

Communications

Letter from a Democrat

CODDERSPORT, Oct. 5th, 1859.
Mr. Editor.—Allow me to disabuse the public and yourself in regard to the Democratic meeting held during last court week.

I have your issue of the 29th of September in my own possession. It contains nothing but a mass of verbiage, the object of which is to make you believe that the Democrats of this County are in a state of confusion.

No candidates of any sort were proposed during the meeting, nor the name of any one mentioned. Mr. Dent did not say a word about any particular person for the office of Sheriff, and could have had therefore no argument with "regulators."

What your report says about Messrs. Crosby and H. Bird, is as entirely unfounded as the remainder of its contents, for their names were not mentioned, as the meeting was not held at all to make nominations for offices.

The meeting finally concluded to permit Mr. Burt to run. It is likewise a mistake, for 1st, was Mr. Burt's name as little mentioned as any other, and 2d, will Democrats never "permit" what they cannot prohibit.

"If you had presented facts" you might trust to the candid consideration of your readers, but never rely on the result produced by such barefaced falsehoods as imposed upon you by your reporter in regard to the Democratic meeting during last court week.

We publish the above as a matter of courtesy to the writer of it, who, we will also take occasion to say, is one of our first and most intelligent citizens. We would inform you and the public that our informant referred to was a full-blooded Democrat, but we are not at liberty to give his name, even though it were demanded.

It is remarkable in what perplexity the Democratic party constantly finds itself, on the subject of Slavery. It has been put to rest over and over again by their political doctrines, and laid away to sleep the sleep of death, but like Banquo's ghost it comes again unbidden, and intrudes its skeleton frame into their private caucuses and public assemblies, carrying contention, bickering, and strife wherever it goes.

And what has brought upon the party this terrible calamity, this sickness unto death? What evil genius has shorn it of its strength and comeliness and changed it into a monster of such hideous ugliness that it needs but to be seen, to be loathed and detested? It is because they have departed from the simplicity and honesty of purpose that characterized their fathers.

But all this, whether individual or national, must have their culminating point. And there never was a time when the sins of this nation were so man-debasing, so Heaven-daring as now. Their monstrousities have come up before the American people like a stench, and it has aroused a national conscience that even now cowers the dry bones of a once healthy and vigorous democracy to shiver and tremble like an aspen leaf.

How have the mighty fallen? How true it is that our God is a God that judges in the earth and that he will by no means clear the guilty. The Democratic party is now tending to a speedier dissolution. The cerements of the grave are fast encroaching its grave, and soon like the old Whig party that but a few years ago towered in its strength and routed the hosts of democracy in many a battle-field, it will have passed away, to be chronicled among the things that were. May God speed the day; for no man who is a friend to his race will have cause to mourn its departure. PHILIX.

The Potter Journal

CODDERSPORT, PA.
Thursday Morning, Oct. 6, 1859.
T. E. CHASE, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

Republican State Ticket, 1859.

FOR AUDITOR GENERAL, THOMAS E. COCHRAN, of York.
FOR SURVEYOR GENERAL, WILLIAM H. KEIM, of Berks.

Republican County Ticket.

FOR STATE SENATOR, ISAAC BENSON, of Potter,
FOR ASSEMBLY, LEWIS MANN, of Potter, LORENZO P. WILLISTON, of Tioga. [Subject to decision of Conference.]

FOR SHERIFF, ARCHIBALD F. JONES,
FOR CORONER, DR. HENRY H. MUNSON,
FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER, EDWIN THATCHER,
FOR COUNTY AUDITOR, SPENCER A. SLADE,
FOR COUNTY SURVEYOR, ZALMON F. ROBINSON.

The bitterest poverty is that of the spirit; the most tormenting hunger is that of the soul.

The editor has just returned from a visit to his friends, in Crawford Co., but not in time to make a mark in this No. of the JOURNAL.

"The human heart" says Luther, "is like a pair of mill-stones. If good corn is placed between them, they grind it into good meal. But if they have no corn to grind, they grind away themselves."

There is ever an "irrepressible conflict" between right and wrong. Every person in community exerts an influence for or against the right. Readers, have you ever settled with yourself, whether your influence in the circle of your acquaintance is for good or for evil?

The election in California has resulted in the election of Milton S. Latham, (Lea. Dem.) as Governor, by about 20,000 majority; also, other officers to match. The Leecompton candidates for Congress have also probably been elected, though there is some doubt.

The editor, as was stated rather irreverently last week, has gone off, where to, or when he will return is more than we can guess. No matter, what we want the reader distinctly to understand is, that we are editor during the absence of Mr. Chase and Ida, "for better or for worse." If the JOURNAL suits you during that time, give us credit for it; but if it don't suit, just please to blame the fellow who wrote that marriage notice last week.

The Senatorial Conference of the Bradford district balloted two hundred and thirty-three times, and nominated Rev. GEORGE LANDON, who will worthily represent the Wilmet district in the Senate of this State. Although we have a high regard for Judge Jessup, and should have rejoiced in his nomination, yet we believe Mr. Landon will make his mark on the legislation of the State, more effectually than Judge Jessup would have done. We believe Irish, of Allegheny, and Landon, of Bradford, will do more for the Republican cause than any other two men in the Senate.

In consequence of the extra labor imposed upon us by the Agricultural Fair, held here Wednesday and Thursday, we are compelled to postpone the publication of the JOURNAL until this Friday morning. We would here state that the Fair is a perfect success—the display of vegetables greatly exceeding that of last year, both in quality and quantity—a statement which few will be willing to believe in view of the heavy frosts that have prevailed during the season. The display of Cattle and Horses is also larger and better, we believe. The receipts of the Society will exceed those of last year considerably, we are informed. Altogether the Fair does credit to the farms and farmers of Potter county.

The editor of the Warren Mail, who was one of the Senatorial Conferences from that county, speaks as follows of the nominee: "Mr. Benson came to this place some

fifteen years ago from Waterford, Erie County, read law with Messrs. Johnson & Brown, and commenced practice in Coudersport soon after he was admitted to the bar. He soon acquired the practice of a thorough, reliable, business man, and the reputation of a good lawyer and a man of sound, practical common sense.

He has served two years in the House at Harrisburg, where his position was among the truest and ablest of that body. While our personal preferences were very strongly in favor of the re-nomination of Mr. Scofield, we take pleasure in assuring those of our readers who do not already know Mr. Benson, that the choice of the party has not been unworthily bestowed. His experience in legislation; his temperate, industrious habits; his practical comprehension of business; his firmness of purpose and ardent Republicanism, as well as considerable identification with our local and Railroad interests, are sufficient guarantees for us, that our district will be faithfully and ably represented in the Senate for three years to come. His nomination was warmly pressed by Republicans of his own County, and we trust that he will receive the same cordial support from Warren County that we should have expected from them had our man, like theirs, finally been the unanimous choice of the Senatorial Convention."

Roll up a Big Vote for the State Ticket.

We fear there is too much apathy in relation to the importance of a full vote for the State Ticket. Everybody seems to take it for granted that we shall succeed this fall as we did last. So we shall if we poll a full vote. But if one-third of our voters in each county stay at home we shall be ignobly defeated. How is it in this county? Have any arrangements been made to bring out a full vote? Do we grow indifferent to the State ticket because our candidate for Sheriff, or Assembly, or Senator, was not nominated? If such is the case, then we are mere apologues for Republicans, and deserve to have the general government against us. Mark this, a good many who are now cold and inactive, will next year be very active in pushing their own claims for some office. The people will do themselves great service if they will take note of the grumblers now, for none of them will deserve support a year hence. Another thing; the Townships that brings most of its voters out for the ticket this year, other things being equal, ought to have most right in the Convention next year, so far as nominating its candidates is concerned. Now, then, let us all go to work, and so give our excellent State ticket a rousing majority.

Hold On, Will You?

The admirers of Simon Cameron are drawing it a little too strong. It is well enough for mere opposition conventions and newspapers, to endorse without reserve the course of Senator Cameron; but what he has ever done to entitle him to the especial support of Republicans we are not informed. Hence we protest against the resolution of the Senatorial Conference which met here on the 21st Sept., endorsing "the course of the Hon. Simon Cameron," as out of place and incorrect. The resolution reads as follows: Resolved, That this convention cordially approves of the course of the Hon. Simon Cameron, our Senator in Congress, and that we have entire confidence in his ability as a man and his patriotism as a statesman.

If it is intended to express the sentiments of the Republicans of this Senatorial district, it is not true; for they do not approve the course of Senator Cameron in his failure to vote against the passage of the Leecompton Swindle; nor in his vote for Buchanan's scheme to increase the standing army of the United States by five regiments, nor in his failure to vote against the admission of the bogus Senators from Indiana. Here are three very important acts in the "course" of our Senator that the Republicans of this district, so far as we are acquainted with them, do not approve. Mr. Cameron is a successful banker; he has made his mark as a politician; but what has he done as a Republican? We know what David Wilmet has done, or Thaddeus Stevens, or John Hickman, John Covode, or S. A. Purviance, and everybody knows what the Hon. GALUSHA A. GROW has done for freedom and freemen; but what has Simon Cameron done? If he should receive the Republican nomination for President, we shall doubtless give him a cheerful support; but we protest against putting him forward as the choice of live Republicans; and of bringing his name into every little caucus that may assemble. Great men do not need any such lifting as that.

The "Irrepressible Conflict."

Senator Douglas and all his supporters professed to be horrified at the declarations of Hon. Abram Lincoln, of Illinois, and Senator Seward, of New York, that there is an irrepressible conflict between Freedom and Slavery. And yet, what does Senator Douglas do, but go about making speeches against the ultra demands of the Slave-power. His own article in Harper's Magazine in favor of Squatter Sovereignty, has set the whole South in commotion; and his Ohio speeches discuss nothing else but the Slavery question, thus showing that Douglas himself cannot if he would, escape from the conflict. The N. Y. Independent thus forcibly states the true position of affairs: "In the struggle between Freedom and Slavery for the political control of this nation, we are on the eve of a greater and more decisive conflict than any hitherto engaged in. All parties see that the one issue in the next Presidential election must be that of slavery."

This is shown by the speeches of Douglas, and by that portion of the Democracy which dissents from his position. The truth is, virtue and vice, Liberty and Slavery, always have and always will war upon each other until one of them is conquered and subdued. Hence the existence of despotism, whether in Europe or America, requires the freedom of speech and of the press to be abolished. Louis Napoleon can only maintain his despotic power by crushing out all freedom of the press in France, and Slavery is continued at the South by the same means. The publication of Helder's "Impending Crisis," and the existence of a half dozen anti-slavery papers in the border slave States shows the "irrepressible conflict" to be not altogether hopeless for freedom. We trust that every one of our readers will do something to end this conflict in favor of the right. Let us suggest a few things that each of us can do. 1. Vote for no apologist of Slavery for any office, whether Township, County, State or National. 2. Support no minister who is either afraid or ashamed to preach against the sin of Slavery, and the sin of aiding others to hold slaves, the same as against any other sin. 3. Circulate vigorously and perseveringly, books, tracts and newspapers whose influence is in favor of freedom and humanity, and against slavery and cruelty. Here is abundant work for all. Who is there so indolent or so indifferent as to remain idle?

Squatter Sovereignty—Who Believes in it?

When rogues fall out honest men get their due. So when Douglas and Administration men quarrel, freedom is encouraged. Senator Douglas is trying to humbug the freemen of the North with the idea that the people of a Territory are supreme and may settle the slavery question and all others for themselves. He knows better; for, says Judge Black in reply to Douglas: "A Territorial government is merely provisional and temporary. It is created by Congress for the necessary preservation of order and the purposes of police. The powers conferred upon it are expressed in the organic act, which is the charter of its existence, and which may be changed or repealed at the pleasure of Congress. In most of those acts the power has been expressly reserved to Congress of revising the Territorial laws, and the power to repeal them exists without such reservation. This was asserted in the case of Kansas by the most distinguished Senators in the Congress of 1856. The President appoints the Governor, Judges, and all other officers whose appointment is not otherwise provided for, directly or indirectly, by Congress. Even the expenses of the Territorial government are paid out of the Federal Treasury. The truth is, they have no attribute of sovereignty about them. The essence of sovereignty consists in having no superior. But a Territorial government has a superior in the United States Government, upon whose pleasure it is dependent for its very existence—in whom it lives, and moves, and has its being—who has made, and can unmake it with a breath." Senator Douglas has on various occasions assented to this view of the condition of a Territory. He did so in his speech at Springfield, Ill., on the 12th of June 1857, in which, says Judge Black: "He expressed his opinion strongly in favor of the absolute and unconditional repeal of the organic act, blotting the Territorial government out of existence, and putting the people under the sole and exclusive jurisdiction of the United States, like a fort, arsenal, dock-yard or magazine. He does not seem to have had the least idea then that he was proposing to extinguish a sovereignty, or to trample upon the sacred rights of an independent people."

The following extract from a report made by Douglas to the Senate, flatly contradicts his Ohio speeches: "This committee in their reports have always held that a Territory is not a sovereign power; that the sovereignty of a Territory is in abeyance, suspended in the United States, in trust for the people when they become a State; that the United States, as trustees, cannot be divested of the sovereignty, nor the Territory be in-

vested with the right to assume and exercise it, without the consent of Congress." That is precisely what the Republicans say. That the powers of a Territorial Legislature are just what Congress consents to and grants; and that the power exercised by Congress over the question of slavery in the Territories from the adoption of the Constitution down to the organization of Oregon, may and ought to be exercised until all of the territory of the United States shall be free. The reason why Congress ought to prohibit slavery in the Territories now as it did in the days of Washington and Jefferson, is thus stated by the N. Y. Independent: "Slavery is a crime; the system of slavery, as it exists in these United States, is a moral wrong, a sin before God, a crime against man, and no government has a right to commit crime, to sanction iniquity. Mr. Douglas may not be capable of feeling the force of this argument, but it is the only argument which is really valid against the extension of slavery. For this same reason Congress has the right to prohibit slavery in every territory under its jurisdiction. Upon merely technical legal grounds, Mr. Douglas denies the right of the Federal Government to interfere in any way with the question, 'either to establish, to protect, to abolish, or to prohibit slavery.' But if a company of Druids in Nebraska territory should offer human sacrifices in the name of religion; if worshippers of Moloch should set up their rites in Washington territory, and should roast children alive in a heated brazen idol; if a companion of free negroes residing in New Mexico should revive the African custom of slaying fifty or a hundred persons upon the death of their head man, the Federal Government would interfere to prohibit and abolish such practices, for these are crimes against human nature, crimes against society, incompatible with a state of civilized life. Slavery is such a crime; a crime against nature, against humanity, against God, and every civilized community is bound to abolish it, or to prohibit it. The grand fallacy of Mr. Douglas's argument lies in ignoring that fact. Indeed, he even recognizes the right of property in human beings, and compares the slave to a horse, an ox, or a piece of dry goods. But every man's moral sense—unless that moral sense has been obliterated by political sophisms—teaches him that it is a crime to treat a man as a chattel, an article of merchandise. Every man knows that no majority of numbers in the community where he dwells, can have right to make him and his children slaves. Mr. Douglas treats the question of slavery as if it had no moral bearings, as if it were wholly at the option of any community to establish slavery or to prohibit it. He says, 'If the people of a territory desire slavery, all they have to do is to pass laws sanctioning and protecting it. . . . If the people of New Mexico want a slave-code, they have a right to it.' But a people in their organic capacity have no more right to commit a crime, than an individual has; no force of majorities, no sanction of 'local laws' can give that right. Nor can others sit idly by, and see one portion of a community commit a crime against another portion, and not protest against that crime in the name of humanity, of religion, and of God.

Let no friend of liberty be deceived by Mr. Douglas's fiction of "popular sovereignty;" nor by the like sophistries about "free labor" and free soil for white men. The battle of freedom in this nation must be fought on the high ground of moral principle. Better lose ten elections than abate one iota of that principle for a taking political sophism.

Terrible Sufferings on the Plains.

TWO MEN SUBSISTING ON GRASSHOPPERS AND BUFFALO HONES.—We find the following in the Manhattan (Kansas) Express: News recently reached Fort Riley by two soldiers who came in on an express duty from Prairie Dog creek, that two men who had started for Pike's Peak were lying in a starving condition at one of the distant unoccupied stations of the late express company of Jones & Russell. The soldiers reported that if adequate means were sent to their relief, it was still possible that they might be found alive, although they were left in a delirious and feeble condition—Lieut. Chas. Griffin and two others were immediately dispatched with what limited means the quartermaster at the post could furnish. The philanthropic mission reached its destination on the third day. Both father and son were found even in a worse condition than represented. They had been at the station eight days before they were relieved by the small quantity of tea, bacon and bread that the sergeant, who first discovered them, could spare, who gave strict injunctions to eat very sparingly else death would ensue—they being so weak they could scarcely stand up without holding on the door. It appears that they had lived on grasshoppers and mildewed corn picked up from among the excrementals left by the animals which had fed at the station. Providentially, a few young shoots of corn were found to be springing up about the station, and a dried skull of a buffalo had been thrown aside. They caught from twenty to thirty grasshoppers every morning while the dew was still on the grass, until they became so faint to procure this scanty supply of food, which they had to husband, in order to make a stew of grasshopper, buffalo hide and

young corn stalks, in a small tin cup, eat at night, to promote sleep and prevent delirium. Thus they sustained life until they obtained the cupful of tea (about a quarter of a pound), two loaves of bread, and a pound or two of bacon left by the sergeant.—When found by Mr. Griffin, they were too debilitated to be immediately moved.—He accordingly left private Machler to take care of them and went on another day's ride to reach his wagon, which had been broken at the camp at Prairie Dog creek.

The father states that his name is W. W. Frost, that he is fifty years old, and that his son Thomas Frost, who was with him, is seventeen years old; the eldest of six children—the five others, behind at Pottsville, Pa. He is a shoemaker by trade. He started with \$100, having left \$60 with his wife. He paid his fare to Leavenworth City, from whence he started on foot.

A few days since, Messrs. La Mountain and Haddock made a balloon ascension from Troy, N. Y., and were lost. The following telegrams assuring of their safety, will be read with interest:

Troy, N. Y., Tuesday, Oct. 3, 1859. A dispatch was received in this city this evening from Prof. La Mountain, dated Ottawa, C. W., Oct. 3. It was as follows: "Lost all. Landed 300 miles north of W. W. Haddock, in the Canada wilderness. We were four days without food. Brought out by Indian guides in canoes, etc. Please inform wife. (signed) JOHN LA MOUNTAIN."

OTTAWA, C. W., Tuesday, Oct. 3, 1859. Prof. La Mountain and Mr. Haddock came into Ottawa to day, having landed 150 miles north of Ottawa, in the great Canada wilderness.

They were brought out by Indian guides in bark canoes. They traveled in their balloon 300 miles and were up in the air only from four to five hours.

For over four days they have been in the wilderness, without food and with means of striking a fire.

They were rescued most providentially by a Mr. Cameron, who was hunting timber with Indian guides.

THE GRAPE CROP OF THE OHIO VALLEY.—At the meeting of the Cincinnati Horticultural Society on the 3d, Mr. Buchanan made a report on the grape culture, stating that the grape crop in the Ohio Valley is the best since 1853, and in Missouri and Illinois it is also nearly as good. In Maryland, Tennessee, Georgia, and North and South Carolina, late frosts and the rot shorten the crops at least one-half. With in twenty miles around Cincinnati about 2,000 acres are in vineyards, which are estimated to yield this year, 350 gallons of wine to the acre, on an average. Some vineyards will produce 600 to 800 gallons to the acre, others, from neglect, not more than 150. Mr. Buchanan says he invariably found the largest crop in the best pruned and best cultivated vineyards. The vintage will be two weeks earlier this season than usual, and the quality of the wine should be good, for the grapes abound in juice and saccharine matter.

AN INFERNAL MACHINE.—The Chattanooga (N. Y.) Democrat learns that Judge Chamberlain of Randolph, recently received a package from some place in Pennsylvania, by mail. The package looked as though it might have contained miniature likenesses, but upon removing the outside wrapper, the Judge became suspicious of a certain string that seemed to be connected with the contents of the package. He called in a neighbor, and the package was carefully opened, and found to contain two pistols loaded with powder and ball, capped and cocked, the string communicating with the trigger.

The Judge has strong suspicion as to who was the friendly donor of this valuable present.

PRICE CURRENT.

Corrected every Wednesday, by F. A. STEWART, Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Groceries and Provisions, Main Street.

CODDERSPORT, PA.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Apples, Beans, Butter, Cheese, Corn, Flour, Hams, Honey, Lard, Maple Sugar, Oats, Potatoes, Peaches, Poultry, Rye, Salt, Trout, Wheat, White Fish, Wool.

For County Commissioners.

To the Independent Citizens of Potter Co. I offer myself as a candidate for the office of COUNTY COMMISSIONER at the coming election, respectfully soliciting the votes of the people. HUDSON HENDRYE. ALLEGANY, Sept. 27, 1859.