

# Bedford Gazette.



BY MEYERS & BENFORD.

Freedom of Thought and Opinion.

TERMS, \$2 PER YEAR.

WHOLE NO. 2761.—VOL. 53.

FRIDAY MORNING, BEDFORD, PA., SEPTEMBER 11, 1857.

NEW SERIES—VOL. 1, NO. 6.

## The Bedford Gazette.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1857.

In order that our readers may not forget, and be thoroughly posted up relative to the different shades of the Opposition, we submit the following to the dispassionate and candid minds and to every free thinking voter in the county of Bedford, before he casts his vote at the ensuing election. It is no fancy scheme gotten up for political purposes merely, but the "pure and unadulterated" element of Know Nothingism and Black Republicanism. Read, and reflect!

### What is K. N. Americanism?

**FIRST DEGREE—OBEDIENCE.**  
"You and each of you, of your own free will and accord, in the presence of Almighty God and these witnesses, your right hand resting on this HOLY BIBLE and CROSS, and your left hand raised towards Heaven, in token of your sincerity, do solemnly promise and SWEAR that you will not make known to any person or persons, any of the signs, secrets, mysteries or objects of this organization, unless it be to those whom, after due examination, or lawful information, you shall find to be members of this organization in good standing: That you will not cut, carve, print, paint, stamp, stain, or in any way, directly or indirectly, expose any of the secrets or objects of this Order, nor suffer it to be done by others, if in your power to prevent it, unless it be for official instruction. That so long as you are connected with this organization, if not regularly dismissed from it, you will, in all things, political or social, so far as this order is concerned, comply with the will of the MAJORITY when expressed in a lawful manner, though it may conflict with your personal preferences, so long as it does not conflict with the grand, state, or subordinate constitution, the constitution of the United States of America, or that of the state in which you reside, and that you will not, under any circumstances whatever, knowingly recommend an unworthy person for initiation, nor suffer it to be done if in your power to prevent it. You furthermore promise and declare that you will not VOTE nor give your influence for any man for ANY OFFICE in the gift of the People, unless he be an AMERICAN-BORN citizen in favor of AMERICANS-BORN ruling America, nor if he be a ROMAN CATHOLIC, and that you will not, under ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, expose the NAME of any member of this Order, nor reveal the existence of such an organization! To all the foregoing you bind yourself under no less a penalty than that of being expelled from the Order, and of having your name posted and circulated throughout the different Councils of the United States as a PERJURER, and as a traitor to GOD and your COUNTRY; as a being unfit to be employed, entrusted, countenanced or supported in any business transaction; as a person totally unworthy the confidence of all good men, and as one at whom the finger of SCORN should ever be pointed, as help you God." [This is admitted to be the oath administered by the Know Nothings. Their 2d and 3d obligations are still more blasphemous and fearful.]

### The Memorial of Professor Silliman, and the Reply of President Buchanan.

WASHINGTON, SEP. 2.—The following is the memorial of Professor Silliman and forty-two others, of Connecticut, addressed to His Excellency, James Buchanan, President of the United States:  
"The undersigned, citizens of the United States, and electors of the State of Connecticut, respectfully offer to your Excellency, this their memorial. The fundamental principle of the Constitution of the United States, and of our political institutions, is, that the people shall make their own laws, and elect their own rulers. We see with grief, if not with astonishment, that Governor Walker of Kansas openly represents and proclaims that the President of the United States is employing through him an army, one purpose of which is to force the people of Kansas to obey laws not their own nor of the United States, but laws which it is notorious, and established upon evidence, that they never made, and rulers they never elected. We represent, therefore, by the foregoing, your Excellency is held up and proclaimed to the great derogation of our national character as violating in its most essential particular the solemn oath which the President has taken to support the Constitution of this Union. We call attention further to the fact that your Excellency is in like manner held up to this nation, to all mankind, and to all posterity, in the attitude of levying war against a portion of the United States, by employing arms in Kansas to uphold a body of men and a code of enactments purporting to be legislative, but which never had the election, nor sanction, nor consent of the people of the Territory.

"We earnestly represent to your Excellency that we have also taken the oath to obey the Constitution, and your Excellency may be assured that we shall not refrain from the prayer that Almighty God will make your administration an example of justice and beneficence, and with His terrible majesty protect our people and our Constitution."

### THE PRESIDENT'S REPLY.

WASHINGTON CITY, Aug. 15, 1857.  
"GENTLEMEN: On my recent return to this city, after a fortnight's absence, your memorial, without date, was placed in my hands, through the agency of Mr. Horatio King, of the Post Office Department, to whom it had been entrusted. From the distinguished source whence it proceeds, as well as its peculiar character, I have deemed it proper to depart from my general rule in such cases, and to give it an answer.  
"You first assert that 'the fundamental principle of the Constitution of the United States, and of our political institutions, is, that the people shall make their own laws, and elect their own rulers.' You then express your grief and astonishment that I should have violated this principle, and through Gov. Walker have employed an army, 'one of the purposes of which is to force the people of Kansas to obey laws not their own nor of the United States, but laws which it is notorious, and established upon evidence, that they never made, and rulers they never elected.' And as a corollary from the foregoing you represent that I am 'openly held up, and proclaimed, to the great derogation of our national character, as violating, in its most essential particular, the solemn oath which the President has taken to support the Constitution of this Union.'"

"These are heavy charges, proceeding from gentlemen of your high character, and if well founded ought to consign my name to infamy. But in proportion to their gravity, common justice, to say nothing of Christian charity, required that before making them you should have clearly ascertained that they were well founded; if not, they will rebound with withering condemnation upon their authors. Have you performed this preliminary duty towards the man, who, however unworthy, is the Chief Magistrate of your Country? If so, either you or I are laboring under a strange delusion. Should this prove to be your case, it will present a notable example of the truth that political prejudice is blind, even to the existence of the plainest and most palpable historical facts. To these facts let us refer:  
"When I entered upon the duties of the Presidential office, on the fourth of March last, what was the condition of Kansas? This Territory had been organized under an Act of Congress, passed the 30th of May, 1854, and the Government in all its branches was in full operation. A Governor, a Secretary of the Territory, a Chief Justice, two Associate Justices, a Marshal, and District Attorney, had been appointed by my predecessor, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and were all engaged in discharging their respective duties—A code of laws had been enacted by the Territorial Legislature, and the Judiciary were employed in expounding and carrying these laws into effect.

"It is quite true that a controversy had previously arisen, respecting the validity of the election of members to the Territorial Legislature, and of the laws passed by them. But at the time I entered upon my official duties, Congress had recognized the Legislature in different forms, and by different enactments. The delegate elected to the House of Representatives, under a Territorial law, had just completed his term of service on the day previous to my inauguration. In fact I found the Government of Kansas as well established as that of any other Territory.

"Under these circumstances, what was my duty? Was it not to sustain this Government; to protect it from the violence of lawless men, who were determined to rule or ruin; to prevent it from being overturned by force; in the language of the Constitution, to 'Take care that the laws be faithfully executed?'  
"It was for this purpose, and this alone, that I ordered a military force to Kansas, as a posse comitatus; aiding the civil magistrate to carry the laws into execution. The condition of the Territory at this time, which I need not portray,

rendered this precaution absolutely necessary.  
"In this state of affairs, would I not have been justly condemned had I left the Marshal and other officers of a like character impotent to execute the process and judgments of a court of justice established by Congress, or the Territorial Legislature under its express authority, and thus have suffered the Government itself to become an object of contempt in the eyes of the people? And yet this is what you designate as forcing 'the people of Kansas to obey laws not their own nor of the United States.' And for doing which you have denounced me as having violated my oath.

"I ask, what else could I have done, or ought I to have done? Would you have desired that I should abandon the Territorial Government, sanctioned, as it had been, by Congress, to illegal violence, and thus renew the scenes of civil war and bloodshed which every patriot had deplored? This would, indeed, have been to violate my oath of office, and to fix a damning blot on the character of my Administration.

"I most cheerfully admit that the necessity for sending a military force to Kansas, to aid in the execution of the civil law, reflects no credit upon the character of our country. But let the blame fall upon the heads of the guilty.—Whence did this necessity arise?"

"A portion of the people of Kansas, unwilling to trust to the ballot-box—the certain American remedy for the redress of all grievances—undertook to create an independent Government for themselves. Had this attempt proved successful, it would, of course, have subverted the existing Government, prescribed and recognized by Congress, and substituted a revolutionary Government in its stead. This was usurpation of the same character as it would be for a portion of the people of Connecticut to undertake to establish a separate Government within its own limits, for the purpose of redressing any grievance, real or imaginary, of which they might have complained against the legitimate Government. Such a principle, if carried into execution, would destroy all lawful authority, and produce universal anarchy.

"I ought to specify more particularly a condition of affairs which I have embraced only in general terms, requiring the presence of a military force in Kansas. The Congress of the United States had most wisely declared it to be the true intent and meaning of this act—the act organizing the Territory—was not to legislate slavery into any Territory or State, nor to exclude it therefrom, but to leave the people thereof perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, subject only to the Constitution of the United States.—As a natural consequence, Congress has also prescribed, by the same act, that when the Territory of Kansas shall be admitted as a State, it shall be received into the Union with or without slavery, as their Constitution may prescribe at the time of their admission.

"Slavery existed at that period and still exists in Kansas under the Constitution of the United States. This point has at last been finally decided by the highest tribunal known to our laws. How it could ever have been seriously doubted is a mystery. If a confederation of sovereign States acquire a new territory at the expense of their common blood and treasure, surely one set of the partners can have no right to exclude the other from its enjoyment by prohibiting them from taking into it whatsoever is recognized to be property by the common Constitution. But when the people, the bona fide residents of such territory proceed to frame a State Constitution, then it is their right to decide the important question for themselves whether they will continue to modify or abolish slavery. To them, and to them alone, does this question belong, free from all foreign interference. In the opinion of the Territorial Legislature of Kansas the time had arrived for entering the Union, and they accordingly passed a law to elect delegates for the purpose of framing a State Constitution. This law was fair and just in its provisions. It conferred the right of suffrage on every bona fide inhabitant of the Territory, and for the purpose of preventing fraud and the intrusion of citizens of near or distant States, most properly confined this right to those who had resided therein three months previous to the election. Here was a fair opportunity presented for all qualified resident citizens of the Territory to whatever organization they might have previously belonged, to participate in the election, and to express their opinions at the ballot-box on the question of slavery. But numbers of lawless men still continue to resist the regular territorial government. They refused to be either registered or to vote, and members of the Convention were elected, legally and properly without their intervention. The Convention will soon assemble to perform the solemn duty of framing a constitution for themselves and their posterity; and in the state of incipient rebellion which still exists in Kansas, it is my imperative duty to employ the troops of the United States, should this become necessary, in defending the Convention against violence while framing a constitution, and in protecting the bona fide inhabitants qualified to vote under the provisions of this instrument in the free exercise of the right of suffrage, when it shall be presented to them for their approbation or rejection.

"I have entire confidence in Gov. Walker, that the troops will not be employed, except to resist actual aggression, or in the execution of the laws; and this, not until the power of the civil magistrate shall prove unavailing. Following the wise example of Mr. Madison towards the Hartford Convention, illegal and dangerous combinations, such as that of the Topka Convention, will not be disturbed, unless they shall attempt to perform some act which shall bring them into actual collision with the Constitution and the laws. In that event they shall be resisted and put down by the whole power of the Government. In performing this duty, I shall have the approbation of my own conscience, and, as I humbly trust, of my God.

"I thank you for the assurance that you will not refrain from prayer that the Almighty God will make my administration an example of justice and beneficence. You can greatly assist me in arriving at this blessed consummation, by exerting your influence in allaying the existing sectional excitement on the subject of slavery, which has been productive of much evil and no good; and which, if it succeed in obtaining its object, would ruin the slave as well as the master. This would be worth genuine philanthropy. Every day of my life, I feel how inadequate I am to perform the duties of my high station, without continuing in the support of the Divine Providence.

"Yet, placing my trust in Him, and in Him alone, I entertain a good hope that He will enable me to do equal justice to all portions of the Union, and thus render me an humble instrument in restoring peace and harmony among the people of the several States.

Yours, very respectfully,  
JAMES BUCHANAN."

### GENERAL PACKER THE POOR MAN'S FRIEND.

It is well known, says the *Lycoming Gazette* that while Speaker of the House of Representatives, in 1849, Gen. PACKER, the Democratic candidate for Governor contributed very materially by his influence toward the enactment of that now popular measure known as the "Three Hundred Dollar Exemption Act." During the winter of 1850, it will also be remembered, a strenuous effort was made by persons who fancied themselves aggrieved by the law, to have it repealed. Gen. Packer was then in the Senate, where he at once took the lead among those who opposed a repeal. A remonstrance against the law, numerously signed by his own constituents, being forwarded to him to present to that body, he complied with the request, accompanying it with the eloquent remarks which we print below; and which the *Philadelphia Sun*, when publishing them, at the time, preface as "philanthropic, just, and truly Democratic." We need hardly say that they contributed largely to prostrating further efforts at repeal; and the poor unfortunate debtor and his dependent family now enjoy the protection which that humane law affords, and a sympathizing public opinion sustains.

Gen Packer said:—  
"Mr Speaker, I do not sympathize with the prayer of the petition I have just presented, I do not believe that the law of last session will injure the 'poor and middle class' of community. I do not believe that by exempting the last three hundred dollars' worth of property to the poor unfortunate debtor from levy and sale on execution, and distress, the sheriff and constable, urged on by a close-fisted, miserly and heartless creditor, that you injuriously affect the interests of the poor. Sir, it cannot be true. Do you for a moment suppose, that you would benefit the 'poor and middle classes of community' by exposing their last article of household furniture—or their last cow—to the tender mercy of an avicious creditor.

If Senators entertain such an opinion, let them comply with the prayer of the petitioners and vote for the repeal of the law of the last session, together with all the exemption laws previously enacted, and they will promote the interests of the poor and middle classes to heart's content of the rich. Sir, in sympathizing with the petitioners, I would extend the exemption law still further. And, permit me to say, which I do with all confidence, that the day is not far distant when it will be carried further. The day is dawning when every family will be protected in their little home, in defiance of the bad conduct of an intemperate father, or a profligate husband. *The day is coming, nay it is here now, when it will be conceded that the man with a comfortable, permanent home, will much sooner pry his honest debts than he who is almost driven with impending troubles, and who is ever at the mercy of an execution.*

Many of the States of this Union have led the way in this humane reform. Maine exempts a homestead to the value of \$500, and in the absence of a homestead, personal property to that amount. Vermont exempts a homestead to the value of \$500. Iowa and Minnesota forty acres of land or a lot. California exempts 320 acres of land, or a lot worth \$2000. De-se-ret, t-e proposed Mormon State, it is said secures a home to every family. All the States, and Territories named having acted on this subject within the past few months. Georgia, Texas, Michigan, Wisconsin and Connecticut. Have long since enacted liberal exemption laws, New York always among the foremost in popular reforms, is also pressing on in this matter. I have before me the annual message of Governor Fish to the present legislature of that great State, to which I beg leave to call the attention of Senators. On the subject of homestead exemption, the Governor says:

"While it is admittedly a primary duty of the legislature to enact laws for the punishment of vice, it is no less its duty to remove the causes which frequently lead to the commission of crime. The impressions made upon the youthful mind, by the gentle force of parental authority and example, and by the associations of the family circle are among the most active and enduring of the influences which control the conduct of after-life. Much of the vice that we are called upon to deplore, may be traced to the removal of its subject from the reach of that authority, and example, and from the innocent, but wholesome association of a home however humble. The cause of morality no less than the dictates of humanity, demands the preservation of the family circle, and the maintenance of the family home, as efficient preventives of vice, and sure and permanent contributors to individual virtue and happiness, and to public prosperity and order."

Such Mr. Speaker, are the views of the Governor of New York. They are the sentiments of a humane and far-seeing statesman—and I honor him for his manly independence in giving them the weight and sanction of his official station. Sir, I go with the Governor of the Empire State. I would secure to every family a home and a HEART. I would not permit the covetous and hard hearted creditor to drive his unfortunate debtor, naked and penniless, out upon the cold charities of an inhospitable world.

The laws that authorize such a procedure, should be blotted from the pages of the statute books of every State in the Union—they are repugnant to the spirit of the age, and revolting to humanity. Like the laws sanctioning imprisonment for debt, they should be repudiated by every philanthropic legislator—they should exist but in the history of the past—an obsolete idea.

It has been truly said, Mr. Speaker, that he who sells out the last little property of a wife, and family of small children, of a rash, heedless or perhaps intemperate husband and father, and afterwards with a cheerful countenance goes home to dine—goes home to feast on HUMAN HEARTS! Sir, may you thus obtain has a damning curse upon it!

Entertaining these views, Mr. Speaker, I cannot go with those of my constituents who demand the repeal of the exemption law of last session; nor can I believe that any considerable number of them desire it.

### A THUNDER BOLT IN CHURCH.

On the 23d of August, about 6 o'clock, a thunder cloud of very angry and threatening aspect swept over Colchester, Connecticut, from the W. N. W., and startled the citizens by a single bolt which it threw into their midst. Nearly two hundred persons had assembled in the First Congregational Church of that place, at a third service, and were just beginning to disperse to their homes, when, as they were passing through the entrance hall and the porch, and down upon the steps leading into the church there came down right among them a crashing thunder-bolt of tremendous power, like the exploding of a bursting cannon.

It followed the lightning-rod down to within about ten feet of the ground (where the rod seems to have been disconnected,) then leaving the conductor, it passed in the entrance hall, pitching the sexton several feet against a stove, striking two women prostrate, wounding and blistering them from hip to toe, tearing one shoe from each to tatters; then seizing a girl's bonnet, it passed round the wire both in front and rear consuming almost every thread upon it, nearly severing it from the bonnet, burning the flesh severely under the chin where the two extremities of the wire met, and then passed down the right arm, leaving several severe injuries upon it.

Others were stunned by it, but none were killed, nor, as is believed, permanently injured. The main current of the electricity passed under the flag-stones of the porch, and there separated into four or five branches, going in different directions under the stone steps, and so out on the ground, like so many fire-balls, in front of the church; and what is wonderful, the whole space in the hall and porch and in front of the church was crowded with people and none seriously injured.

### A ROMANCE.

The following from the *London Court Journal*, reminds one of a beautiful poem of ELIZA COOK, and proves romance to be as rife now as ever:

"Among the presentations of her Majesty, at one of the drawing rooms this season, was a young lady upon her marriage, and about whose nuptials a story is current of more than usual interest in unromantic times. She is the daughter of a baronet, holding a distinguished position. Among the suitors of this young lady, who is as pretty as accomplished, was one of very advanced years; but it was in vain that all the allurements consequent upon the possession of riches were set forth. The fair maiden showed herself completely indifferent to the golden prize that lay at her feet, and in spite of the strong recommendation of 'papa' it was unhesitatingly rejected. So far, therefore, everything was perfectly natural and unromantic.—But it seems that the gentleman, after his proposals had been declined, (of course with the usual protestations of respect and esteem,) again sought an interview, and assured the lady that his attachment was not selfish—that he was ready, at any sacrifice, to do any thing that would contribute to her happiness; and that, if her affections were fixed on any one whose wealth might not be adequate to his good fortune, he was ready, by a settlement even to the extent of 100,000 pounds, to place her happiness in her own power. Such a proof of disinterested attachment was perfectly undeniable, and it is said that the young lady pondered so much over it, that, like the recital of Othello's dangers, it wrought a complete revolution of feeling. We do not pretend to know on what kind of 'bini' the venerable gentleman spake again, but speak again he did, and with so much effect that the happy day was soon named, and the nuptials in due course solemnized, and the fine bride presented on her marriage to the Queen. The world gives, with its usual generosity, an almost fabulous account to Mr. —'s fortune, but it is very well known that one item in it is \$150,000 railway stock, and more than half of which is paying six per cent."

One of the newspapers inquires with much seeming innocence, if it is any harm for young ladies to sit in the laps of ages. Somebody answers that it probably depends on the kind of ages selected—those from eighteen to twenty-five being rather hazardous.

An old bachelor, on seeing the words "Families supplied" over the door of an oyster saloon, stepped in, and said he would like to have a wife and two children.

### EXCITEMENT AT BURLINGTON, N. Y.

SEDUCTION BY A CLERGYMAN.  
The citizens of Burlington were thrown into a state of intense excitement on Friday last, by the circulation of a rumor that Rev. William B. Sutherland, of that city, had been guilty of the crime of seducing the daughter of a member of his church, who was turned of fifteen years of age.

An investigation of the rumor led to the painful conclusion that it was, in all its enormity, too true to be disbelieved. It appears that on Wednesday afternoon last, Sutherland went to the house of the girl's father for his intended victim to come to him and assist some other girls in arranging some books in his library.—It having been previously understood that several were to meet there for that purpose. The girl not responding to the invitation, Sutherland sent again, and this second invitation she unfortunately obeyed. On reaching Sutherland's house he invited her into the library, when she was surprised to find herself the only female present.—He immediately commenced his advances and familiarities, with her, drew her into a chamber and there succeeded in overconvincing her, after which the outraged child hastened home to the house of her parents.

On Thursday she related to her mother the particulars of the shame that had been practised upon her, and the mother immediately waited upon one of the deacons of Sutherland's church, and related the circumstances. He immediately called in a brother deacon, and the two went directly to Sutherland's house, where they informed him of the charge made against him.—Sutherland admitted that he had taken many liberties with the child, but denied the charge of seduction. His whole conduct and manner, however, was such as to convince the two that he was guilty, and they informed him at once that all further intercourse with him as a pastor of their church, was at an end.

In the mean time, the father of the girl was made acquainted with the atrocious crime which had been perpetrated on the virtue of his child. His exasperation became uncontrollable, and arming himself for the purpose of making a summary vengeance on the destroyer, started in pursuit of him. But an intimation to Sutherland that his life was in danger enabled him to escape over the back fence of his garden, only a few minutes in advance of his justly indignant pursuer.

This clerical hypocrite is about thirty years of age, and has been in charge of a church at Burlington since last year. He went there from Lodi, near Jersey City—but where he has now gone, no one can tell. The victim of his arts is barely 15 years of age, and has borne an unblemished character. Her family are also of unimpeached standing, and enjoy the respect and esteem of all who know them. The excitement was so great, on Saturday night, that if Sutherland could have been found he would surely have been tarred and feathered.

A CAMEL LOAD.—The Government camels now at work in Texas, carry 600 pounds of corn at a load, and travel three and a half miles an hour, without difficulty. Their great value is not so much on account of greater strength than the horse, but on account of their ability to make the *jornada del muerto*, across some of the desert plains of western Texas.

A BRAVE LADY.—The Florida peninsula of the 8th ult, has the following:

"On Tuesday evening last, two men entered the yard of the lady in question—her husband, who is a volunteer officer, being absent—and, upon being hailed by the lady, who scorned her threats, and persisted in prowling about the premises, until both were wounded by pistol shots fired by the lady. One received a ball in the hand, and the other in the arm."

"Boy," said an ill tempered old fellow to a noisy lad, "what are you a holler-in, for when I am going by?"  
"Humph," returned the boy, "what are you going by for when I am holler-in."

KISSING.—Speaking of kisses, the following is the last remark of the "comet striking." Friends are in the habit of warmly greeting their acquaintances upon the arrival of the passenger trains at some of the railway station houses. It was only the other day that a young gentleman jumped from the cars at this place, rushed through the crowd toward a lady, seized her hand and gave her a hearty kiss; the report startled a country lass hard by, who exclaimed to her neighbor, "Massy, Josh! what on airth's gen way no the keers?"

A CUNNING OLD LIAR.—Napoleon once said rather disrespectfully, of his father-in-law, the Emperor of Austria, "Francis is an old granny. Some friend repeated the remark to Maria Louise. The empress sought an explanation from Talleyrand. "Moni-ur Talleyrand, what does that mean, an old granny?" The cunning diplomatist, more polite than consciences, answered with his most serious air—"It means, madame it means a venerable sage."

Brown is a married man. A few days since he thought of taking a trip to Paris. One of his friends meeting him in the street inquired:

"Well Brown, my boy, when are you off?"  
"To-morrow."  
"Don't take your wife with you?"  
"No! it is a voyage of pleasure."

Some "queer fish" in St. Louis, in allusion to the "bill for the benefit of married women, before the Missouri Legislature, asked if they had better not do something for the benefit of the single ladies, and not trouble themselves about other men's wives.

By doing good with his money, a man, as it were, stamps the image of God upon it, and makes it pass current for the merchandise of heaven.