THE COURIER.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING BY
JOEL H. SANDOZ & ANDREW MEYNIER.

Opelousas:

SATURDAY, JULY 5th, 1856.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

FOR PRESIDENT:

JAMES BUCHANAN,

OF PENNSYLVANIA.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT:

JOHN C. BRECKENRIDGE,

OF KENTUCKY.

ELECTORS:

FIRST DISTRICT.
Elector—C. J. VILLERE.
Substitute—L. ST. MARTIN.

SECOND DISTRICT.
Elector—W. A. ELMORE.
Substitute—T. J. SEMMES.

THIRD DISTRICT.
Elector—T. LANDRY.
Substitute—A. JOURDAN.

FOURTH DISTRICT.
Elector—JOHN McVEA.
Substitute—W. E. WALKER.

FIFTH DISTRICT.
Elector—T. O. MOORE.
Substitute—A. GARRIGUES.

SIXTH DISTRICT.
Elector—H. GREY.
Substitute—WM. BEARD.

OUR AGENTS.

The following gentlemen are authorized to collect and receive subscriptions and advertisements for the *Opelousas Courier*, in their respective towns:

AUGUSTE MAKAIRE, St. Martinville, (La.)
ARTHUR BULLIARD, Breaux's Bridge, (La.)
A. MILLSPAUGH, Washington, (La.)
E. E. COCHRANE, Marksville, (La.)

Grand Ratification Meeting AND BARBECUE!!!

A Mass Meeting of the Democracy of St. Landry and adjoining Parishes, will be held on the 15th day of July next, at the Court House, in the Town of Opelousas, for the purpose of ratifying the nomination of JAMES BUCHANAN, of Pennsylvania, and JOHN C. BRECKENRIDGE, of Kentucky, as candidates for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency of these United States, after which meeting, there will be given on the right bank of Bayou Tesson, a splendid repast and Barbecue, which all and especially the ladies of this and surrounding Parishes are most respectfully invited to attend.

Several speeches will be delivered in English and in French, by distinguished orators.

Democrats awake! Rally to the cry and standard of BUCK and BRECK!!!

CHURCH WARDENS.—At an election held at the Presbytery, on Monday last, the following gentlemen were chosen as Church Wardens of the Catholic Church of our Town, to-wit:

A. Garrigues, L. J. Dupré,
F. D'Avy, Evte. Déballon,
Jean Bte. Roy, Cyprien Dupré.
Valière Roy, Benoit Ney.

Joseph Jubin.

☞On Wednesday last, we have had an abundant shower which came down upon the crops as a blessing from above.

We had not had such a good rain since 6 weeks.

OPELOUSAS LITERARY INSTITUTION.—Messrs. John Gately and St. Cyr d'Arthun have just opened, in our Town, an Institution for the instruction of young men, under the above title. These gentlemen come to us with the best recommendations for capacity and morality. We recommend them to all heads of families. See advertisement in another column of our paper.

☞The failure of the New-Orleans mail, on Wednesday last, prevents us from giving the Weekly Price Current of New-Orleans.

☞We have been informed that the sale of the pews of the Catholic Church which took place on Sunday last, has produced upwards of $1,300.

For the spectator, it was easy to see that there were more buyers than pews, and those who had no necessity paid a high price for their seats, though regular visitors at the Church, and good Catholics, have been unable to procure any for themselves and family.

The Church of this town is quite too small for our community. It contains only four rows of 18 pews, each pew has 5 seats which makes in all 360 seats. From these 360 seats, 60 are for the use of the free colored population, and 90 for the slaves. There then remains only 180 for the whites. We believe it is one third too small for our Catholic population.

We have been informed that the Church Wardens intend to enlarge it considerably.

PREMATURE DEATH OF A MURDERER.—We learn that Gibson Dyal, of the Parish of Calcasieu, the murderer of his mother-in-law, was killed some six or eight days ago, by a party of men who were in search of him.

It appears that after many weeks of hunts and researches, the party of men that had been sent to arrest Dyal met him, and upon a desperate resistance being offered by the murderer, he was shot at and wounded so severely that he died five or six days after the encounter.

Gibson Dyal was accused of having murdered his mother-in-law some months ago, which crime, it is said, was a preconcerted and cold-blooded act. Being in the presence of a number of men determined to arrest him, and being well armed himself, he tried to use a gun which he held in his hand, and upon such a hostile demonstration, one of the party discharged his gun at him, after which he was apprehended. He was a mulatto, or what the *Press* would call *sanitized blood*.

THE SPRINGS.—Both the Bell Cheney and Beaver Creek Springs are now open for the reception of visitors. The one is under the direction of Mr. Henry Provent, of Mount Town, and Mr. Patin of Grand Coteau, and the other under the direction of the well known Basile Grezaffi.

Every thing has been prepared at both these springs for the comfort of visitors. We recommend the public and principally the sick to patronize them.

CALCASIEU.—J. H. Cole, Esq., the Sheriff of Calcasieu, brought and lodged in our jail a few days ago, a man by the name of —— Bass, another man of *mixed blood*, accused of having committed a murder on the person of a certain —— Cockran, in that Parish, some four or six weeks ago.

It appears that the jail of our neighbors is not judged sufficiently sure to lodge men who are accused of capital crime.

THE SOUTHERN STAR, is the title of a newspaper recently established at New-Iberia, in the Parish of St. Martin, by our stirring friend Peter Soulier. The first number announces itself as a neatly printed and well conducted sheet. The choice of articles are very good and appropriate for a literary publication, and if friend S. (who is, by the by, a good printer and a working man) receive any thing like a liberal patronage, we doubt not he will soon enlarge his paper and otherwise make it more and more interesting to the community.

In wishing the *Star* a full success, we regret to see that it will remain a neutral spectator in the coming electoral contest.

CARLYLE. Friend Ayer:—In this age of quacks, charlatans and mere windy, gaseous pretenders to heal, who blow at every corner, and in the face and ears of all men, their loud, blaring trumpets and other noisy boisterous wind instruments of marvelously twisted brass, in such a woefully sham ridden epoch as this, I say, it is comforting, nay even cheering to the earnest well wisher of his race to know there has arrived in this world a genuine Physician—to light once more upon something besides mere Sangrados and Don Mercurial Jalaps, with their phlebotomies, poisons and warm water.

Your Cathartic Pills and Cherry Pectoral, carry us forward to Halcyon days—to millenial Pharmapeas, when Science, deep diving down into the principles of things, shall, with infinite, cunning, bring out the genuine Elixer Vitae: for of a truth there is manifestly enough somewhat of that same Life Essence in your subtle vegetable distillations and compounds.

You realize to us the visions of those painfulest, smoke-dried Alchymists—bootless seekers—dreamers among retorts and crucibles, touching the Quintessential hidden Virtue of the Universe, which should antitote distemper, and break for man the Wheel of Time.

WORTHY OF A YANKEE.—A complete restaurant on wheels, comprising kitchen, eating rooms, etc., is now to be seen daily circulating the streets of Lyons. At regular hours the establishment pulls up in front of the silk and other manufactories employing a large number of hands, and the enterprising proprietor, it is added, is rapidly making a fortune.

DEMOCRATIC ENTHUSIASM IN NEW YORK.—The New Yorks says:

We have never witnessed greater enthusiasm than is displayed throughout the city for the nominees of the National Convention, Buchanan and Breckenridge.

Go where you will—in the office of the merchants or banker, in the hotels or restaurants, in the public streets, highways and by-ways; and it is one continued voice of approbation and approval of the acts of the Cincinnati Convention. Men who have for years been estranged from political association with either party—old, consistent and considerate Whigs who have as great a horror of "Black Republicanism" and Know-Nothingism as any Democrat, are enthusiastic in their declaration of a determination to give their support to the Democratic nominees. All this speaks well for the acts of the Convention and for the success of the ticket; but let us not fall into the error of supposing it can be elected without an effort. We have much to do; our opponents are active and vigilant, and we must not rest on our oars, but bend every energy to it without ceasing until victory is achieved.

Boston harbor, the Boston papers say, is to be illuminated by the most splendid catoptric apparatus ever prepared in this country. It consist of fourteen argand fountain lamps, with the same number of paraboloida reflectors, each having a double ordinate of twenty-one inches, and thickly plated with pure silver highly polished. The apparatus is revolving, each flash exhibiting an area of sixteen square feet of light, and will be visible at a distance of from fifteen to thirty miles, according to the state of the atmosphere. At the same time Long Island Head light will be renewed with a catadioptric apparatus of the fourth order, of the system of Fresnel, illuminated with one argand mechanical lamp with concentric wicks; and the split light-house, recently erected at the Narrows, will receive the catadioptric apparatus at present in the Long Island light-house, a lens of the fifth order, of the system of Fresnel.

A DEAR KISS—WOMAN'S RIGHTS.—A curious trial was recently held at Middlesex Sessions, in England. Thomas Saverland, the prosecutor, stated that on the day after Christmas, he was in the room where the defendant, Caroline Newton, and her sister, who had come from Birmingham, were present. The latter jokingly observed that she had promised her sweetheart that no man should kiss her while absent. It being holiday time, Saverland considered this a challenge, and caught hold of her and kissed her. The young woman took it as a joke, but her sister, the defendant, said she would like as little of that fun as he pleased. Saverland told her if she was angry he would kiss her also; he then tried to do it, and they fell to the ground. On rising, the woman struck him; he again tried to kiss her, and in the scuffle she bit off his nose, which she spit out of her mouth. The action was brought to recover damages for the loss of the nose. The defendant said he had no business to kiss her; if she wanted kissing she had a husband to kiss her—a better looking man than ever the prosecutor was. The jury without hesitation acquitted her; and the chairman said, if any man attempted to kiss a woman against her will, she had a perfect right to bite off his nose if she had a fancy for so doing.

MORTAL AFFRAY IN WEST FELICIANA.—A dispatch in the Picayune dated, Bayou Sara, June 4th, says a terrible affray occurred in that place that afternoon, to which S. H. Lusty, the Sheriff of the parish, and Mr. John Turnbull, planter, were parties. The latter was mortally wounded. The parties had an altercation which led to a conflict, when both pistols and bowie-knife were used, but under what particular circumstances is not yet ascertainable. Mr. Turnbull's fatal wound is a bowie-knife stab in the left breast, which, the doctors say, leaves no chance of his recovery, although he is not dead yet. Mr. Lurty had his leg broken by a shot which he received in it, and he was also wounded in the neck with a bowie-knife; but he is not considered in any danger.

Bayou Dispatch.—Mr. Turnbull died of his wounds since the account of the affray between him and Mr. Lurty was dispatched.

☞The Albany Patriot, says:

"With Buchanan and Breckenridge the Democratic party will easily succeed in overcoming the factious that are arrayed against them. The campaign will be one of great excitement, and every means that can possibly be brought to bear will be used to defeat our nominees. But we feel no fear for the result. Let the Democratic party go to work in good earnest, and success is certain."

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

Adopted by the National Convention, 1856.

The Convention, after reaffirming the Democratic Platform of 1852, lays down the following additional declarations of political faith, made necessary by events occurring since that time:

And WHEREAS, Since the foregoing declaration was uniformly adopted by our predecessors in National Conventions, an adverse political and religious test has been secretly organized by a party claiming to be exclusively American, it is proper that the American Democracy should clearly define its relations thereto, and declare its determined opposition to all secret political societies, by whatever name they may be called.

Resolved, That the foundation of this union of States having been laid in, and its prosperity, expansion, and pre-eminent example in free government built upon entire freedom in matters of religious concernment, and no respect of person in regard to rank or place of birth; no party can justly be deemed national, constitutional, or in accordance with American principles, which bases its exclusive organization upon religious opinions and accidental birth-place. And hence a political crusade in the nineteenth century, and in the United States of America, against Catholics and foreign-born, is neither justified by the past history or the future prospects of the country, nor in unison with the spirit of toleration and enlarged freedom which peculiarly distinguishes the American system of popular government.

Resolved, That we iterate with renewed energy of purpose, the well considered declarations of former Conventions upon the sectional issue of Domestic Slavery, and concerning the reserved rights of the States.—

1. That Congress has no power under the Constitution, to interfere with or control the domestic institutions of the several States, and that such States are the sole and proper judges of everything appertaining to their own affairs, not prohibited by the Constitution; that all efforts of the Abolitionists or others, made to induce Congress to interfere with questions of slavery, or to take incipient steps in relation thereto, are calculated to lead to the most alarming and dangerous consequences; and that all such efforts have an inevitable tendency to diminish the happiness of the people, and endanger the stability and permanency of the Union, and ought not to be countenanced by any friend of our political institutions.

2. That the foregoing proposition covers, and was intended to embrace the whole subject of slavery agitation in Congress; and therefore the Democratic party of the Union, standing on this national platform, will abide by and adhere to a faithful execution of the acts known as the Compromise Measures, settled by the Congress of 1850; "the act for reclaiming fugitives from service or labor," included; which act being designed to carry out an express provision of the Constitution, cannot, with fidelity thereto, be repealed, or so changed as to destroy or impair its efficiency.

3. That the Democratic party will resist all attempts at renewing, in Congress or out of it, the agitation of the slavery question, under whatever shape or color, the attempt may be made.

4. That the Democratic party will faithfully abide by and uphold the principles laid down in the Kentucky and Virginia resolutions of 1798, and in the report of Mr. Madison to the Virginia Legislature, in 1799; that it adopts those principles as constituting one of the main foundations of its political creed, and is resolved to carry them out in their obvious meaning and import.

A BLESSED MEMORY.

Our little duck of a contemporary over in West Baton Rouge has been running his recollections back some *thirty-seven years* (!) in search of Mr. Buchanan's antecedents. After industriously rumaging through the creases and crevices of that blessed institution, "our memory," it is so stubborn as to furnish "only the following resolution which (he says) was offered by that gentleman in a County Convention in Pennsylvania, some time during the year 1819," to wit:

Resolved, That the Representatives in Congress from this district be, and they are hereby most earnestly requested to use their utmost endeavors, as members of the National Legislature, to *prevent the existence of slavery in any of the Territories or States which may be erected by Congress.*

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting, the members of Congress, who at the last session sustained the cause of justice, humanity and patriotism in opposing the introduction of slavery into the State then endeavored to be formed out of the Missouri Territory, are entitled to the warmest thanks of every friend of humanity.

If there is anything we venerate it is an ancient memory—whether found in fossilized old dames or respectable middle-aged editors; but we are opposed to the idea of associating the recollections of blushing youth with occurrences which are said to have taken place nearly forty years ago! We will not, therefore, be so uncharitable as to believe the W. B..R. man has really arrived at that venerable time of life which his "memory" of things would indicate—not a bit of it. The resolutions above published were first charged against Mr. Buchanan, if we are not mistaken, by Mr. Fuller, of Pennsylvania, in a speech delivered by him in the House of Representatives, on the 10th of May last, at a time when Mr. B.'s name was prominently before the country for the Cincinnati nomination, and the most shallow-pated politicians and partizan editors, we thought, were aware that Hon. J. Glancy Jones, two days following, denounced the charge that Mr. Buchanan had anything to do with them as false.

In his reply Mr. Jones said:

"Now, sir, I am enabled to state, *on unquestioned authority*, that the declaration that James Buchanan was chairman of the committee which framed those resolutions, *is unfounded and untrue.* I undertake here, in my place, to say to the House and the country, that Mr. Buchanan *did not* report the resolutions referred to; that he was *not* the chairman of the committee by which they were reported; AND THAT HE NEVER SAW THEM UNTIL THEY APPEARED IN PRINT."

Mr. Jones is one of the most distinguished members of the House and a Pennsylvanian, and we place his declaration on record at the outset, in order to set the mind of all Know-Nothingdom at rest relative to Mr. Buchanan's antecedents.

Why won't the little fishes keep near the shore?

[*Baton Rouge Advocate.*

FOR BUCHANAN.

The *Missouri Republican*, the oldest, the most influential, and the ablest Whig paper of the West, has come out openly and earnestly in favor of the Buchanan ticket. We regard this as one of the *most remarkable* events in relation to the present canvass. The *Republican* has always been *thoroughly Whig*—it was Whig before the editor of the Louisville *Journal* was born—it has been Whig in all the transformations of American parties—and is at this day as completely Whig as Daniel Webster was at any period of his life.

But the sagacious editor of this influential Journal cannot be deceived by the devil tries, nor misled by the dark-lantern of the antagonist factionists. He sees, as every intelligent man must see, that the great question now to be decided is superior to all mere partizan considerations; that it is an issue between the friends of the Constitution, North and South, and the Abolitionists with their affiliated orders, and societies.

All who are not with us of the constitution and the South are against us, and we regard the partizans of Fillmore as but little less opposed to Southern rights than the North Americans and Black Republicans.

As we have already stated there are planks in the Democratic "platform" which we condemn as utterly unsound—planks that have a *reddish* hue most revolting to our taste and judgement—but we have no choice. Even if the platform were *all* red we believe we should sustain it on the present occasion, for between RED-REPUBLICANISM, and BLACK-REPUBLICANISM, we could have but one choice. But the Red planks of the platform are so surrounded by *clear stuff*, that we do not apprehend any danger from them.

[*Catholic Standard.*

☞The Smithville (Va.) Democrat, says: We know of many open and straight old fashioned Whigs in this latitude who will vote for Mr. Buchanan, and among them are some of the most prominent supporters of the K. N. nominee for Governor at our last election. The nomination of Mr. Buchanan is every where regarded as a tribute to conservatism and a guarantee of peace.

MR. BUCHANAN'S LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE.

When informed officially of his nomination by the committee appointed for that purpose, Mr. Buchanan returned the following answer:

WHEATLAND, NEAR LANCASTER,
June 16, 1856.

Gentlemen: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 13th instant, informing me officially of my nomination by the Democratic National Convention, recently held at Cincinnati, as the Democratic candidate for the office of President of the United States. I shall not attempt to express the grateful feelings which I entertain towards my Democratic fellow-citizens for having deemed me worthy of this—the highest political honor on earth—all honor such as the people of no other country have the power to bestow. Deeply sensible of the vast and varied responsibility attached to the station, especially at the present crisis in our affairs, I have carefully refrained from seeking the nomination either by word or by deed. Now that it has been offered by the Democratic party, I accept it with diffidence in my own abilities, but with an humble trust, that in the event of my election, I may be enabled to discharge my duty in such a manner as to allay domestic strife, preserve peace and friendship with foreign nations, and promote the best interests of the Republic.

In accepting the nomination, I need scarcely say that I accept in the same spirit the resolutions constituting the platform of principles erected by the Convention. To this platform I intend to confine myself throughout the canvass, believing that I have no right, as the candidate of the Democratic party, by answering interrogatories, to present new and different issues before the people.

It will not be expected that in this answer, I should specially refer to the subject of each of the resolutions; and I shall therefore confine myself to the two topics now most prominently before the people.

And, in the first place, I cordially concur in the sentiments expressed by the Convention on the subject of civil and religious liberty. No party founded on religious or political intolerance towards one class of American citizens, whether born in our own or in a foreign land, can long continue to exist in this country. We are all equal before God and the Constitution; and the dark spirit of despotism and bigotry which would create odious distinctions among our fellow-citizens, will be speedily rebuked by a free and enlightened public opinion.

The agitation on the question of domestic slavery has too long distracted and divided the people of this Union, and alienated their affections from each other. This agitation has assumed many forms since its commencement, but it now seems to be directed chiefly to the Territories; and, judging from its present character, I think we may safely anticipate that it is rapidly approaching a "finality." The recent legislation of Congress respecting domestic slavery, derived as it has been from the original and pure fountain of legitimate political power, the will of the majority, promises ere long to allay the dangerous excitement. This legislation is founded upon principles as ancient as free government itself, and in accordance with them has simply declared that the people of a Territory, like those of a State, shall decide for themselves whether slavery shall or shall not exist within their limits.

The Nebraska-Kansas act does no more than give the force of law to this elementary principle of self-government; declaring it to be "the true intent and meaning of this act 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." This principle will surely not be controverted by any individual of any party professing devotion to popular Government. Besides, how vain and illusory would any other principle prove in practice in regard to the Territories! This is apparent from the fact admitted by all, that after a Territory shall have entered the Union and become a State, no Constitutional power would then exist which could prevent it from either abolishing or establishing slavery, as the case may be, according to its sovereign will and pleasure.

Most happy would it be for the country if this long agitation were at an end. During its whole progress it has produced no practical good to any human being, whilst it has been the source of great and dangerous evils. It has alienated and estranged one portion of the Union from the other, and has even seriously threatened its very existence. To my own personal knowledge it has produced the impression among foreign nations that our great and glorious Confederacy is in constant danger of dissolution. This does us serious injury, because acknowledged power and stability always command respect among nations, and are among the best securities against unjust aggression and in favor of the maintenance of honorable peace.

May we not hope that it is the mission of the Democratic party, now the only surviving conservative party of the country, ere long to overthrow all sectional parties and restore the peace, friendship and mutual confidence which prevailed in the good old time among the different members of the Confederacy. Its character is strictly national, and it therefore asserts no principle for the guidance of the Federal Government which is not adopted and sustained by its members in each and every State. For this reason it is everywhere the same determined foe of all geographical parties, so much and so justly dreaded by the Father of his Country.

From its very nature it must continue to exist as long as there is a Constitution and a Union to preserve. A conviction of these truths has induced many of the purest, the ablest and most independent of our former opponents, who have differed from us in times gone by upon old and extinct party issues, to come into our ranks and devote themselves with us to the cause of the Constitution and the Union. Under these circumstances, I most cheerfully pledge myself, should the nomination of the Convention be ratified by the people, that all the power and influence, constitutionally possessed by the Executive shall be exerted, in a firm but conciliatory spirit, during the single term I shall remain in office, to restore the same harmony among the sister States which prevailed before this apple of discord, in the form of slavery agitation had been cast into their midst. Let the members of the family abstain from intermeddling with the exclusive domestic concerns of each other, and cordially unite, on the basis of perfect equality among themselves, in promoting the great national objects of common interest to all, and the good work will be instantly accomplished.

In regard to our foreign policy, to which you have referred in your communication, it is quite impossible for any human foreknowledge to prescribe positive rules in advance; to regulate the conduct of a future administration in all the exigencies which may arise in our various and ever-changing relations with foreign powers. The Federal Government must of necessity exercise a sound discretion in dealing with international questions as they may occur; but this under the strict responsibility which the Executive must always feel to the people of the United States and the judgment of posterity. You will therefore excuse me for not entering into particulars; while I heartily concur with you in the general sentiment, that our foreign affairs ought to be conducted with such wisdom and firmness as to assure the prosperity of the people at home, while the interest and honor of our country are wisely but inflexibly maintained abroad. Our foreign policy ought ever to be based upon the principle of doing justice to all nations, and requiring justice from them in return; and from this principle I shall never depart.

Should I be placed in the Executive chair, I shall use my best exertions to cultivate peace and friendship with all nations, believing this to be our highest policy as well as our most imperative duty; but at the same time, I shall never forget that in case the necessity should arise, which I do not now apprehend, our national rights and national honor must be preserved at all hazards and at any sacrifice.

Firmly convinced that a special Province governs the affairs of nations, let us humbly implore His continued blessing upon our country, and that He may avert from us the punishment we justly deserve for being discontented and ungrateful while enjoying privileges above all nations, under such a Constitution and such a Union as has never been vouchsafed to any other people.

Yours, very respectfully,
JAMES BUCHANAN.

PUT DOWN CONNECTICUT FOR OLD BUCK.—The supporters of Mr. Buchanan entertain no reliance whatever on getting a single Northern State except Pennsylvania and California.—*New York Tribune.*

That is another of your crazy assertions, Horace! Connecticut will give him 5,000 majority in November just as certain as that you want a hat.—*New Haven Register.*

THE PHILADELPHIA CANDIDATE.—Col. Fremont is nominated for President by the Black Republicans," as we predicted in these columns three months since that he would be. He is rich, and has been taken up on the score of availability. He will run pretty well in some of the Northern States and beat Fillmore in most of them.

The poor "Northern Americans" in this city will get together to-day—such of them as have not bolted again—and ratify this nomination.—*New York News June 19.*

FILLMORE REPUDIATED IN RHODE ISLAND.—The American Convention of Rhode Island, which met at Providence on the 2d inst., repudiated the nomination of Mr. Fillmore for the Presidency.

HON. STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS.

Were an entire stranger to our country and its institutions and especially to its party divisions to begin this day for the first time to read our political newspapers he would be amused, puzzled and astonished in about equal degrees. He would be utterly surprised when reading from the Free-Soil prints at the entire want of all integrity and patriotism in the whole Southern half of the Republic; his astonishment would be redoubled when he read from Know-Nothing sheets that all who were not numbered in the ranks of the party they represent are neither patriots nor Americans. Even after a little explanation had posted him up on these points he might still wonder upon reading Democratic journals that they should forget the just meed of praise and eulogy due to the great number of distinguished men in our ranks while our candidates are fully and freely praised. For such a blunder a stranger, a foreigner, and an ill-informed one would be pardonable. The simple suggestion that our candidates receive a greater share of our attention than their equals who are not candidates, because they are for the time being the great exponents and representatives of our principles and objects as a party, would suffice to clear up the mystery and to set him right upon that point.

There are those who would have it believed that the Democratic party, in their laudable pride at the exalted character of its present candidates, had forgotten those other great Democrats from whose heaven-given talents that patriotic party derives the most of its power and influence. This is an error, an engregious and scarcely pardonable error. As enthusiastic as Democrats may be in the support of their great standard-bearers, they do not, they cannot forget those patriots who have never faltered in the hour of danger nor turned their backs when storms lowered.

High, if not foremost among such, must always stand the thrice-honored name of Stephen A. Douglas. It is with emotions of pride and enthusiasm that Democrats pronounce his name, nor can the advocacy of the election of the old Democratic champion nominated for President, or the no less able or patriotic and chivalrous young Democrat named for the Vice-Presidency, cause Democrats to forget for a single hour the claims of the gallant son of Illinois upon our admiration and applause. For our own part we should deem ourselves recreant to every Democratic duty were we to say ought in dispraise of this "rose and expectancy" of this fair Republic. We go as far in lauding him "as he who goes the farthest," and will then add, that for long years our eyes have been fixed upon him as one yet to lead us to a glorious victory. Honorable as are his past records; proud as is his unsurpassed position among senators, orators and statesmen; exalted as is his fame throughout the world, we cherish the belief that he will be called by the spontaneous voice of his countrymen to a yet higher sphere, where his heroic patriotism and his wholly unselfish devotion to his country and his whole country, will crown him with laurels which shall be fadeless while America endures.

Were any evidence before wanting of the sincere and elevated patriotism of the great senator, his cheerful hearty, ready, earnest and enthusiastic approbation of the nomination of a distinguished son of Pennsylvania for President by the Convention before which he was also a candidate, would afford one which we can no more doubt than the light of the noon-day sun. Judge Douglas knows his place—that of the foremost, boldest, most perservering and most eloquent advocate of the Democratic cause and supporter of the Democratic candidates. Those candidates are satisfactory to *him*—hundreds of thousands of Democrats would ask no other guarantee of their worthiness, if other were required. Were we altogether ignorant of the brilliant career, the spotless integrity, the high-toned chivalry and the unquestioned patriotism of our Buchanan and our Breckenridge, still the simple endorsement of Stephen A. Douglas would leave to us no doubt of their worthiness.

Shall we be deemed impertinent if we ask why some warm admirers of the gallant son of Illinois do not give assurance of their sincerity by imitating his example? If Judge Douglas could be trusted by them as their candidate for the Presidency, cannot the same confidence be reposed in him by following the glorious precedent he has them in raising his voice first, loudest and most eloquently in favor of the nominees? Look at those brief telegraphic notes which ordered his name to be withdrawn from before the Cincinnati Convention, and see if there's a word, or letter that shows anything but thorough-going Democracy and self-devotion! Read the speech he made to the assembled Democrats at Washington when the news of Buchanan's nomination reached that city! More emphatic and eloquent terms of approbation will not be uttered, except by himself, throughout this canvass. Here is a noble example set to his friends, by a man every way noble, by following which they will manifest their wisdom as politicians, their sincerity as admirers of Douglas, and their devotion to the good cause of Democracy for its own sake. But is it really true that there are Democrats who earnestly wished to have Douglas nominated at Cincinnati, and are still unwilling to follow his example by supporting the nominees called for by the great mass of the Democratic party? It will require strong cumulative evidence to convince us that Democrats can fall into an inconsistency so absurd. Allowing to them disappointment and even chagrin that another was chosen instead of the great man who is their favorite, we must still believe that such a feeling would be but transient, and that it would have no place in their bosoms, after the warm, glowing and eloquent approbation of the actual nominees by their own most worthy favorite.—*Courier.*

WHO IS JAMES BUCHANAN?—No man asks, or need ask, "Who is James Buchanan?" His history is that of the country for nearly forty years, and not a blot sullies the brightness of the page upon which it is indelibly written. One who knows him intimately has well said: "We can name no living man who excels him in the qualities which command general admiration and respect. He always displays the refinements of honor and the grace of a gentleman. Born and reared among a manly race, the structure of his body and mind are happy types of the power and resources of his native State.

His friendship is warm, generous and sincere. His manners are familiar without coarseness, and elegant without pomp. His extensive information is the fair result of diligence and study; and he imparts it freely, without pedantry or ostentation. This gifted character, although comparable to any in the attainment of knowledge, has made the science of government his favorite study. And if politics be a science, and really deserve so sublime a title. Mr. Buchanan's success in the pursuit of it merits a diploma of the rarest sort. For forty years this eminent statesman has trod the stage of public life; and no matter in what drama he was called to act, the stage was clean, the scenery was fine, the performance was admirable, and the spectators cheered till the curtain fell. He has been tried in every crisis that could measure the range of wisdom and the versatile powers of the human mind, and was never found wanting on any decisive occasion."—*Baltimore Republican.*

The North has now, besides the nominee of the Democratic party, three candidates for the Presidency—Fillmore, Banks, Fremont. But the fractions which support these three candidates are all eager for the spoils. They know well that if their nominations are urged and adhered to Mr. Buchanan will get the vote of *nearly* every Northern and *every* Southern State. We regard, therefore, this presentation of a cloud of candidates, by the opponents of the Democratic party, as a mere sham of the political wire-pullers. Some one of the three is likely, in the course of the canvass, to swallow up the rest, and this one will be the man who has made the greatest sacrifices of character for the sake of political distinction. The elements of fusion are as abundant now as in 1854, while their intensity has been increased by the war in Kansas, and the "shrieks for freedom" over Sumner's bloody head. And should the old fusion be revived, the Democratic party will need all its strength in the South to save it from defeat. The contest will be deeply sectional, and with this feeling stirred by mutual exasperations. We wish our "National" friends a safe deliverance in such a contest.—*Charleston Mercury.*

THIS PICTURE AND THAT.—We ask the candid and intelligent portion of the combinations and contrasts now opposed to the Democracy, says the Pennsylvanian, to compare the proceedings of the two Conventions—Cincinnati and Philadelphia—with each other. The one calm, dignified, high-toned, enunciating great constitutional principles, and a firm devotion to their support—no vituperation, no insulting allusion to the factions now warring against the National Union, no departure from the lofty position always assumed by those who are conscious of being in the right. Contrast all this with the reckless personalities, wanton abuse, and unscrupulous innuendoe indulged in by the leaders of the Black Republican Convention, and then decide which party can lay the best claim to "talents and decency."

The $1000 bet, offered in the Courier a few days since, that Kentucky would vote for Buchanan and Breckenridge in November next, has not yet been taken. We now have still further inducements to offer. We will pay $50 in gold to the person who will accept the proposition and put up the money, or the same amount to any one who will bring such a customer to this office. Here's a glorious chance for sanguine Know-Nothings to invest.—*Louisville Courier.*

A FUNNY SLANDER

Some of the more unscrupulous of the Know Nothing papers have revived an old slander against Mr. Buchanan in regard to his having advocated the reduction of all workman's wages to ten cents per day.

The thing is worth noticing, if only for the curious illustration it affords of the habits of the lower order of political curs who growl and howl during every presidential campaign. The origin of the calumny is as amusing as that of the report which destroyed the unlucky young lady of the play. Her pet lamb had twins. A deaf old woman was told of it, and supposed the information to be that the young girl herself had twins. The industrious creature, owner of the lamb was destroyed in reputation forever.

In 1840 Mr. Buchanan made a speech in the Senate, in which he advocated the Sub-Treasury. One of his arguments in favor of the system was that it protected the working man from the sudden changes and disastrous inflations of the currency, whereby dealers in money habitually shaved them out of a portion of their earnings This was so true and so obvious that the Whigs were hard up for an answer. Honest John Davis, of Massachusetts (honest, honest Iago,) replied charging that the Sub-Treasury system would destroy all the banks, and appended to his speech certain tables, showing that in one or two countries of Europe common day laborers' wages were only ten cents a day, and that these countries had no banks.

The small fry of the Whig press immediately asserted, solely on these grounds, that Mr. Buchanan was in favor of reducing the price of labor to ten cents a day, and the still smaller fry of Know-Nothings have revived the cry *Vive la bagatelle!*—*Courier.*

THE REIGN OF FUSION.—The reign of fusion has been inaugurated by the anti-Southern elements of the North. The almost simultaneous nomination of J. C. Fremont by the Black Republican at Philadelphia and anti-Fillmore Know-Nothings, representing every Northern State, has completed the black league which seeks to crush the South or destroy the Union. It is no time now to shut the eyes or to fold the arms. The hour comes darkling on for the final conflict. The South must strike vigorously and effectively or be stricken down. She must either meet and rout the enemy, or be crushed by his squadrons, or, worse still, ignominiously surrender. This is no false alarm. The wolf is undoubtedly upon the walk, and the signal to the rescue should resound from valley to valley and from hill-top to hill-top throughout the South. The danger is real, and calls for genuine courage and patriotism to meet it. In the oncoming conflict no holiday soldiers are wanted—no big or little pacificators," preaching peace and degradation—no pseudo-Union saviors, devoted to saving office in good earnest—no men flaunting the meretricious rags of a "national reputation" no knights of wooden swords—none of these who are generaly so plenty on the eve of elections, are wanted in the imminent emergency. Men of sterner stuff should snuff the breeze of the coming battle.—*Delta.*

DIED—At his Sommer residence, Bayou Chicot, in this Parish, on Monday, 30th June, after a lingering illness, Mr. WILLIS B. PRESCOTT, of Avoyelles Parish, a native of South Carolina, in the 46th year of his age.

——In New-Orleans, on the 21st, at the age of 27, Mrs. ORELINE GIBSON, wife of M. Joseph Gibson.

PUBLIC SALE,

By the undersigned, Public Auctioneer.

THE public are hereby informed that there will be sold at public sale, to the last and highest bidder, by the undersigned, Auctioneer in and for the Parish of St. Landry, at the late residence of widow Charles Garrigues, dec'd, in the Town of Opelousas,

On Wednesday, 6th. August next,

the following described property part of which belonging to the Estate of Stanislas Garrigues, deceased, and the other part belonging to the Succession in community between said Stanislas Garrigues and Adèle Garrigues and Noémie Tonnancourt, to wit:

Property in community.

TWO LOTS OF GROUND,

situated in the Town of Opelousas, at the corner of Bellevue and Liberty streets and designated as lots Nos. 59 and 60, on the plan of said town, together with all and singular the *Buildings and Improvements* thereon erected and thereto pertained, it being the last residence of Widow Charles Garrigues, deceased.

AIMEE, a negro-woman, aged about 22 years, with her child, ALEXANDRE, aged about 4 years.

Household furniture, such as bedsteads, tables, chairs, armoirs, sophas, silver-ware, kitchen utensils and great many other articles too long to enumerate.

Individual property of Stanislas Garrigues, deceased:

A FRACTION OF

A LOT OF GROUND,

situated in the town of Opelousas, Parish of St. Landry, bounded North by the property of Christian Mornhinveg, South by that of Honoré Labjche, and now occupied by N. Quatrevaux, on the East by Union street and on the West by Main street, together with *all the Buildings and Improvements* thereon erected and thereto appertaining.

Terms and Conditions:— The immoveable property in community between said Stanislas Garrigues, deceased, and Adèle Garrigues and Noemie Tonnancourt, payable cash; the moveable property belonging to the same community, payable thus: all sums under twenty-five dollars, cash, and all sums of twenty-five dollars and upwards, on the 1st day of January next, 1857. The fraction of ground with the improvements, it being the individual property of said deceased, payable thus: one half on the 7th of April next, 1857, and the other half payable on the 7th of April following 1858, with interest at the rate of eight per cent per annum from maturity until paid. Purchasers furnishing security in solido, to the satisfaction of the administratrix, and moreover the landed property remaining specially mortgaged unto said Estate, until full and entire payment of the capital and interests.

A. DEJEAN, *Auctioneer.*

Opelousas, July 5th, 1856.

STRAY HORSE.

RAN-AWAY, near Opelousas, about a month ago, an American sorrel horse, aged about 5 years, having very short mane, with no apparent brand, the left front hoof shorter than the right one, having a small white spot on the left shoulder.

A liberal reward will be paid to the person who will bring back said horse to me.

JOSEPH BALQUIR.

Prairie Laurent, July 5th, 1856.

OPELOUSAS LITERARY INSTITUTION.

St. Landry, (La.)

UNDER the direction and proprietorship of Messrs. A. DE ST. CYR D'ARTHUN and JOHN GATELY, this Institution will be opened on Monday next, 7th day of July, for the reception of pupils.

The course of education comprises the English, French and Spanish languages; Classics, Mathematics, Arithmetic, Writing, Declamation, History, Chronology, Philosophy, Geography and Globes.

The English and French languages, regarded now a days, in highest esteem; because of the extraordinary extent of territory, as well as globe,—encircling commerce of the three nations, claiming them as their vernacular tongues, will be taught at this Institution, in such pure style of their native proprieties, as regards symphony and correctness of grammatical construction, eloquence of diction, and euphonious elegance of reading and delivery, as cannot fail in