, however, that Maximus Tyrius was mistaken in regard to Socrates, as Tholok in his "State of the heathen world" (Biblical Repository, vol. 2,) abundantly proves him to be true.
It is true we are taught differently at School. But all teachers know that only expurgated editions—excerpts—of the ancient classics ever come into the hands of school boys. And, besides, we have been taught to believe many errors, all of us. Hence "a little learning is a dangerous thing."
Christianity alone gives us the elements of a true and pure character; and we shall seek for it in vain elsewhere. I would not wish to injure the reputation of any "heathen man," however humble; but I could not defend him, however exalted he may have been, on Christian principles, or hold him up as a model to my fellow men. "They have all gone out of the way." There is none that doeth good; no not one! Let us look to the Lord Jesus Christ alone—to His pure example—His holy Teachings. He is "the Way, and the Truth, and the Life; and no man cometh unto the Father but by Him." Relying on His grace, I remain, yours very sincerely,
C. M. BLAKE.
For the Potter Journal.
Hon. Stephen A. Douglas.
EDITOR JOURNAL: I send you an extract from a business letter, written by an esteemed friend and relative, and a zealous Republican, under date of
CHICAGO, Jan. 14th, 1858.
"Republicans here have no confidence in Douglas. They calculate that the only object he now has in view, is to secure his reelection to the United States Senate. He knows better than any other man what an endorsement of the Lecompton fraud is certain death in the Ill. Legislature. He may succeed, but he is guilty of so many wrongs against the cause of freedom, that I hardly think one act of apparent justice sufficient, to entitle him to the confidence of the Republican party. You will see how soon he embraces the opportunity to capitulate the South by defending the great 'humbug' Fillibuster. Don't become enamored of him too soon. I know it is refreshing to hear such sentiments from such a source as he uttered in his defence of popular sovereignty. He will bear watching yet. We have had so far this winter, perfect October weather—not a flake of snow—streets and walks perfectly dry—haies in the street with summer dresses."
At the time of writing the above, it was generally understood that Douglas intended to back Walker. But since Hon. Eli Thayer, of Massachusetts, delivered his admirable speech on the Americanization of Central America, Mr. Douglas as well as Messrs Brown & Davis of Mississippi have stood aloof from the controversy. Mr. Douglas is waiting to see the nature of Commodore Paulding's instructions, before committing himself. No matter about his position on a question belonging exclusively to the Federal Judiciary.
What interests us most at the present time, is whether Stephen A. Douglas thinks more capital can be made by adhering to a policy clearly embracing the propagation of slavery, or to the policy of administering the Government in such a way as to give every section of this confederacy their constitutional rights. However apparent his motives in the Kansas matters, however venal they may appear to Republicans, his labors in that direction are just as valuable, and in legislation just as salutary as though he had been shoulder to shoulder with Giddings and Seward, laboring for a dozen years to defeat the unwholesome purposes of Southern fire-eaters. We are not disposed to enter into a defence of Mr. Douglas, but rather inclined to look upon him as a great political sinner, and in the event of a proposition being made to admit him into our affection, we should be more exacting of tests than hitherto of the Republican party. But in this as in all other cases, where a discussion arises concerning the merits or demerits of an individual, where a specific act, or line of policy is to be adjudged, we go in for giving the devil and Douglas their due ungrudgingly.
ELLISBURG, Jan. 20th 1858.
BY TELEGRAPH.
IMPORTANT FROM KANSAS.
The Free-State Party, Triumphant—Vote on the Constitution.
ST. LOUIS, Thursday, Jan. 21, 1858.
The Democrat has received the returns of the elections in Kansas on the 21st of December and 4th of January, as published under the signatures of Gov. Denver and the presiding officers of the Territorial Legislature.
The vote on the Constitution on the 21st of December, stands: "With Slavery," 6,142; and "without Slavery," 569.
At the election on the 4th of January, the Free-State party were triumphant, electing all their candidates by an average majority of 115.
The Senate stands 13 Free-State men to 6 Democrats, and the House 29 Free-State men to 15 Democrats.
The majority against the Constitution on the 4th of January was 10,226—the alleged frauds committed in Oxford, Shawnee, Kickapoo, and other places being counted.
11 p. m.—The Free-State party have made a clean sweep, and carried everything in Kansas.

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