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Speculation on the Presidency and Political Organization.

The papers begin to teem with political speculations respecting the next Presidency; who will be put in nomination by one party—who by the other? What are the relative chances of each candidate for the nomination, and if nominated, what are the chances of election. About these regions the whigs seem to go pretty much for Fillmore and Graham.—The Lexington (Ky.) Observer is out for Henry Clay, & if there be any chance for his nomination, his friends will use his name, and old "Harry of the West" will again enter for the race. Mr. Webster has many friends, and some of them think that now or never is the time for him to make a run. Gen'l Scott is considerably knocked in the head by the result of the elections in Pennsylvania and Ohio, and even in New York, where it is a drawn battle, spite of all the influence that Seward could bring to bear. The partial defeat of the democrats in New York is a better augury for the National party than their complete success would have been, for it will give a preponderating influence in the Baltimore convention to the more sound and conservative State of Pennsylvania, and will also be more apt to keep down splits in N. York, by demonstrating the absolute necessity of union to secure success and prevent a disastrous defeat.

Among the democrats there are many men whom the party would delight to honor, and it would be wrong in policy to allow our political feelings to take a personal direction in advance of the decision of the Baltimore convention. Whoever the nominee of that convention may be, he will meet with our warmest support, provided always that we can approve his principles. There can be no course more censurable in a party man or a political paper than that of allowing himself or itself to become the organ of any particular aspirant, merely on personal grounds, or the opponent of any other member of the party, simply because he may stand in the way of a personal favorite. It is perfect selfishness, and a sort of insanity, and is well calculated to injure the person striven to be benefitted.

There is one reason why we always have been and always will be very cautious not to commit ourselves in advance to the support of any particular men for any particular offices, and we cannot but regret that all our Democratic organs throughout the Union are not equally so. Now in Pennsylvania, we find the leading Democratic presses strongly favor Mr. Buchanan. In this they are right enough, for Mr. B. is worthy of all the honor the people can bestow upon him. But in their tone of intolerance towards those who favor other Democrats, they commit what Napoleon considered worse than a crime—a most egregious blunder, for they raise up factions in the party, and perhaps irritate some portions so much that even in case Mr. Buchanan were regularly nominated, he would receive from them but a lukewarm support.

In spite of all that has been said for and against the different candidates who stand most prominent on the Democratic side, we hold it next to impossible to say who will be the nominee of the party. We have our preference, it is true, but were our most bitter enemy to be nominated, we would support him if we thought him sound.

If there be one thing in the world we like, it is freedom of opinion and independence in a politician or a political paper. A Democratic paper for instance, is the advocate of broad and general principles, and should not be expected to constitute itself the mere representative of local opinion. If a party hopes to succeed, it must act in concert and as an organized body. Anything that disturbs that concert, impairs the strength and efficiency of the organization, and should be avoided. Among these disturbing causes, is the habit of resolving upon all things under the sun, which seems to be so inevitable an accompaniment of every sort of meeting. A State Convention, for instance, will be held for the purpose of consultation and promoting harmony and peace.—Differences are reconciled and misconceptions explained; and so a platform is erected upon broad and liberal grounds. The convention adjourns, and perhaps in a week or two a local meeting may be held, in which the misconceptions still exist, and so resolutions are passed which clash with, or appear to clash with, those of the convention. The result is embarrassment and trouble. It is expected that the party editor should defend all these things, or else be denounced by those who ought to know better, as "unsound," a word of very vague signification, meaning anything, everything or nothing. It requires more tact and firmness than one man in a hundred can appreciate, to enable an editor, in times of excitement, to preserve the even tenor of his way as a party organ, and not to degenerate into the mere mouth-piece of local feeling or prejudice.

We are opposed, in toto, to the habit of resolving, as it exists in political parties. For the decision of questions of State policy, a convention of the whole party of the State is requisite; so of national politics of the Union. If we can approve the principles and course of action there laid down, let us do so; if we cannot, let us not pretend to do so, while at the same time we embarrass our party organs by passing resolutions which are in opposition to those of the convention, and frequently to each other.

New York.

It is impossible to get at the exact state of things in New York. It would seem that a portion of the whig and a portion of the democratic State ticket is elected. The popular vote is about balanced.

Mississippi.

It turns out that Foote's majority for Governor is much smaller than had been supposed. It will be between five and seven thousand.

Maryland.

The democrats have carried their State ticket.—The whigs will have a majority in the State Senate, of whom the majority held over. The democrats will probably have a majority in the House, and perhaps on joint ballot. The democratic gain in the popular vote is very considerable.

The population of Texas amounts to 154,431. The slave population to 58,161—total 212,592. The number of white males exceeds that of white females by 15,000. What a place for the girls.

[Communicated.]

Another Valuable Acquisition.

Passing through the market house early this morning, we were greatly surprised to find a stand decorated with cups and saucers, and a boiler of hot coffee along side. Curiosity led us to try the novelty of a cup of the article so early in the morning, and to our satisfaction we found it made in the best manner.—We don't know who it is that has commenced this new and invaluable acquisition for the comfort of man in our market, but we do think he will be liberally encouraged. A cup of good strong coffee, early in the morning, before the fog has cleared away, is a most delicious beverage, and far preferable to a "cock-tail" of spirituous liquor. It neither makes the head or heart ache, nor does it create thirst for a second glass.

PASSER BY.

From the Washington Union.

The following communication, which we received last evening just before going to press, shows the nature and significance of the whig victory in Wisconsin. It will be seen that it is the result of a coalition between whigs and free-soilers:

For the Union.

I see that the telegraph reports announce the fact that L. J. Farwell (whig) is elected governor of Wisconsin; and as in all probability it will be claimed as a whig victory, it is of some importance that the public should understand precisely the character of this whig victory. To set this matter right before your readers, I enclose to you the following letter of Mr. Farwell, written in answer to one of inquiry from Charles Durkee, the abolition member of Congress from the Milwaukee district. It speaks for itself:

MILWAUKEE CITY, Oct. 9, 1861.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 4th instant is received. In answer to your inquiries in regard to my views on the subject of slavery, I reply frankly that I am utterly opposed to the extension of slavery, and to the increase of slave States. I am also in favor of the abolition of slavery wherever it exists under the exclusive jurisdiction of Congress, and of the repeal of the fugitive-slave law.

Respectfully, yours, L. J. FARWELL.

HON. CHARLES DURKEE. This letter, I have no doubt, effectually secured the union of the whig and free-soil vote of the State, and the result is, as announced by telegraph, a whig victory.

In connexion with the above letter—which shows the ground upon which the whigs went into the election—we subjoin the following resolution, adopted by the democracy in their State convention, held on the 10th of last September:

"Resolved, That the democrats of Wisconsin now stand where all true democrats have stood since 1836—on the platform of principles then drawn by that pure and lamented statesman, Silas Wright, and approved by every National Democratic Convention since that day. And occupying, as our party does, this elevated position, we, in their name, repudiate all extraneous issues and sectional tests of party faith, as pernicious, clannish, and disorganizing in their tendency."

Bargain with Wilmot.

Under this heading the Pennsylvania says: "The constant clamor and calumny of the adherents of Johnston before the election, charging a bargain between the national democrats in this State and the author of the Wilmot Proviso—persevered in to drive to Johnson's support all whigs in favor of the Compromise Measures, which was to a certain extent successful—this clamor and calumny have been tested by the result in Mr. Wilmot's own county of Bradford, where Bigler loses about four hundred votes because of his bold and uncompromising opposition to the abolitionists. It was the weakest and most contemptible falsehood that could have been fabricated, and was used by the North American with a full knowledge of its perfect untruth. Like a foul vapor receding and fading before the rising sun, the figures have effectually dissipated it."

NEW JERSEY ELECTION.—The returns from New Jersey are all favorable to the democrats, who have carried both branches of the Legislature. The Trenton True American (democratic) of Thursday morning, says:

"There will be a democratic majority of about 34 on joint ballot in the Legislature. In the Senate, which was a tie last session, we have a democratic majority of six. Three of these being from original whig counties, and selected for three years, we can pretty safely calculate upon holding the Senate whatever political change may otherwise happen, until 1855."

NOVEL SALUTE.—In recent papers received from China, it is said that the British men of war Cleopatra and Lily fired, at noon, on the last 4th of July, a salute of twenty-one guns each, with the "stars and stripes" at the fore, in honor of the anniversary of our national independence. The "China Friend," speaking of the event, says it is the first time such a thing was ever done by any British vessel in Chinese waters. The circumstance is only one of a thousand signs denoting the daily increasing respect of all nations for the American republic.

Sheep Husbandry in South Carolina.

Col. J. W. WATTS' FLOCK.—The question has often occurred to us, why is it that so little attention has been given to sheep raising in South Carolina? The only reason that we have heard given, is that which has operated so powerfully in all the planting States against a diversity of production, viz: the exclusive devotion of our people to the culture of cotton. This cotton mania, if it may be so termed, has already done much to impair our energies and means of producing. It is high time that the size of our cotton fields should be reduced, if by so doing we will be enabled to retain within the limits of our State, the large sums of money which we annually send abroad for articles of consumption which we can raise at home. Why should our State be a market for the horses, mules, bacon, and corn of other States? Why should we send abroad for our coarse cottons and woollens? It is only necessary for our people to take the matter in hand, and direct a portion of their capital into the proper channels, in order to put an end to this dependence upon others for what our own industry can supply us with.

That the growing of wool would be a profitable business in some portions of our State, we have not the least doubt. Our native stock of sheep are well adapted to the climate, and neglected as they generally are, yield a fair fleece from two to five pounds. But our native stock may be improved upon by the introduction of new and improved breeds. The most experienced sheep raisers in our country are of opinion that neither the quantity nor quality of the fleece will deteriorate in our climate.

A few days ago, we had the pleasure of seeing a beautiful flock at Spring Grove, Laurens District.—The proprietor, our friend and quondam classmate, Col. J. W. Watts, has become convinced from the experiments which he has made, that he can grow wool more profitably than cotton. His flock contains near one hundred Ewes of the Bakewell breed, and four ewes and two bucks of the pure Merino. The latter are from the flock of Col. Henry S. Randall, of Courtland, New York. (author of letters on Sheep Husbandry at the South.) one of the most intelligent and experienced wool growers in the United States. Three of them will be taken to north-western Georgia, by Dr. Wm. Anderson, who expects to remove thither in a short time. These sheep (the merinos) are an exceedingly hardy breed, and well adapted to this climate. They yield from four to eight pounds of wool, of superior quality, per annum. The Bakewell yield from six to ten pounds. They are a beautiful, highly formed, sheep—scarcely inferior to any for mutton.

The object of Col. Watts is wool-growing. We trust that he will meet with entire success in this laudable effort to demonstrate the practicability of sheep husbandry in this latitude, and thus influence others to follow his example. His flock is a valuable acquisition to the community in which he lives. In a few years he will no doubt be able to furnish those who may be inclined to imitate his example, with some of his improved breeds.—Newberry Sentinel.

San Jose and San Francisco Railroad.

It gives us great pleasure to be enabled to state that this work has in reality been commenced. On Thursday last the corps of Surveyors began their labors, over the low land lying beyond Point Bruno, it being the intention of the Directors to complete as nearly as possible the survey of the ground least difficult for the prosecution of their plans in wet weather, before the winter rains begin. Two routes have been examined and pronounced perfectly practicable, and both will be surveyed. The lines of one will extend along the shores of the bay nearly the entire distance, while the other traverses the level of higher ground, meeting with fewer obstructions, or elevations, but crossing a greater extent of country and possessing less adaptability perhaps to public comfort, taste and convenience, than the first. Either of these routes, however, offer the greatest facilities for the work. The principal excavations of the entire survey will be required about eight miles from this city, where the present San Jose road crosses a high ridge; at this point the laborers will be earliest employed, and the character of the soil is such as to admit of the work being carried forward during the rainy months. It is this ridge, which making out into the bay, forms the promontory known as Point Bruno.

The corps of Engineers, of which Mr. Wm. J. Lewis is Chief, comprises some of the best talent in America. [Alta California.]

Two per Cent. a Month.

We never saw the other ends of some of the wires at Wall street better designated than in the following passage from an article in the Herald, on "Sunday in New York."

"If during the week, the stranger should be surprised at the intense activity and insane eagerness to make money which prevails among our business men, let him look at their handsome wives and daughters as they sail out to church in a full Sunday apparel, and he will wonder no longer. This vast, uninterrupted stream of twenty-five dollar bonnets, fifty dollar silks, yard-wide ribbons, embroidered shawls, velvet robes, and costly feathers, bespeak an unparalleled extravagance in the families of the industrious and prosperous many who make up the great body of the population of every large city. The expensive and ostentatious style of this immense class, both in their dress and manner of living, is one of the most striking characteristics of our country and our age. Nowhere else in the world can one-tenth of so great a number of expensive (we do not so well) dressed women be seen in the same time or compass as in Broadway on a fine Sunday morning. When we encountered this brilliant procession last Sunday, and remembered that money was worth two per cent. a month in Wall st., we could not help roughly estimating the enormous interest the husbands and fathers of New York bestow upon their wives and daughters."

BARK-BOUND TREES.—The American Agriculturalist ridicules the idea of slitting the bark of trees with a knife, as is very common with many persons, when a tree is considered bark bound, with a view of making it grow. It says you might with the same propriety slit the skin of a bony, half-starved calf, in turning it out to pasture in the spring, in order to add to its growth. Sap is to plants what blood is to animals.—Instead of this course it advises to dig about and cultivate the roots of the trees—scrape off the moss, and wash the stem or trunk with soap-suds, lie, chamber-slaps—and the bark will take care of itself. This is all no doubt true, as experience and philosophy prove this—and on what safer grounds can we go!

We have been informed upon high authority that a treaty from his majesty, Kamehameha the Second, king of the Sandwich Islands, proposing the annexation of those islands to the United States, has been transmitted to the government at Washington, and is now among the files of the state department. N. Y. Herald.

Killing an Indian in California.

On another occasion, a company of Diggers had all been killed except one man. He showed the most extraordinary tenacity of life, both in a moral and physical sense. He performed prodigious feats of activity and strength in his endeavors to escape. He had been shot several times, and the blood was streaming from his naked back, when a man, I think from Illinois, ran up within a few feet of him and shot him "thro' and thro'" with an ounce ball, which came out of the breast. Upon this he fell, and the whites turned to leave the scene of their triumph. After proceeding a short distance from the spot, the man who last fired concluded to go back again, but when he reached the place where the Digger fell he was gone! He searched for him a considerable time, and at last discovered him behind a bush, concealing himself as well as possible. The Indian finding himself discovered, sprang to his feet, talked very fast, and made earnest gestures of supplication. The white warrior loftily refused to spare him; on the contrary, he shot him again. Still he did not die, but begged for his life. The white man proceeded to despatch him with stones, but did not succeed, for, to use his own language in relating the act, "the damned Injun would not die." Finally, to end the matter, he drew his butcher knife, to plunge it in his throat. The Indian groaned with horror, and, still anxious to live, seized the blade, to stay it, with his hand. It was all in vain. The weapon sunk deep into the hollow, and the savage expired.

I know not how to account for such inhuman acts unless I lay it to what may be called civilized ignorance, for I have remarked that these deeds of cruelty have always been committed in this country, by ignorant men. This civilized ignorance seems to destroy the finest feelings of nature, while it denies those delicate sensibilities which belong to cultivated minds. There is just sufficient civilization in such ignorance, to destroy all that is worth anything in untutored nature.

Were these Indians like the genuine North American red men, in the times of the bloody frontier wars of the United States, brave, subtle, and terrible in their destruction, it would be a different matter. But they are a poor, humble, degraded, and cowardly race. The instances are few, where they have shown any heroism in fight. And however much military or any other kind of men, may strive to make them appear like dangerous or even respectable antagonists with their bows and arrows against muskets and Col's revolvers, it remains nevertheless a fact, that it is no credit for a white man to kill a Digger, or even fifty of them.—It requires no heroism at all, no more than to slaughter the deer in the hills, or the coyote in the plains. It is pitiful to think of so cowardly a contest on both sides—temptible to try to make a hero out of such battles as these!

Before I close this subject, and my letter with it, I will state one more of the many acts which reflect so little honor on the perpetrators. In one of the massacres of a rancheree, a woman was killed, which, believe me, has been no very uncommon occurrence. After the slaughter, she was found with a young child, about six months old, still sucking at the breast, from which it could no longer derive sustenance.—Then arose a debate amongst the soulless ignoramuses with regard to what was best to be done with it—as though it could be debated at all amongst men, what to do with a helpless and innocent infant!—Some were in favor of taking it with them to the settlements, where it could be fed and taken care of. But the majority were opposed to it, and they concluded to kill the child and put it out of its misery, since it would starve to death if they left it. This being decided upon, the next question was, who should do it? All refused except one, who presented his gun and blew its brains out! I attribute this deed, as I did the others, to a monstrosity, which I denominate civilized ignorance. It was nothing but a d—d Digger, and what was the difference?

Cor. N. O. True Delta.

SCENE AMONG THE HISTORIC.—The following laughable scene took place in a Western city not long since: The disciples of Thespis undertook to do up Julius Caesar. Young Wm. O. was to represent Caesar. He did very well until he was brought in upon the bier; unfortunately then his bearers happened to set him with his feet but a few inches from the hot stove. The defunct Julius stood fire like a martyr for a few minutes; but he soon found the heat unbearable, and in the middle of Brutus's speech began to haul in his feet under the pall. The old folks smiled and the damsels giggled—the dead Caesar drew up his knees—the audience laughed—the corps turned over—the orator paused in his harangue—the defunct Julius then sprang up from his bier, and turning to the bearers, with clenched fist, asked them if they calculated to roast him alive? One long and loud hurra then went forth from every throat in the hall, all except the resurrectioned Caesar's; he, after kicking over his bier, and throwing his robes at the bearers, gathered his citizen's attire, and left the school house in high dudgeon.

A devotee of Bacchus stepped out of a hotel at Utica (N. Y.) not long since, and, his perceptive faculties being particularly distinct, tumbled unawares into the lock. After paddling around about half an hour, he succeeded in getting out and obtaining admittance into the house. Shaking his hat by the stove, he exclaimed: "I say, (hic) Mister, this may be a darn good tavern, (hic) but I think your house (hic) has a little larger cistern than it can well afford."

SEVEN HUNDRED CANNON AT ONE DEPOT IN BOSTON HARBOR.—For the defence of this port, and the supply of the United States steamers and other vessels stationed here, or built, or to be built in this quarter of the country, we are told that there are deposited at the Navy Yard at Charlestown, not less than seven hundred cannon. They are of the most approved model and description known to military men, have each been thoroughly tested and proved by the artillery officers and engineers of the General Government. Quite a number of them were cast at the foundry at South Boston. Some of them cost \$1400 each, if not more. Were their average price, unmounted, not more than \$300 each, the expense of the whole would exceed \$200,000.—Boston Atlas.

THE AUSTRIAN CONSPIRACY.—We have seen a letter from a distinguished American statesman, now in Europe, to the effect that the despots of Austria and France are making a combined and desperate effort to defeat the reception of Kossuth by the free people of England and America; and the writer to whom we refer expresses the wish that the Americans will rescue the nob e-hearted Hungarian from his persecutors and pursuers.

We have no doubt of the truth of this statement, because we had already inferred as much from reading the systematic and unscrupulous attacks upon the character of Kossuth, which have appeared in the London Times, the Paris Patrie, &c. and been copied by several of the American papers.—N. Y. Post.