The Potter Journal.

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VOLUME XIII.--NUMBER 19. COUDERSPORT, POTTER COUNTY, PA., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1861. TERMS.--$1.25 PER ANNUM.

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Business Cards.

JOHN S. MANN,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW, Coudersport, Pa., will attend the several Courts in Potter and M'Kean Counties. All business entrusted in his care will receive prompt attention. Office corner of West and Third streets. 10:1

F. W. KNOX,
ATTORNEY AT LAW, Coudersport, Pa., will regularly attend the Courts in Potter and the adjoining Counties. 10:1

ARTHUR G. OLMSTED,
ATTORNEY & COUNSELLOR AT LAW, Coudersport, Pa., will attend to all business entrusted to his care, with promptnes and fidelity. Office on Soth-west corner of Main and Fourth streets. 12.1

ISAAC BENSON.
ATTORNEY AT LAW, Coudersport, Pa., will attend to all business entrusted to him, with care and promptness. Office on Second st., near the Allegheny Bridge. 12:1

O. T. ELLISON,
PRACTICING PHYSICIAN, Coudersport, Pa., respectfully informs the citizens of the village and vicinity that he will promply respond to all calls for professional services. Office on Main st., in building formerly occupied by C. W. Ellis, Esq. 9:22

C. S. & E. A. JONES,
DEALERS IN DRUGS, MEDICINES, PAINTS, Oils, Fancy Articles, Stationery, Dry Goods, Groceries, &c., Main st., Coudersport, Pa. 10:1

D. E. OLMSTED, R. S. COLWELL, A. C. TAGGART.
D. E. OLMSTED & CO.,
DEALERS IN DRY GOODS, READY-MADE Clothing, Crockery, Groceries, &c., Main st., Coudersport, Pa. 10:1

M. W. MANN,
DEALER IN BOOKS & STATIONERY, MAGAZINES and Music, N. W. corner of Main and Third sts., Coudersport, Pa. 10:1

R. J. OLMSTED. S. D. KELLY.
OLMSTED & KELLY,
DEALER IN STOVES, TIN & SHEET IRON WARE, Main st., nearly opposite the Court House, Coudersport, Pa. Tin and Sheet Iron Ware made to order, in good style, on short notice. 10:1

COUDERSPORT HOTEL,
D. F. GLASSMIRE, Proprietor, Corner of Main and Second Streets, Coudersport, Potter Co., Pa. 9:44

ALLEGANY HOUSE,
SAMUEL M. MILLS, Proprietor, Colesburg Potter Co., Pa., seven miles north of Coudersport on the Wellsville Road. 9:44

CHARLES MANNING,
BLACKSMITH, Fourth street, between Main and West Streets, Coudersport, Pa., is prepared to do all kinds of work in his line, on the most reasonable terms. Produce taken in payment. 12:39

EZRA STARKWEATHER,
BLACKSMITH, would inform his former customers and the public generally that he has re-established a shop in the building formerly occupied by Benj. Rennels in Coudersport, where he will be pleased to do all kinds of Blacksmithing on the most reasonable terms. Lumber, Shingles, and all kinds of Produce taken in exchange for work. 12:34.

Z. J. THOMPSON,
CARRIAGE & WAGON MAKER and REPAIRER, Coudersport, Potter Co., Pa., takes this method of informing the public in general that he is prepared to do all work in his line with promptness, in a workman-like manner, and upon the most accommodating terms. Payment for Repairing invariably required on delivery of the work. ☞ All kinds of PRODUCE taken on account of work 1:35.

L. BIRD,
am prepared to do jobs of Surveying in Ulysses, Hector and Pike Townships, and anywhere within 8 or 10 miles of my home, and can undoubtedly give satisfaction, having had over 6 years experience.
L. BIRD.
Brookland, (Cushingville), Potter Co., Pa.
Oct. 24, 1860. 71f

POETRY.

NEW SONG.

BY OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

We sing "Our Country's" song to-night
With saddened voice and eye;
Her banner droops in clouded light
Beneath the wintry sky.
We'll pledge her once in golden wine
Before her stars have set;
Though dim one reddening orb may shine,
We have a country yet.

'Twere vain to sigh o'er errors past,
The fault of sires or sons;
Our soldier heard the threatening blast
And spiked his useless guns;
He saw the star-wreathed ensign fall
By mad invaders torn;
But sew it from the bastioned wall
That laughed their rage to scorn.

What though their warlike cry is flung
Across the howling wave,—
They smite the air with idle tongue,
The gathering storm who brave.
Enough of speech! the trumpet rings;
Be silent, patient, calm,—
God help them if the tempest swings
The pine against the palm!

Our toilsome years have made us tame,
Our strength has slept unfelt;
The furnace-fire is slow to flame
That bids our ploughshares melt;
'Tis hard to loose the bread they win
In spite of Nature's frowns,—
To drop the iron threads we spin
That weave our web of towns;

To see the rushing turbines stand
Before the emptied flumes,
To fold the arms that flood the land
With rivers from their looms.—
But harder still for those who learn
The truth forgot so long;
When once their slumbering passions burn,
The peaceful are the strong!

The Lord have mercy on the weak,
And calm their frenzied ire,
And save our brothers ere they shriek,
"We played with Northern fire!"
The eagle hold his mountain-height,—
The tiger pace his den!
Give all the country, each his right!
God keep us all! Amen!

National Fast, Jan. 4th, 1861.

POLITICAL.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF GOV. A. G. CURTIN.

Delivered January 15th, 1861,

FELLOW CITIZENS: Having been entrusted by the people of Pennsylvania, with the administration of the Executive department of the government for the next three years, and having taken a solemn oath of fidelity to the Constitution of the United States, and to the Constitution of Pennsylvania, I avail myself of your presence to express to you, and through you to the people of the State, my gratitude for the distinguished honor they have, in their partiality, conferred upon me.

Deeply impressed with its responsibilities and duties, I enter upon the office of Governor of Pennsylvania, with a determination to fulfil them all faithfully to the utmost of my ability. Questions of great moment intimately connected with the feelings and interests of the people of all parts of the Nation, now agitate the public mind; and some of them, from their novelty and importance, are left for settlement in the uncertainty of the future. A selfish caution might indicate silence as the safest course to be pursued as to these questions, by one just entering upon the responsibilities of high official position; but fidelity to the high trust reposed in me demands, especially at this juncture, that I yield to an honored custom which requires a frank declaration of the principles to be adopted, and the policy to be pursued during my official term.

We have assumed, as the great fundamental truth of our political theory, that man is capable of self government, and that all power emanates from the people. An experience of seventy one years, under the Constitution of the United States, has demonstrated to all mankind that the people can be entrusted with their own political destinies; and the deliberate expression of their will should furnish the rule of conduct to their representatives in official station. Thus appreciating their liberal capacity for self-government, and alive to the importance of preserving, pure and unsullied as it came from the hands of the Apostles of Liberty, this vital principle, I pledge myself to stand between it and encroachments, whether instigated by hatred or ambition, by fanticism or folly.

The policy that should regulate the administration of the government of our State, was declared by its founders, and is fully established by experience. It is just and fraternal in its aims, liberal in its spirit, and patriotic in its progress. The freedom of speech and of the press, the right of conscience and of private judgment in civil and religious faith, are the high prerogatives to which the American citizen is born. In our social organization the rich and the poor, the high and the low, enjoy these equally, and the Constitution and the laws in harmony therewith, protect the rights of all. The intelligence of the people is one of the main pillars of the fabric of our government, and the highest hopes of the patriot for its safety rest on enlightened public morality and virtue. Our system of Common Schools will ever enlist my earnest solicitude. For its growing wants the most ample provision should be made by the Legislature. I feel that I need not urge this duty. The system has been gaining in strength and usefulness for a quarter of a century, until it has silenced opposition by its benificent fruits. It has at times languished for want of just appropriations, from changes and amendments of the law, and perhaps from inefficiency in its administration; but it has surmounted every difficulty and is now regarded by the enlightened and patriotic of every political faith as the great bulwark of safety for our free institutions. The manner in which this subject is presented to the Legislature, by my immediate predecessor, in his annual message, fully harmonizes with public sentiment; and his recommendation for aid to the Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania meets my most cordial approbation. Invited to the rich prairie lands of the West, where the labor of the husbandman is simple and uniform, when population has filled our valleys, it passes away from our highland soils where scientific culture is required to reward labor by bringing fruitfulness and plenty out of comparative sterility. While individual liberality has done much for an institution that is designed to educate the farmer of the State, the School languishes for want of public aid. An experience of ten years has fully demonstrated that the institution can be made self-sustaining; and it requires no aid from the State except for the completion of the buildings in accordance with the original design. A liberal appropriation for that purpose would be honorable to the Legislature and a just recognition of a system of public instruction that is of the highest importance to the State in the development of our wealth, the growth of our population and the prosperity of our great agricultural interests.

The State having been wisely relieved of the management of the public improvements by their sale, the administration of the government is greatly simplified, its resources are certain and well understood, and the amount of the public debt is definitely ascertained. A rigid economy in all its various departments and a strict accountability from all public officers, are expected by our people, and they shall not be disappointed. Now that the debt of the State is in the course of ready liquidation, by the ordinary means of the treasury, all unnecessary expenditures of the public money must be firmly resisted, so that the gradual diminution of the indebtedness shall not be interrupted.

To promote the prosperity of the people and the power of the Commonwealth, by increasing her financial resources, by liberal recognition of the vast interests of our commerce, by husbanding our means and diminishing the burdens of taxation and of debt, will be the highest objects of my ambition, and all the energy of my administration will be directed to the accomplishment of these results.

The pardoning power is one of the most important and delicate powers conferred upon the Chief Magistrate by the Constitution, and it should always be exercised with great caution, and never except on the most conclusive evidence that it is due to the condemned, and that the public security will not be prejudiced by the act. When such applications are presented to the Executive it is due to society, to the administration of justice, and to all interested, that public notice should be given. By the adoption of such a regulation imposition will be prevented and just efforts will be strengthened.

The association of capital and labor, under acts of incorporation, where the purposes to be accomplished are beyond the reach of individual enterprise, has long been the policy of the State, and has done much to advance the prosperity of the people. Where the means of the citizens are moderate, as they generally are in a new and growing country, and where the concentration of the capital of many is necessary to development and progress, such associations, when judiciously restricted, confer large benefits on the State. The vast resources of Pennsylvania, and the variety of her mechanical and other industrial pursuits, invite capital and enterprise from abroad, which, on every sound principle of political economy, should be encouraged. Much of the time of the Legislature is consumed by applications for special chartered privileges which might be saved by the enactment of general laws and by such amendment to our general mining and manufacturing law as will remove needless and burthensome restraints, and at the same time afford ample protection to capital and labor, and to the community at large. Our statute books are full of acts of incorporation conferring special privileges, various as they are numerous, dissimilar in their grants of power, and unequal in their liabilities and restrictions. Well considered and judicious general laws to meet all classes of corporations, would remedy the evil, economise time and money, relieve the Legislature from the constant pressure for undue privileges, and be just and equal to all in their administration.

The veto power conferred upon the Executive was given with much hesitation, and not without serious apprehensions as to its abuse, by the framers of our organic law. It is, in my judgment, to be used with the greatest caution, and only when legislation is manifestly inconsiderate, or of more than doubtful constitutionality. The legislators, chosen as they are directly by the people, in such a manner that a fair expression of their views of the true policy of the government can always be had, give to all well considered measures of legislation the solemn sanction of the highest power of the State, and it should not be arbitrarily interfered with. While I shall shrink from no duty involved by the sacred trust reposed in me by the people of the Commonwealth, I would have all other departments of the government appreciate the full measure of responsibility that devolves upon them.

The position of mutual estrangement in which the different sections of our country have been placed by the precipitate action and violent denunciation of heated partizans, the apprehension of still more serious complications of our political affairs, and the fearful uncertainty of the future, have had the effect of weakening commercial credit and partially interrupting trade; and, as a natural consequence, deranging our exchanges and currency. Yet the elements of general prosperity are everywhere diffused amongst us, and nothing is wanting but a return of confidence to enable us to reap the rich rewards of our diversified industry and enterprise. Should the restitution of confidence in business and commercial circles be long delayed, the Legislature, in its wisdom, will, I doubt not, meet the necessities of the crisis in a generous and patriotic spirit.

Thus far our system of Government has fully answered the expectations of its founders, and has demonstrated the capacity of the people for self-government. The country has advanced in wealth, knowledge and power, and secured to all classes of its citizens the blessings of peace prosperity and happiness. The workings of our simple and natural political organizations have given direction and energy to individual and associated enterprise, maintained public order, and promoted the welfare of all parts of our vast and expanding country. No one who knows the history of Pennsylvania and understands the opinions and feelings of her people can justly charge us with hostility to our brethren of other States. We regard them as friends and fellow countrymen, in whose welfare we feel a kindred interest; and we recognize, in their broadest extent, all our constitutional obligations to them. These we are ready and willing to observe generously and fraternally in their letter and spirit, with unswerving fidelity.

The election of a President of the United States, according to the forms of the Constitution, has recently been made a pretext for disturbing the peace of the country by a deliberate attempt to wrest from the Federal Government the powers which the people conferred on it when they adopted the Constitution. By this movement the question whether the government of the United States embodies the prerogatives, rights and powers of sovereignty, or merely represents, for specific purposes, a multitude of independent communities, confederated in a league which any one of them may dissolve at will, is now placed directly before the American people. Unhappily this question is not presented in the simple form of political discussion, but complicated with the passions and jealousies of impending or actual conflict.

There is nothing in the life of Mr. Lincoln, nor in any of his acts or declaration before or since his election, to warrant the apprehension that his Administration will be unfriendly to the local institutions of any of the States. No sentiments but those of kindness and conciliation have been expressed or entertained by the constitutional majority which elected him; and nothing has occurred to justify the excitement which seems to have blinded the judgement of a part of the people, and its precipitating them into revolution.

The supremacy of the National Government has been so fully admitted and so long cherished by the people of Pennsylvania, and so completely has the conviction of its nationality and sovereignty directed their political action that they are surprised at the pertinacity with which a portion of the people elsewhere maintain the opposite view. The traditions of the past, the recorded teachings of the Fathers of the Republic, the security of their freedom and prosperity, and their hopes for the future, are all in harmony with an unfaltering allegiance to the National Union, the maintainence of the Constitution and the enforcement of the laws. They have faithfully adhered to the compromises of our great National compact and willingly recognized the peculiar institutions and rights of property of the people of other States. Every true Pennsylvanian admits that his first civil and political duty is to the general government, and he frankly acknowledges his obligation to protect the constitutional rights of all who live under its authority and enjoy its blessings.

I have already taken occasion to say publicly, and I now repeat that if we have any laws upon our statute books which infringe upon the rights of the people of any of the States, or contravene any law of the Federal Government, or obstruct its execution, they ought to be repealed. We ought not to hesitate to exhibit to other States that may have enacted laws interfering with the rights, or obstructive of the remedies which belong constitutionally to all American citizens, an example of magnanimity and of implicit obedience to the paramount law, and by a prompt repeal of every statute that may even by implication, be liable to reasonable objection, do our part to remove every just cause of dissatisfaction with our legislation.

Pennsylvania has never faltered in her recognition of all the duties imposed upon her by the national compact, and she will, by every act consistent with her devotion to the interests of her own people promote fraternity and peace, and a liberal comity between the States. Her convictions on the vital questions which have agitated the public mind are well understood abroad. Her verdicts have been as uniform as they have been decisive, in favor of the dignity, the prosperity and the progress of her free industry, and support of the principles of liberty on which the government is founded, and menace or rebellion cannot reverse them. They have passed into history as the deliberate judgement of her people, expressed in a peaceful, fraternal and constitutional manner: and when they shall have been administered in the government, as soon they will be, the madness that now rules the hour will subside, as their patriotic, faithful and national aims bring ample protection and peaceful progress to all sections of the Republic.

In the grave questions which now agitate the country, no State has a more profound concern than Pennsylvania. Occupying a geographical position between the North and the South, the East and the West, with the great avenues of travel and trade passing through her borders, carrying on an extensive commerce with her neighbors, in the vast and varied productions of her soil, her mines and her manufacturing industry, and bound to them by the ties of kindred and social intercourse, the question of disunion involves momentous consequences to her people. The second of the thirty three States in population, and the first in material resources, it is due both to ourselves and to the other States, that the position and sentiments of Pennsylvania on the question should be distinctly understood.

All the elements of wealth and greatness have been spread over the State by a kind Providence with profuse liberality. Our temperate climate, productive soil, and inexhaustible mineral wealth, have stimulated the industry of our people and improved the skill of our mechanics. To develop, enlarge and protect the interests which grow out of our natural advantages, have become cardinal principles of political economy in Pennsylvania, and the opinion every where prevails among our people that development, progress and wealth depend on educated and requited labor, and that labor, and the interests sustained by it, should be adequately protected against foreign competition. The people of Pennsylvania have always favored that policy which aims to elevate and foster the industry of the country in the collection of revenue for the support of the General Government; and whenever they have had the opportunity, in a fair election, they have vindicated their policy at the ballot-box. When their trade was prostrated and their industry paralyzed by the legislation of the General Government, which favored adverse interests, they waited patiently for the return of another opportunity to declare the public will in a constitutional manner. In the late election of President of the United States, the principle of protection was one of the prominent issues. With the proceedings of Congress at its last session fresh in their memories, a large majority of the people of Pennsylvania enrolled themselves in an organization, which, in its declaration of principles, promised if successful, to be faithful to their suffering interests and languishing industy. Protection to labor was one of the great principles of its platform; it was inscribed on its banners; it was advocated by its public journals; and throughout the canvass it was a leading text of the orators of the successful party.

This is a propitious moment to declare that while the people of Pennsylvania were not indifferent to other vital issues of the canvass, they were demanding justice for themselves in the recent election and had no design to interfere with or abridge the rights of the people of other States. The growth of our State had been retarded by the abrogation of the principle of protection from the revenue laws of the national government; bankruptcy had crushed the energies of many of our most enterprising citizens; but no voice of disloyality or treason was heard, nor was an arm raised to offer violence to the sacred fabric of our national Union. Conscious of their rights and their power our people looked to the ballot-box alone, as the legal remedy for existing evils.

In the present unhappy condition of the country, it wil be our duty to unite with the people of the States which remain loyal to the Union, in any just and honorable measures of conciliation and fraternal kindness. Let us invite them to join us in the fulfilment of all our obligations under the Federal Constitution and laws. Then we can cordially unite with them in claiming like obedience from these States which have renounced their allegiance. If the loyal States are just and moderate, without any sacrifice of right or self-respect the threatened danger may be averted.

Ours is a National Government. It has within the sphere of its action all the attributes of sovereignty, and among these are the right and duty of self-preservation. It is based upon a compact to which all the people of the United States are parties. It is the result of mutual concessions, which were made for the purpose of securing reciprocal benefits.—It acts directly on the people and they owe it a personal allegiance. No part of the people, no State nor combination of States, can voluntarily secede from the Union, nor absolve themselves from their obligations to it. To permit a State to withdraw at pleasure from the Union, without the consent of the rest, is to confess that our government is a failure.—Pennsylvania can never acquiesce in such a conspiracy, nor assent to a doctrine which involves the destruction of the Government. If the Government is to exist, all the requirements of the Constitution must be obeyed; and it must have power adequate to the enforcement of the supreme law of the land in every State. It is the first duty of the National authorities to stay the progress of anarchy and enforce the laws, and Pennsylvania with a united people, will give them an honest, faithful and active support. The people mean to preserve the integrity of the National Union at every hazard.

The Constitution which was originally framed to promote the welfare of thirteen States and four millions of people, in less than three quarters of a century has embraced thirty-three States and thirty millions of inhabitants. Our territory has been extended over new climates including people with new interests and wants, and the Government has protected them all. Every thing requisite to the perpetuity of the Union and its expanding power, would seem to have been foreseen and provided for by the wisdom and sagacity of the framers of the Constitution.

It is all we desire or hope for and all that our fellow-countrymen who complain can reasonably demand. It provides that amendments may be proposed by Congress; and whenever the necessity to amend shall occur, the people of Pennsylvania will give to the amendments which Congress may propose the careful and deliberate consideration which their importance may demand. Change is not always progress and a people who have lived so long and enjoyed so much prosperity, who have so many sacred memories of the past, and such rich legacies to transmit to the future, should deliberate long and seriously before they attempt to alter any of the fundamental principles of the great charter of our liberties.

I assume the duties of this high office at the most trying period of our national history. The public mind is agitated by fears, suspicions and jealousies. Serious apprehensions of the future pervade the people. A preconcerted and organized effort has been made to disturb the stability of the Government, dissolve the union of the States, and mar the symmetry and order of the noblest political structure ever devised and enacted by human wisdom. It shall be my earnest endeavor to justify the confidence which you have reposed in me, and to deserve your approbation. With a consciousness of the rectitude of my intentions, with no resentments to cherish, no enmities to avenge, no wish but the public good to gratify, and with a profound sense of the solemnity of my position, I humbly invoke the assistance of our Heavenly Father, in whom alone is my dependence, that His strength may sustain and His wisdom guide me. With His divine aid I shall apply myself faithfully and fearlessly to my responsible duties, and abide the judgement of a generous people.

Invoking the blessing of the God of our fathers upon our State and nation, it shall be the highest object of my ambition to contribute to the glory of the Commonwealth, maintain the civil and