

Communications.

For the Potter Journal. ABBOT, Feb. 22, 1858.

T. S. CHASE.—Dear Sir:—In years gone by, it has been said that Potter County was the receptacle of all the horse thieves, counterfeiters, and "miscellaneous rascals" of the country. This may have been in past time, but we had hoped that the influence of the press, and the untiring energy of a few laborers in the cause of right, had changed somewhat the character of our county. And to the end that this better reputation be not injured, permit me to ask a question or two in relation to an event which transpired at our county court at its last session.

Let me premise by making a few statements of facts. The grand jury found a true bill against James R. C. Coe, for the larceny of a yoke of cattle, the property of H. L. Bird, of Sweden Township. Mr. Bird, through a desire to bring the offenders to justice, had made three trips to Williamsport, and been to great trouble and expense; four witnesses (from Williamsport and thereabouts) had left their homes and their occupations, at a great sacrifice of time and money, and come here to give evidence in the same cause. The case was closely traversed, as all who heard it can testify, and a jury of twelve impartial men returned a verdict of guilty against the said Coe. So far all was right, but the rest of the transaction, I venture to say, is without a parallel in the criminal annals of this or any other county. Upon the rendition of the verdict, Coe deliberately left the court room, spent a few moments in arranging his business, and as deliberately left the town, in the face of court, sheriff, and jury—walking about a half mile from Courtport, where finding a horse saddled and bridled, he mounted and took French leave.

Now, Mr. Editor, there is evidently blame somewhere. It does not rest with the people of the county, for I have heard but one voice in the matter, and that has been the voice of indignation. I am not versed in the intricacies of the law, and the question I wished to propound was this: Who is to blame?

That it is a burning shame to the administration of justice in this county, no one can doubt; and the people of the county have a right to know by whom it was brought about. If the paltry consideration of three hundred dollars bail, which the county may get, be brought up to extenuate the matter, it makes the shame deeper still. If in Potter County a man can buy out of States' Prison, when the sentence is richly deserved, I apprehend that we shall have a greater flood of horse and cattle thieves than ever.

But I ask again, Who is to blame? And I hope you may be able to answer, not only me, but the people of the county. The person who lost the cattle did his duty nobly. The witnesses from Lycoming county, who made such a sacrifice did their duty like men. The prosecuting attorney and his associates did their duty in the trial with great ability, and the jury, in their verdict, did their duty like those who desire to rid our county of such pests. Further than this I cannot go, but ask for light.

In conclusion, it is a poor remuneration to the prosecutor, and the witnesses who identified the thief, for all their expense and trouble, to know that he is now running at large, and can, and undoubtedly will, take means to vent his malice on them, for discharging their duty in aiding to convict him. True, we were told, that, "as a boy, he possessed a high sense of honor;" but I take it that few of us will believe that much of honor or honesty remains in the breast of one who will steal and drive away the last yoke of cattle from a poor neighbor. And it is a poor satisfaction to the people of the county to know that the felon is at large, and probably among us, and that he has accumulated, too; and more that the fingers of justice are so weak, or the force of money so strong, that if a criminal is proven guilty, instead of receiving the sentence of the law, he can coolly walk away, without so much as saying, "by your leave, sirs."

Yours, inquiringly, A. H. C.

[Not being versed in the law, we are unable to answer the inquiries of our correspondent, further than to state that there were three ways by which the criminal might have been retained in custody, viz: 1st, The Judge could have passed immediate sentence, and placed the criminal in the hands of the sheriff. 2d, The District Attorney could have caused his immediate arrest by a bench warrant, and thus placed him in the custody of the sheriff; and, lastly, he could have been delivered into the custody of the court by his bail bond. In stating this, however, we do not charge blame upon any one; but, like "A. H. C." presume somebody is to blame.—Ed. Jov.]

or the Potter Journal.

The Republican Party—its aims, and what will insure its final triumph. The Republican party, with its principles of Freedom, is a necessity of the times—a reform party. In the history of the world, long established power in the same hands, whether in Church or State, grows corrupt, insolent, and tyrannical, therefore, the necessity, now and then, that it be opposed by a new power, in the spirit of reform, to cut away the corruption, and to reanimate the purity of first principles. For instance, in the religious

world, the Roman Catholics glorified the Roman Catholic Church as the mother of all churches! and the light of the world! Albeit she was sitting on the seven hills of Rome; a harlot covered with all manner of abominations and defilements. The Reformers, headed by the indefatigable German, Martin Luther, protested against the corruptions of Rome, and left her with her ungodliness and defilements, and guided in the narrow path, by the true light of Christianity. They established the Protestant Churches of the day. So in affairs of State, in Popular Governments, power in the hands of one party, long continued, may grow corrupt; in which we may see a notable instance, in the boasted claim of superiority of the Democratic Party—that they are the party of the people—that they are the party of the country.—That, as they believe, all righteousness and goodness was lodged in Jerusalem, and that no good thing could come out of Nazareth! True, that they once were the party of the people, true, that they once were the party of the country, and true that they once, with sincere devotion, cherished, guarded, and protected the liberties of the people, from a love of principle; and not as now, bowing, with hypocrisy, the knee in homage to the principle, while, with their hands, they obtain the liberties of the people!

Against this sham democracy the Republican party protest—by the sacred principles of the Declaration of Independence they protest. They raise the white standard of Reform; they beat the drum for volunteers; and in the holy name of liberty call upon every citizen of our common country, to reflect deeply, and to act decisively; and if he would preserve his own freedom, to take position under the standard of liberty, and to show an undivided front. How shall the Republican party triumph? By unity of purpose, and inflexible determination. How shall this unity of purpose be accomplished? By a complete and thorough organization, that shall reach every neighborhood, hamlet, village, and city in the land. Let every man hold himself aloof from corruption; let no man barter or trade his vote for place, profit, or post; let every man be a sentinel, and no man parly with the enemy upon the post of duty; let this once be done, and the great standing army of the people will march forward to victory in 1860, that will save, preserve and perpetuate their liberties.

A SPECTATOR. HOMER, Feb. 5, 1858.

The Potter Journal.

COUDERSPORT, PA. Thursday Evening, March 4, 1857.

T. S. CHASE, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

F. A. ALLEN, Esq., has retired from the editorship of the McKean Citizen, having sold it to a Mr. RODGERS, who announces in his salutatory a positive opposition to Slavery aggression. The retiring, as well as the new Editor, will accept our congratulations.

We learn from the Missouri Democrat, that Champion Vaughn, Esq., the able and independent editor of the Leavenworth (Kansas) Times, has commenced the publication of a daily paper. We hope his success may be eminent.

J. J. CLARKSON, the petted villain of the Border Ruffian Administration at Washington, and Postmaster at Leavenworth, Kansas, was burned in effigy by the citizens of that place, on the evening of Feb. 15th, and resolutions passed threatening to "hang the villain when we catch him." Good news, that.

Col. Forney, in an editorial in the Press, on the majority report of Mr. Buckalew on the Kansas Resolutions in the State Senate says: "One draught from the great Democratic spring of the will of the majority will dissipate from every mind the hazy clouds of logic which Mr. B. has ingeniously thrown around this question."

CORRECTION.—In the article of "Timothy (in Potter)," in the JOURNAL of last week, the last sentence should read: "Er-ror alone fears investigation, and God, has given us facilities for use, not to lie dormant—and to allow others to do our thinking; we dishonor our Maker, defraud ourselves, and do great injustice to the world." We make this correction in justice to, and by request of, the author of the article.

The Washington Correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune of the 25th ult., has the following on dit in regard to the Nebraska bill, which speaks for itself: "The speech of Mr. Millson of Virginia yesterday, vindicating his vote against the Nebraska bill, from a Southern point of view, and demonstrating incontrovertibly the power of Congress over the Territories, created a sensation among the F. F. V.'s, and Mr. Bodeck, one of his colleagues, was anxious to get the floor to correct the damaging impression left by the philosophic and able effort, which had attracted so much attention in the hall. Mr. Millson said that he was told that under the Nebraska bill the people had a right to pass laws in favor of Slavery, but none against it. Then the power to form

and regulate their institutions in their "own way," meant only in one way—the "Southern way." A quiet turn of sarcasm at this point, made some of the Chivalry wince.

Kansas in the Penn. Legislature. HARRISBURG, Pa., Feb. 24, 1858.

In the Senate to-day, the majority Committee on Kansas Resolutions reported the resolution in favor of the Leocompton Constitution, accompanied by a lengthy report, urging the speedy admission of Kansas under the Leocompton Constitution, with a declaration of the right of the people to alter the same whenever they desire to do so through proper and legal means, and sustaining the ground assumed in the President's Message.

The report was ordered to be printed. A motion to postpone action, in order to allow the minority of the Committee to report, was defeated by the united vote of the Democrats.

We find the above in the telegrams of the New York dailies of 25th ult., and have since read the majority report of Mr. Buckalew. It is, like the Message which it attempts to defend, a misrepresentation of well-known facts; but is ably written, and argues the subject with a zeal which would deserve the highest praise if expended in a nobler object than the subversion of popular rights and personal liberty. The report is mainly an attempt to justify the Leocompton Scheme by comparing it with the Constitutional Conventions which framed the two Constitutions under which, respectively, the people of this state have lived—assuming that both the latter were adopted in convention, without subsequent opportunity for the people to pass upon them. It is very true that no direct vote of the people was had upon either the Old or the New Constitution of this state; nevertheless, the people had an opportunity to pass upon them indirectly, and quite as positively as if the vote had been by special election—inasmuch as the Constitutions were each questions at issue in the general elections which followed their adoption in Convention—a privilege which the Leocompton Constitution, in the most positive terms, denies to the people of Kansas, inasmuch as it provides that it shall not be amended previous to the year 1861. The people of the Independent State of Pennsylvania lived under their primitive constitution fourteen years, until 1790, when they changed it, for the one under which they lived until 1838; when in turn that was so amended as to constitute the present constitution of the State—the chief provision of which, is that all future amendments shall be submitted to a vote of the people.

But even if that had not been the case, there is a great difference between the People of Kansas to-day, and the People of Pennsylvania in 1790 and even 1838—the respective dates at which our Constitutions were adopted. Then, the question which is now threatening the stability of the Union was one of secondary importance—now, it is the all-important issue, not only in our nation, but is fast becoming the axis upon which the entire political world revolves; and one of which we are free to confess that we believe will shake the whole foundation of the present political fabric of the world, under whatever code it may be found. The people of this country have before them too many precedents, not to be jealous of their rights when assailed by political patronage or personal ambition—and have seen too much of the sad effects of inactivity when those rights are assailed, even in their own past political history. They have resolved upon a reform in this respect, and all the perfidy and sophistry of their delegated servants cannot change their purpose. They have resolved no longer to be blinded, by party fidelity, to the demands of national principles, and are too well informed to be misled in their efforts to bring about that reform, which is to remove a great blot from our national character and give it a place among the free nations of the world. The blind enthusiasm which our autocratic President has recently exhibited in behalf of Slavery, will fall harmless at the feet of those whom it was intended to crush; it has even already created a happy zeal, in quarters heretofore indifferent to its importance, in behalf of the great reform now so sincerely undertaken by the true patriots of our nation; and from them, in the present instance, will the political ambition of monarchial usurpers receive its first check, and soon its final quiescence.

Of the attempt of the Committee majority to silence investigation by hasty action, we have but a word or two to say. It is characteristic of the party and principles in whose behalf it was adopted, both in the State and National Senate, and receives the hearty condemnation of all true patriots in the nation—it is inconsistent with our national character in the past, and tends to the future degradation of our

social, political and moral integrity, individual and national; and like all usurpations of power, will finally overwhelm, with shame and discomfiture, its guilty and ungrateful authors.

ALLISON WHITE.

The member of Congress from this district, by his service to the slave power in executing his whole influence to sustain the minority rule in Kansas, has obtained a place on the Special Committee ordered by Congress to inquire into all the facts connected with the Leocompton Constitution. As a member of that Committee, he steadily refuses to do what Congress voted should be done. He not only supports the Calhoun scheme to force an obnoxious Constitution on a protesting people, but he refuses to obey Congress in its order to inquire into the facts connected with that scheme. It is said that the President has indicated to the Leocomptonites of the House that investigation must be strangled! Calhoun must not be exposed, because he has done nothing that has not been dictated by the President, and investigation would expose the fact. Allison White complies with this desire of the President, and so strangles investigation.

And yet in the face of this record, the Lewisiana Democrat has the assurance to give currency to the following assertions made by its editor from Washington under date of Feb. 15:

"The representative from your district, Hon. ALLISON WHITE, performed the part of a true Statesman, as well as a sound Democrat, upon this question. As soon as the President's policy was foreshadowed by the Annual Message, Mr. W. set to work to acquaint himself with all the facts, pro, and con, upon the subject. By correspondence with personal friends residing in Kansas, as well as by close examination of all the official reports of Gov. Walker, Stanton and others, he obtained that thorough information which is necessary to a formation of a correct judgment.

The result was a solid conviction of the justice and wisdom, as well as expediency, of the President's policy, and therefore, when the subject came before the House, Mr. White's vote was from the beginning recorded to sustain the President. And, having taken a stand in support of the right, he is that kind of a Democrat that he feels confident his constituents will approve his course just as soon as they examine and understand the matter as he has done. As to the real feeling and wishes of his constituents, it is impossible for him to know them. The hundreds of letters he has received are about equally divided—one-half for and the other against the President's policy; the Democratic newspapers in his district are, with but one exception, I believe, either num or supporting that policy; and, as for county meetings, only two have been held; one in Centre, the other in Lycoming, and the former sustained while the latter denounced it. Surely, under such circumstances, the only course a representative could take—to say nothing of duty—was, to examine the subject himself, vote according to his own judgment, and leave time to vindicate him.

Every person who has kept watch of Mr. White's votes in the Special Committee knows that the above statement as to his obtaining a "thorough information" of all the facts necessary to form a correct judgment, is not true, because, he has steadily refused, as a member of the Committee, to make any enquiry whatever.

Ex-Secretary Stanton was in Kansas all the time this Leocompton fraud was hatching. He was the agent of the Administration, and therefore had access to all the documents, and knows all the facts.

If Mr. White desired a thorough knowledge of the matter, and was willing that his constituents should obtain such knowledge, why did not he vote to subpoena Mr. Stanton before the Committee, to testify as to this scheme of fraud and tyranny? Simply because Mr. White is aiding the President to strangle investigation. The Leocompton scheme being evil will not bear the light.

As to the wishes of the people of this district, Mr. White knows perfectly well, that a large majority of them are determinedly opposed to this scheme to give a minority supreme control over the majority. But we do not doubt that he anticipates that party drill, aided by numerous newspapers, like the Lycoming Gazette, and Clinton Democrat, will finally overcome the will of the people of this district, in accordance with the Leocompton doctrine of permitting the minority to rule. In that however we believe he will be mistaken. There are papers in the district and out of it, that will not be mum, and when the people come to understand the impudence of this scheme of their servants to act the master, and dictate to them what measures shall pass, we have no fear of the result. The majority are bound to rule, not only in Kansas, but in this Congressional District.

The oldest married couple alive are supposed to be a Mr. Snyder and his wife, who reside at Burnside Pa. He is 111, and she is 107 years old, and they have been married 93 years—and, accordingly, were married at the respective ages of 18 and 14.

A Southern Paper Views of Northern Democrats.

We rejoice in the growing contempt for doughfaces. They have enabled the Slave Power to rule the Nation since 1820; and a sad rule it has been. Allison White, the Member of Congress from this district is a genuine specimen of the race. Knowing full well that nine-tenths of his constituents are warmly opposed to the Leocompton tyranny, yet, because the Slave Power requires the triumph of Leocompton, he goes for it. How long will the people elect such timber for Members of Congress? To elect such men is to play the coward to the South, which has already secured for the North; the contempt of all brave spirits in both sections. As an evidence of this, take the following, from the Washington correspondent of the Missouri Democrat. Speaking of the oft repeated threat of dissolving the Union, this writer says:

"But suppose the south in an evil hour should incline to the suggestions of the administration, and make the admission of Kansas under the Leocompton constitution an ultimatum—what then? The north may as well take up the gauge now as at any future time. On every sectional issue the same threat is made. The north has played the coward often enough, and if it yield now there is nothing left in store for it but perpetual dishonor, and an endless series of ignominious defeats. If it abandon the people of Kansas, who are bone of its bone and flesh of its flesh; and prove recreant to the cause of free labor, then let it hold its peace forever, hugging the conviction of its own inherent impotence, and quietly submitting to be ruled by those who have the courage and capacity for ruling. If it be bullied now, it will dwell in the shadow of fear as long as the government lasts. Every concession it has hitherto made, has been the signal for new and more rapacious demands; and no alternative consistent with sectional equality is left it, but the prompt rejection of the Leocompton constitution—the prompt rejection of the southern ultimatum."

A Southern Paper Tells Unpleasant Truths.

The Louisville Democrat has the boldness to oppose the Leocompton Constitution from the start. It tells its readers, and the people of the Slave States truths that must be very unwelcome. Here is a sample of its talk on the subject:

"Let the movement be pushed; and we shall soon find the protest unpropitious and indignant. We shall tell the Democracy of the south the truth, however unpalatable it may be to some of them. This movement will be supported by no party in the free states. The northern democracy will not go to the black republicans; the differences between them are irreconcilable; but it is equally clear that they will not support the south in this movement. They could not if they would, and would not if they could. It is not worth while to tell us what they will do. We know it now that they are beginning to speak, just as well as we shall know it after they have done speaking on the subject. If it were possible to push this matter through Congress, it would raise a storm of agitation surpassing anything that we have yet witnessed. It would be completely sectional, for it would have no support in the free states. How long it will last in its effects, none can foresee. The south hazzards all this for no possible good; nor is it demanded, of her by any necessity; while it is plainly against her creed of popular and state rights.

"Let us take in Kansas, and localize the strife," it is said. We can't imagine how any one can flatter himself that the strife will be localized by any such policy. The very opposite result will be produced, as sure as the sun rises and sets; and we of the south would be in the wrong. The act of taking in Kansas with the Leocompton constitution can't be defeated. The northern democracy will not defend it. They will repudiate it, unconditionally and emphatically. They could resist the Will-mot proviso. It was unjust and unfair. They could repeal the Missouri compromise, for that was right and defensible, but even that required all their power in stemming the torrent of sectional prejudice. Now they are required to take a free state into the Union with a slave state constitution; to legalize slavery where the people don't want it. They can't do it.

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

A Convention of delegates representing the city of Philadelphia, and many of the counties of this Commonwealth, assembled at Herr's Hotel, Harrisburg, on Monday, 22d inst.

The Convention was organized by appointing JOHN ADAMS FISHER, Esq., of Dauphin county as Chairman, and GEO. S. KING, Esq., of Cambria county, as Secretary.

After such organization, and a full and free interchange of opinions among the delegates, the following Preamble and Resolutions were introduced, read, fully discussed, adopted and ordered to be published.

WHEREAS, It is desirable that all those opposed to the misrule of the National Administration, and especially to its atrocious attempt to force Slavery upon Kansas against the will of the people, should unite at the ensuing election on the State and County tickets, without regard to differences of opinion on other subjects, and without regard to the mode or form of effecting said object; therefore,

Resolved, That the State Committee of Lemuel Todd, Esq., is Chairman, be requested to call a Convention of all those willing to unite to effect the above object, to be held at Harrisburg, on some day not earlier than the first of July next.

Resolved, That such call should distinctly state that, in thus inviting, no individual or party is expected to sacrifice any principle, nor to approve of any principle of those with whom he acts, saving only earnest and practical hostility to political despotism, and the extension of human slavery over the free territories of this Republic.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this Convention be signed by the Chairman and Secretary thereof, and that the same be published in all the journals of this State, friendly to the cause of Freedom, justice and right.

JOHN A. FISHER, Chairman. GEO. S. KING, Secretary.

A correspondent of the N. Y. Eccl. Post, thus speaks of the reception of the action of the Convention by national politicians, under date of

Wilmington, Tuesday, Feb. 24, 1858.

"The action of the Republicans assembled in State Convention yesterday at Harrisburg, Pa., is deemed judicious. I learn from a gentleman who was present that the leading Republicans of the State consulted with some of the principal Anti-Leocompton Democrats before the Convention assembled; and it was agreed upon, in Convention, that they would not proceed to take any action against the Leocompton Constitution as Republicans, but adjourn sine die, with instructions to their State Central Committee to call a Convention, at an early day, of all those opposed to the Leocompton fraud. This will be done, and the Convention will, probably, be held sometime during the last of June. This action of the Republicans meets the wishes of the Anti-Leocompton Democrats of Pennsylvania, and is viewed by the Anti-Leocompton Democrats of the House of Representatives from Pennsylvania as a wise movement in the right direction."

Interesting from Kansas.

Special Cor. of the Chicago Tribune. LAWRENCE, K. T., Feb. 13, 1858.

MORE DISCOVERIES.

The Investigating Committee having procured information that required the presence of the Judges of Election at Shawnee and Oxford Precincts, in Johnson County, their Marshal, the fighting preacher, Mr. Stewart, was sent with warrants for their arrest. The Prairie City Rifles acted as a posse, and on Monday morning last started for the scene of action. They came back on Saturday night with three prisoners—a Judge and Clerk of the Shawnee Precinct, and a candidate named Cox. The Judge's name is Macfarlane, and the Clerk's Godfrey.

The Committee held a session the same night, and the result of the proceedings was of an interesting character. A Free-State man, Mr. Brown of Shawnee, stated that he was at the polls all day on the 14th of January, and that a man named Bailey was the last who voted; at nine in the evening. His name on the poll list is numbered one hundred and sixty. The Judge of Election swore that Bailey was the last man that voted, and that he closed the polls at that time. The whole number of votes on the Shawnee returns, as found by the Committee in the candle-box, was over nine hundred! Godfrey, the Clerk, who is a young man, somewhat oblivious of the consequences of tampering with election returns in Kansas, and of a frank and open countenance, was called in and swore that he took the returns to Westport; and that in a room belonging to Col. Boone, in which were that gentleman, Mr. Danforth, a member of the fellow Convention, a son of the Rev. Tom Johnson, and one or two others, and that he sat down and wrote, while young Johnson, Danforth, and Boone read from some papers—probably an old poll-book—a number of names, until the list reached the number stated above. The Judges' and Clerk's certificate was written on a blank sheet of paper, and then appended to the forged returns.

The examination of Godfrey was rather interesting. He answered all questions propounded to him with the utmost frankness and willingness. On being asked what was his business, he replied, "a gambler." He stated that he came to Kansas to make it a Slave State, and that the reason why he told these things, was that he was convinced that it must be Free, and he was going to leave. The men implicated by his evidence are among the principal members of the Pro-Slavery party. Danforth is a personal friend of Secretary Cobb; was sent here to work for his and the extreme Propagandists' interest, and is the Kansas correspondent of The Charleston (S. C.) Mercury. He is a man of ability and influence. Boone's well known in Kansas history. Previous evidence possessed by the Committee implicate Gen. Calhoun. The report of the Committee will be published in a few days, and will be of an extremely interesting character.

Administrator's Notice.

WHEREAS Letters of administration to the Estate of JOSEPH LITTLE, late of Harrison Township, Potter County, Pa., deceased, have been granted to the undersigned, all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same, will present them to the subscriber, in Biggsam Township near Jones' Corners, duly authenticated for settlement. WM. J. CUTLER, Adm'r. Biggsam, Feb. 24, 1858.—10-27-58.