



The People's Advocate.

Here shall the Press, the People's rights maintain, Unawed by influence, and unbridled by gain.

Montrose, June 18, 1846.

To distant subscribers our papers are generally sent by mail. Arrangements may be hereafter made, by which some may be delivered through the agency of Stage Drivers and Post Boys.

To the People of Susquehanna County:

Your promised Advocate at length appears. We hope its material form will be acceptable, and the leading objects which it purposes to promote receive general approbation. The project of publishing another weekly paper in this community, may, by some, at first impulse, be thought unnecessary, and of doubtful expediency; but, with the impartial, little reflection will lead to a different conclusion.

The conductors of political journals the world over are wont usually to rely upon party favor for support, and it sometimes happens that the leading spirits of party, by adroit management, drag the press from its legitimate stand in the Temple of Truth, and use it as a "second fiddle" to a corrupt clique.

A suspicion has gone abroad that such a state of things exists in this county; and from occurrences of last October the suspicion has been too well confirmed. You saw then, you can see now, that your political rights may be trampled upon—by a party, but by a designing and corrupt clique, and their supple safety-valve, the "Northern Democrat."

It was most truly and fitly said of that print last October, that "it has become the tool of interested office-holders—sets at defiance the power of its patrons—publishes the most malignant assaults, but denies the party assailed the opportunity of reply. To-day it receives and promises to insert an article in its columns, but afterwards, when all chance for having it otherwise published is lost, returns the same in violation of its undertaking."

This spirit of proscription and disposition to dictate, have lastly disaffected the greater portion of the Democratic party with that print; and they recognize it as the "organ," only of the "outs and ins" of office—clique, consisting of ex-officers who have promised to fulfil and who are ever present office-holders; with the exception of Register and Recorder, who bolted the Regency and was elected from the "People's Ticket," men who well understanding the means by which the places they now occupy were attained, know how to transfer them to their fellows—and office-expectants; a rather numerous branch of the junto, to whom have been assured the principal offices in your gift for several years to come; and it not unfrequently occurs, in times of emergency, when arrangements previously made are about to be tested, or nominations to be made, that the same office is promised to several individuals in different parts of the county. These several branches of one political family, constituting a pretty formidable Regency, form a third, known as the Aristocratic Party of Susquehanna county. The views indulged by this faction or third party, upon subjects of public policy vitally affecting our interests as Pennsylvania citizens, obviously do not accord with those entertained by the Democracy of the Keystone State. That we are correct in this position, clearly appears, by a reference to the proceedings of a meeting held at the Court House on the 19th day of January last, called and conducted by the third party, whereat, by a majority of those who voted upon the question, the following sentiment was adopted, to wit:

Resolved, That we believe that the interests of the great mass of the people of this Union demand a modification of the present Tariff. Now, though we intend ever to be found manfully contending in the van of the Democratic army, we can not approve any interruption of the Tariff act of 1842, while its asphyxiating influences upon the depressed financial condition of our debt-ridden State are so clearly observable and sensibly felt, as at present. Our people are oppressed and borne down to the earth as it were in consequence of improvident Legislation in relation to our public improvements; which, though comparatively profitless, under the salutary operation of the present Tariff, yield sufficient revenue to enable us, with a submission to severe taxation, semi-annually to meet the interest which accrues upon our common debt, and thus preserve the honor of our noble Commonwealth. Repeat that act, or modify it as proposed by its opponents and you inflict a sadness if not a blight upon our almost expiring hopes of being ere long relieved from a burden of taxation scarcely less grievous than that which led to the Revolution. You would check the increasing growth of our commerce—dampen the ardor of enterprise in the various departments of manufacture, and injuriously affect the agricultural interests of the country.

As the citizens of a State, the bowels of which are replete with mineral wealth,

abounding in coal and iron of excellent quality which by their application to manufacturing purposes under the favorable auspices of the present Tariff, already produce immense revenue to the Commonwealth, can we oppose or seek to disturb the operation of an act which thus promises to become the instrument of our redemption from the curse and reproach of a monster debt reprehensibly incurred? Was not "Pennsylvania doctrine" libelled by that meeting? Is the measure which they propose, democratic, or is it approved by even any considerable portion of the enlightened Democrats of this State?

In January last, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted by our State Senate: Whereas, The tariff of 1842, produces no more than sufficient revenue to defray the necessary expenses of the general government, and affords only an adequate incidental protection to American industry and American manufactures, against foreign competition and foreign policy and a consequent encouragement to commercial enterprise, to agricultural pursuits, and to the development of our own internal resources.

And Whereas, It is believed the people of Pennsylvania are opposed to any alteration in the existing tariff until further experience has shown that a modification is required to secure a continuance of such protection, and to promote the general welfare. Therefore Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress, be, and are hereby requested, to oppose all attempts to alter or modify the tariff act of the 30th of August, 1842.

Resolved, That the Governor be requested to transmit a copy of the above preamble and resolution to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress. They were then sent to the popular branch of the Legislature for affirmation. In the House of Representatives, on the 6th day of February the question on their passage came up, and was decided in the affirmative—yeas 79, nays 14: Messrs. THOMAS and FASSETT, voting in the negative.

In indication of our position upon this important subject, we need only say, that we cheerfully concur in the views thus expressed by so great a majority of that Representative body. We believe them to be essentially correct and purely Democratic. It is unnecessary for us to make a long list of promises of what we will or will not do, because the world have long since learned that promises are often made than fulfilled—we propose giving the substance in lieu of the shadow. We will promise, however, that the Advocate, under its present management, shall be a FREE PRESS—DEMOCRATIC FREE PRESS. We launch upon the political platform untrammelled and free—sticking type, and sticking to our principles, we will not publish other than a free and fearless Democratic paper.

The Advocate is printed on entirely new type—the largest sheet ever published in Susquehanna Co., and will be afforded at the low price of one dollar a year. It shall be our constant aim to make it a welcome visitor to every fireside in the county. We will speak the truth, "regardless of denunciation from any quarter"—and if we offend in so doing, we trust the better feelings of our patrons will not fault us. We design to avoid personalities, and cooperate with those whose self-respect induces them to do likewise, in maintaining the dignity of the Press. In short, we pledge ourselves, with your kind support, honestly and vigilantly to guard your rights, cautiously and fairly exposing abuses, wherever developed. Head the Poet's rally!

Men of thought! be up and stirring Night and day! Sow the seed—withdraw the curtain—Clear the way! Lo! a cloud's about to vanish From the day! Lo! the right's about to conquer. Clear the way! Aid the dawning tongue and pen; Aid it, hopes of honest men; Aid it, for the hour is ripe; And our earnest must not slacken Into play. Men of thought and men of action! Clear the way!

We are informed that persons soliciting subscribers for the Third Party's Paper have industriously circulated the rumor that the People's project of publishing a new paper would not be carried into effect. As this appears to be a mistake, Postmasters will confer a favor by forwarding the first number to subscribers whose names will be found inscribed upon them.

Our paper might have appeared last week, but for some mistake in packing our materials in New York. Some cases and letters were omitted, which have occasioned delay. We expect the deficiency to be supplied this week, and shall hereafter be enabled to issue our weekly numbers regularly. A gentleman more competent to the task than any other in the county, has kindly offered to arrange for the next Advocate a Bank Note List for the People's convenience; and weekly to correct the same for them. For doing so, we doubt not our readers would acknowledge a great obligation. The Convention to amend the Constitution of New York assembled at Albany on the 1st inst., and was organized by choosing JOHN TRACY, of Chenango, to preside. Committees were appointed, to whom were referred the several matters to be acted on. The Albany papers say the right spirit seems to prevail among the members.

THE WAR.—The existence of war between powerful nations, each contending for the mastery, is deeply to be deplored by every philanthropist. True the "pomp and circumstance" of marshaled hosts moving with measured tread at the "spirit-stirring music of life and drum" are animating, and not unfrequently impel the citizen-soldier, (with liberal reliance upon his chances for escape,) "as the horse rusheth into the battle," inconsiderately to enter the field of mortal combat. But when, after a murderous conflict, the spectacle of numerous dead is presented, the groans of the wounded and dying are heard, and the lamentations of widows and orphans anticipated, the scene is changed, and the "horrors of war" become the theme of more rational contemplation. Lasting injuries to commercial and inland business, and the demoralizing influences of the camp, are evils of no small magnitude. But as there is a right and a wrong in all cases of national dispute, the occurrence of such calamity may be unavoidable if we would protect our Territory against hostile invasion, or our rights from lawless aggression.

The high Functionaries of our government, acting as Sentinels upon the watch-tower of Freedom's Temple, have proclaimed that a war exists between Mexico and the United States. What is our duty as American citizens? Shall we delay action to discuss the necessity of its occurrence, and ascertain whether the Neceus or the Rio Grande forms the boundary proper between Mexico and the State of Texas, and to settle other incidental questions? A more humane and enlightened policy would seem to urge prompt, vigorous and effective measures with the view to a speedy and speedy termination of hostilities. The course thus far pursued by our government, indicates the adoption of this policy. Hence, we rejoice in the success of our arms, and admire the bravery and prowess of our troops at Fort Polk and Palo Alto on the 8th and at Rasaca de la Palma on the 9th ult.

As we have made arrangements for receiving news, daily, from Philadelphia and New York, we shall weekly extract such items of intelligence from the seat of war, as we think will most interest our numerous readers.

The N. Y. & Erie Railroad.—This important project seems to be "dragging its slow length along." We learn from public advices, that the Commissioners who have power to determine whether the Northern or Southern (through Pennsylvania) Route shall be adopted, met in the city of New York a few weeks since, and adjourned.

It is beginning to be generally felt and acknowledged that American Slavery is an enemy more to the South and to the North, to the Master and the Slave; to the Church and the State; to public property, and private peace; to all that is valuable in human life. Nor is this all. It is equally true that this tremendous evil would be met and subdued, also it will rest upon, and crush every hope. This issue has been decided and proclaimed, until the question has become one of simple resistance, or submission; of liberty, or slavery; of moral life, or death.

The Slavery principle cannot, in the nature of things, harmonize and coexist with the spirit of Freedom and Justice. They are antagonistic, and brought in contact, must contend with and enervate upon each other. This is true also, of all the minor and derivative interests growing out of either class. In other words, it is morally impossible that a Government should carry out the principle of equality and justice to one class of its citizens, while it systematically withholds those rights from another class. The fiat of Heaven is against this. Man can never do it. He may propose it, and theorize about it, and talk of difference in color forming an exception; and all this; but the practice will ever prove it to be impossible. Resisted justice is a self-contradiction. The moment we make an exception to one, as a people, adopt the principle of justice to one class, and oppression toward another, that moment injustice is infused into the whole system, and spreads its necessary evils alike over the favored, and the unfavored. This is a merciful dispensation. It sternly and fearfully upon him the very notice of self, to induce him to render to his neighbor his due.

Where this antagonism between right and wrong exists; the one, or the other element must, and will be ascendant. The whole history of mankind enforces this truth; and our own Country, notwithstanding the long record of the past, is rapidly developing all another, in this sad trail of proofs. Here, the Slavery principle controls the policy of the Nation. Every question, whether it be financial, or moral; whether it be peace, or war; protection, or free-trade; President-making, or lesser appointment; Bank, or Sub-treasury, touches somewhere, or somehow, the Slavery interest, and is moulded by that interest as its own. The South rules the North; the influence of Slavery rises above, and overshadows the growth of freedom and light, banishing from the acts of men, and thence from their minds, the very sense of purity and law. By the necessary operation of a fixed law, if these things continue, the day of retribution must come. The smothered, and pent-up revenge will break forth. France round the wrongs of the Slave, as you may; pile upon them Statute after Statute, and lay upon it all a Nation's approval, and a People's awe; yet they will burst the weak restraint; and our country shall furnish the bloodiest chapter in all the book of time. Who will pronounce this phantasy! He that utters it, says that national injustice and wrong, but guaranty national happiness and prosperity. He denies alike Revealed truth, and historic proof; he conjures, in impossible, and impious alliance, vice, and happiness; virtue and misery. Practically, he is alien and hostile both to God, and to man.

The highest necessities therefore, of our Country, called into existence the Liberty-party. It alone, takes up the great issue. The question of right to the chained millions of our land, is important, beyond our power to estimate. Compared with it, all other considerations that can press upon us, sink into mere nothingness. Through the peaceful application of the Ballot-box alone, can this evil be peacefully done away.

There are many reasons why this party should be supported, which my present limits will not permit me to give. But I may say, that, if there were no other, it is enough that it rejects the decision that men can do in their political relations, incoherently, that which, in their other relations, they would

The following Communication has been handed to us for insertion in "The People's Advocate." The author is known to us, and is meritorily entitled to our respect. But, in determining what course we are to pursue in respect to this, and other articles of like import which we are invited to anticipate, it is not with him that we have especially to do, but the principles which he and his friends who have embarked in the same cause, are disposed to advocate. As the writer has indicated a desire to elicit our views upon this exciting subject, (for his future government in the relation of correspondent we suppose,) we will cheerfully define our position.

It has been aptly said, "There are three great parties; 1. The Pro-slavery party; 2. the Abolitionists who hold slavery to be sin per se, and 3. Anti-slavery men who are opposed to both." We may be classed with the latter. We regret the continuance of Slavery in our land—consider it a great moral and political evil—a paradox upon our declaration of Independence—a stain upon our national escutcheon and a just cause of reproach to our Country. But we cannot concede that the relation of Master and Servant is in itself sinful. We find it fully recognized in the Old Testament, especially in the Law of Leviticus, and carefully regulated in the New Testament, as appears from the exhortations of the apostles.

We are not desirous of discussing this question on our part, and shall not do so. But as the conductors of a free and independent Press, we will publish any opinions on the subject of American Slavery, if couched in respectful language and of reasonable length, without charge or the significant superscription—"By request."

Having learned that the columns of your Paper will be open to the expression of the sentiments of all your fellow-citizens, irrespective of their connections in moral and political life; I deemed it my duty to avail myself of this privilege, to express the opinions of a large and interesting portion of our community upon a subject of vital and personal interest to all. I propose to write a series of brief letters, trusting I shall commend myself to every man's favorable judgment, and enlightened conscience, both by the spirit with which I write, and by the truth which I maintain. And here let me remark, that I venture to say, a liberal public will most warmly approve the course, which I propose to take for your readers to see every shade and aspect of subject, and then determine, each for himself, the right, and the duty. Indeed the time has come, when a free people will acknowledge, the right of any Party-Editor to assume the guardianship of his Press,—to make it a conveyor of his own peculiar views only. One would think they imagined they had the right to shape the general feeling to their own notions of justice. This narrow policy cannot be sustained. The "signs of the times" in our own Country, indicate the dawn of a freer, and a more liberal sentiment. But to my subject.

It is beginning to be generally felt and acknowledged that American Slavery is an enemy more to the South and to the North, to the Master and the Slave; to the Church and the State; to public property, and private peace; to all that is valuable in human life. Nor is this all. It is equally true that this tremendous evil would be met and subdued, also it will rest upon, and crush every hope. This issue has been decided and proclaimed, until the question has become one of simple resistance, or submission; of liberty, or slavery; of moral life, or death.

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think from, as criminal. We are just as much bound to do right at the Polls, as elsewhere. It is as wicked to make of refusal to repeal slave-laws, or to elect men to office who will make of refusal to repeal such laws, as it is to forge muskets for the slave, or bind them upon him. We shall scarcely, thus, have abolished the National party of slavery, by which is meant slavery in the District of Columbia, in the territories, and under the national flag, ere State slavery, then no longer protected or countenanced by our national, pro-slavery example, will die a quiet death.

The Liberty-party alone proposes all this. Its organization was a new and a bold experiment. It claims to be conformed to what is right. A political party, controlled in all its movements by moral and religious truth, was a thing so unprecedented, so foreign to all custom, that it was stared at as impracticable and fanciful. Yet all will acknowledge this to be necessary to the preservation of both private and public morals. Every thing depends upon its success. Who will aid it!

From the Ledger of June 13. No War with England! Highly Important from Washington.—The Oregon Question.—The President advised by the U. S. Senate to compromise the Controversy. The following letter from our correspondent, last night, informs us of the result of the secret session in the U. S. Senate, upon the Oregon question. The President is advised to settle the question upon the basis of the 49th parallel, but it is not certain that they recomended the adoption of the precise terms that Great Britain has offered. The full result cannot of course be known until the injunction of secrecy is removed.

WASHINGTON, June 12—6 P. M. The Senate was in Executive session from 1 until 5 o'clock P. M., to-day, and had just adjourned. I am informed that the Senate has advised the President to compromise the Oregon controversy on the basis of the 49th parallel; but whether he is advised to accept the proposition of Great Britain, without modification, I have not been able to ascertain—the seal of secrecy has not been removed, and Senators are very close mouthed on this subject.

Message from the President on the Oregon Question. WASHINGTON, June 10—3 o'clock. The Senate has just gone into Executive session on a message from the President of the United States, received twenty minutes since. This message is understood to communicate the proposition of the British Government for a settlement of the Oregon controversy, made yesterday—the character of which I gave you in my letter several days since, to accept the proposition of Great Britain, without modification, I have not been able to ascertain—the seal of secrecy has not been removed, and Senators are very close mouthed on this subject.

WASHINGTON, June 10—9 o'clock, P. M. The Senate closed their executive session to-day about 5, P. M. The nature of the President's message I have correctly stated to be the proposal of Great Britain, which is the whole of Vancouver's Island, and the free navigation of the Columbia by the Hudson Bay Company only until the expiration of their charter, the British fearing that they might otherwise be compelled to pay that company too large an indemnity. The free navigation of the Straits of Fuca, and the free use of the bays and inlets of Vancouver's Island, to be allowed the United States for the same period and some other privileges not heretofore expected by the forty-nine men. The President asks the advice of the Senate.

The question was debated, but without taking any vote, and the discussion of the bill will be resumed to-morrow at 1 o'clock. The 54-40 Senators are greatly displeased, and from this I judge that the majority of the Senate is disposed to advise the acceptance of the proposal. The President having declared himself on the line of 54-40, will not accept the proposal unless advised by the Senate.

Important Rumor—Collision between Mormon and California Emigrants. The officers of the Radnor, which steamerboat arrived at St. Louis on the 2d, from the Missouri river, reports that a messenger they lay there, who stated that a collision had taken place between the party of Mormon, now emigrating to California, and Gov. Boggs' party journeying to the same destination. In the encounter, Boggs and several of his company were killed. The last intelligence we had from the plains spoke of a threat which had been made against the California emigrants by the Mormons, and that in consequence Boggs was about to return to Missouri. This may have given rise to the report of a collision. A few days will bring us more particulars, if the messenger's story be true. The settlers at Kansas were arming to go out to the assistance of the emigrants. There was an old grudge against Gov. Boggs on account of his conduct towards the Mormons while in Missouri. The story of the collision we think is very doubtful.—Public Ledger.

LICENSE LAW OF CONNECTICUT.—The Senate have passed a bill repealing the license law of the last year, and substituting a law which while it does not prohibit selling, prohibits drinking, and selling to drink except at taverns. Taverns are by former laws obliged to obtain licenses, and the authorities who grant those licenses, can do so on such terms as they think proper. The House, it is understood, will concur. A Yankee Captain, once sung out in a squall, to a raw-bird, newly shipped on board his craft. "Let go thy job there! Durr, your skin, let go that job!" "I ain't touchin' it!" squalled out the sun-ple down Easter.

WAR NEWS! From the Public Ledger. WASHINGTON, June 9, 1846—6, P. M. Southern Mail just Arrived. FIVE DAYS LATER FROM MEXICO. Mexican Northern Army Reinforced.—Mexico determined to push on the War.—Demand on the Churches.—Memento of Pa. xedec.

OFFICE OF THE N. O. PICTURES, Tuesday, June 2, 1846. By the arrival of the barque Louisiana, Captain Willis, we have advices from Vera Cruz to 25th ult., five days later than those brought by the Thetis. The Louisiana sailed in company with the Helen McLeod, leaving no American vessels in port. Brig Petersburg for New York sailed May 20th, as before reported.

The blockade of Vera Cruz commenced on the 20th, and fifteen days were allowed all neutral vessels in port to load and depart, by order of the Mexican government. The American Consul's office has to be closed and all American citizens to leave by the 26th May, or on that day. Mr. Diamond, our Consul, expected to embark on board the Steam Frigate Mississippi. The frigate Raritan returned on the 25th, and a sloop being found lying off port, got off in haste to prevent being seized. The day they marched news reached Vera Cruz, that at Mazatlan, Leipsic had declared against the Government. Gen. Alvarez was still carrying on his hostile preparations in the South part of the department of Mexico. A report was in circulation that Gen. Parides intended to leave the city of Mexico at the head of more troops to reinforce the army of the North.

The animosity existing against American volunteers was increased by news of the two actions of the 8th and 9th. In consequence of the enormous forced loans which the government had imposed upon the clergy, the latter had declared themselves totally opposed to furnish the subsidies, \$98,000 per month. The churches of Mexico amount to \$35,000; of Puebla \$40,000; of Guadalupe \$20,000; of Durango \$15,000; of Oaxaca \$20,000. These great sums per month show that President Parides is determined to prosecute the war with energy. Signor Gonzalez, of Durias has been arrested by the government. General Almonte made a formal resignation of his mission to France. In regard to Parides putting himself at the head of the army.

In regard to Parides putting himself at the head of the army. El Republicano says:—It is uncertain whether he will repair to the Rio Grande or Vera Cruz. He would leave the Capital as soon as Congress assembled. Full accounts of the disastrous actions of the 8th and 9th had been received at the capital, and appeared in the official journal. They are more accurate than Mexican bulletins generally are, and do credit to Austria. News was received with regard to a determination to fight the war out.

Letter from the Army. CAMP MATANORAS, MEXICO, May 25, 1846. ARMY OF OCCUPATION. Gentlemen:—Nothing new of a fighting spirit, save and except that our "regular army" received an additional force of 1,500 volunteers yesterday. I am told that two of the number died of fatigue of sickness on the march from the mouth of the Rio Grande. They present a highly respectable and warlike appearance, and will, no doubt, manifest themselves in glorious achievements when they face the enemy.

It is rumored this morning that the Mexican army has met with a reinforcement of 3,000 men, which has determined it to march for Monterey, instead of Vera Cruz, there to wait for a larger force to be concentrated. A large party of Dragoons take up the line of March to-day, for Point Isabel; for what special purpose is not positively known; but supposed to be for the equipping them selves, and recruiting the horses. We have taken possession of a printing establishment belonging to the Mexican government, and contemplate publishing a newspaper in Matanoras. Within a week or two from the receipt of these few lines, except to acknowledge our first number. The weather is warm but not unhealthily Yours, &c. D. P. H.

THE CAMP AT MATANORAS.—A correspondent of the Newark Advertiser, writing from Matanoras, gives the following account of the place and the enjoyments of the soldiers. "We entered the city without firing a gun, and displayed the star-spangled banner in short order. The place looked beautiful from the other side of the river, but I was surprised when we rode through it. The best street in the city is in no respect better looking than, say Anthony Street, New York. The families appear to be afraid of us; but I have seen some pretty looking women. The farm houses in the vicinity are neat looking; and the farmers bring into camp poultry, butter, eggs, green corn, beans, &c. The camp is in fact thronged with mill-girls from the neighborhood every morning and evening. Small oranges are abundant, and we have plenty of water-melons, so that not enduring a great deal of untold hardship in Texas, the Army is now comfortably quartered in the enjoyment of many of the good things of life. Amongst the booty found in one of the public store-houses were a large quantity of cigars, which were yesterday distributed among the Army, each man receiving some 500—which, as you may 'being smoked' with a vengeance."

INCREASE IN RIBBON ISLAND.—In Rhode Island, licenses to taverns to sell ardent spirits have been granted only in two towns, Foster and West Greenwich, and in Providence six stores are licensed to sell by the quart, not to be drunk on the premises. HONOR FOUNDED.—A gentleman writing from Austin, Texas, alluding to annoyance by the Camanches says, "the owners of some fine horses, which had been staked out, upon looking for them one morning, found one missing and the other dead. The one first found, looks very much like a bull."