THE STRUGGLE IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Activity of the Politicians Throughout the State.

TUESDAY, THE SETTLING DAY, &c., &c., &c.

Our Williamsport Correspondence.

WILLIAMSPORT, Oct. 4, 1856.

The Religious Elements in Pennsylvania Politics—Northumberland, Lycoming and Union Counties—A Pennsylvania Sufferer in Kansas—Democratic Change of Front, &c.

In the developement of no thought during this campaign has the HERALD, notwithstanding its amazing skill in the management of the canvass, exhibited greater sagacity than in the pourtrayal of the influence the religious element of the country will exert upon the Presidential election. Long before others saw or expected the active agency of this influence, the HERALD descried it from afar, and by its articles on the subject, has contributed to give the movement directness, strength and a marked momentum. No acute observer can fail to see the prevalence, among the moral and religious portions of society, of a feeling of duty which voters have rarely if ever had weighing upon their consciences on a similar occasion. With the causes which produced this developement I have nothing to do; but of its existence in Pennsylvania the public elsewhere need not, and should not, be kept in ignorance. Heretofore, when political issues related to the tariff, the public lands, the currency and such as these, voters were decided solely by the convictions of judgment. The questions appealed solely to the reason, and by it they were decided. Now, however, moral considerations press upon the pending question, and a Christian cannot vote for the extension of slavery into Kansas by force of arms without inquiring whether, in conniving at or assisting in such a work he is not recreant to his race, his age, his country and his God. He recognizes in slavery an institution which is provocative of the grossest and most inexcusable immoralities; which leads to constant indulgence in criminalities; which produces the debasement of the owned, and the corruption of the owning classes; which is, inherently and necessarily, degrading to the white laborer, whom it places in competition with degraded and crushed in spirit slaves; and whose extension over boundless Territories, cannot be promotive of any great moral good. By supporting Buchanan, endorsing the Pierce policy and enslaving Kansas, they would reproduce in a new country the evils inflicted upon an old—a work in which they cannot engage without a consciousness of the inconsistency of the act with those moral principles which are the basis of God's truth, and which dare not be disregarded by any society, people, or government. Hence, this continued support of their party is impossible; and hundreds have determined to lend a hand to freedom, to morality and to material prosperity, by sustaining the anti-extension candidate. This class of men are not brawlers. They don't stand upon the street corners announcing their determination. They are sober, quiet, reputable citizens, who lead a peaceable life, and who will, without parade, make themselves felt on election day. This class so swelled the republican majority in Maine. It will swell the republican majority in Pennsylvania. Not at the first election will this be so palpable; but in the second, when the issue is distinctly presented, its full force will be felt, and crushingly, upon the democrats. If, therefore, Fremont's majority in this State should be astonishingly large, let not this great element in the conflict be overlooked.

Since I last wrote you I have been in Northumberland and Lycoming counties. I have chosen this part of the State for a tour, because its condition is little known elsewhere, and because in it the democratic party has had almost uninterrupted ascendency. That party now has possession of all the county and federal offices. It is reaping, as it has for years been reaping, the fruits of a compact, well drilled and generally obedient majority of the voters. It has grown intoxicated with success, not dreaming that any reverse of fortune would dethrone them from their places. But it has counted without its host; for already its ranks grow thin and dispirited and apprehensive.

In Northumberland the democratic majority last fall was 972; in Lycoming, 232. In the former the opposition are united upon a county ticket as well as the union State ticket. There is considerable dissatisfaction with the democratic candidate for Congress, who has been aspiring for it until it was necessary to place him in the field as a candidate. Two independent candidates for Associate Judge—one a democrat and one a whig—are in the field against the regular nominees. An independent candidate for the Legislature—a democrat—has been announced in opposition to the regularly chosen representative of the party, and there is every indication of an animated and singular contest. Of the two candidates for Congress, Campbell and Dewart, the latter is repudiated by democrats, and the former, though an American, will be sustained by many democrats who can distinguish between intelligence and ignorance, fitness and unfitness. The district (Northumberland and Schuylkill) is largely democratic, but the number of independent democrats is thought to be sufficient to work the defeat of their party's candidate. Last year Northumberland cast about 3,300 votes, and gave the democratic Canal Commissioner 972 majority. This year, with a larger vote polled, the majority will be reduced at least one-half on the State ticket, and more than that on the Presidential, if there should be a fusion electoral ticket prepared. In the county there are a few hundred Fillmore men, but the number is not increasing. Two or three of the leaders are so bitter against Fremont as to prefer Buchanan to him, but they cannot control the people, who know from experience what locofocoism is, and will not, directly or indirectly, contribute to the perpetuation of their miserable in the State or nation. They will act regardless alike of southern dictation and Northern clamor.

In Lycoming two county tickets have been nominated. The county is aroused—a full vote will be cast. Our friends are in good spirits, and are working faithfully. The democrats are not confident, but are active, unidiscouraged and persevering. The union men anticipate the election of their candidate for Congress, General Wm. H. Irwin, of Mifflin county. The district is composed of Lycoming, Clinton, Centre and Mifflin, formerly a strongly democratic district, but now more likely to go against than for that party. Allison White, a lawyer, of Lock Haven, Clinton county, is their candidate. He has been beaten twice in the district, but is again in quest of the office. He is a gentleman of ordinary capacity, but little personal popularity. General Irwin served honorably in the Mexican war, still carries in his body Mexican lead, is frank and affable in his manners, is a good speaker, is gentlemanly and amiable, and makes friends wherever he goes. The legislative district, consisting of Lycoming, Clinton and Potter, is also considered safe—also formerly strongly democratic. The only county in these districts which looked unpromising for Fremont was Clinton, in which a bitter, malignant Fillmore paper was published. The editor was one of the most illiberal of his class, and daily did harm to the good cause. He did not labor earnestly for the union State ticket, and generally failed in his duty to the party. I understand that he has been bought out, and that the paper will hoist the names of Fremont and Dayton. Lock Haven is an important point in Northern Pennsylvania, and a well conducted orthodox paper cannot but have a marked effect upon that section of the county.

The Fremonters and Fillmore men had a union county meeting yesterday. It was "got up" at a week's notice, and without special effort; yet the display was highly gratifying. There was a very long procession of persons on horseback, in buggies, in carriages, in wagons and on foot. A number of striking banners were carried—one representing Kansas a slave, another Kansas free; one representing Buchanan squaring himself with the platform, several devoted to "Bully Brooks," &c. James Armstrong, Esq., a lawyer, of this place, presided, and made a speech. He was followed by Gen. Irwin in a capital effort. The meeting was larger, handsomer, more imposing and more cheering than that of the democrats the week before, although they had been drumming up for it for several weeks. Some of our people were so gratified with the turnout and with the excellent feeling displayed, that they began to talk extravagantly about majorities. It is certain that the demonstration roused and delighted the opponents of the black democracy, and nerved their hearts to greater effort.

Immediately south of Lycoming, and on the west bank of the west branch of the Susquehanna, lies Union county, whose county seat is the thriving town of Lewisburg. Here all is well. It is a strong county, and will do better than last year. It is, like all the other counties of our State, overrun with Southern orators and Northern doughfaces, but their stories make little impression upon the people. They resort to certain means and statements to strengthen their cause, such as that the Union is sure to be dissolved if Fremont be elected, and that Maryland and Virginia will then be foreign States, which will tax all products passing through them; and that, in addition, Fremont's election will be followed by the emancipation of the negroes in the South, who will then be divided among the counties of the Northern States in proportion to the population. None but the most ignorant believe these stories; but their circulation by Buchanan stompers shows how base they are, and how few are the weapons with which they can combat Fremont's principles.

I saw this morning a letter from a native of this county, now resident in Kansas. He is from one of the oldest and firmest democratic families of Union county, and went to Kansas to live and carve out for himself a fortune. He is in humble life, and is, though unobtrusively, a free State man. He wrote home to his grandfather an account of the condition of things in that Territory, and detailed his arrest and that of several others by the Missouri marauders. They stopped the stage, robbed him of about $700 worth of property, put a rope around his neck to hang him, but were prevented doing so by the arrival of some friends. They were marched for several days from Lawrence in the direction of Lecompton, under a guard, and were only released by ten coming up of a party of free State men, who rescued them. He had given them no cause for this treatment, and was in the regular pursuit of his business when he was seized. His property was not returned to him. He has a young wife, who is terrified at the fearful lawlessness prevailing in the Territory, and who desires him to leave the country. He says he would not go, if unmarried, but would "see it out," but, under the circumstances, he does not feel justified in remaining. He writes to his friends for some money, that he may leave—the border ruffians having left him penniless. He begs his friends to vote for Fremont and freedom, as the only hope that iniquity will not continue to triumph in, and devastate that beautiful country. This letter will make one hundred votes for Fremont in Union county. The people know the sufferer, and can rely on his statements. All his friends are democrats, but they will not support the Buchanan Pierce policy.

There is a Buchanan meeting in Mifflinburg, Union county, to day. In the bills W. H. Witte, E. V. H. Wright, W. H. Miller, and others are announced. At the close of the poster they call upon "democrats, whigs and republicans to turn out and learn the fact that it is the democratic party that is laboring for freedom in Kansas, the assertion of opposition orators to the contrary notwithstanding." The democratic papers in this section are taking the same track, finding the other lead too heavy to carry. But they cannot long deceive the people, and their doom is fixed. In November it will be proclaimed.

Our Tamaqua Correspondence.

TAMAQUA, Pa., Oct. 2, 1856.

Something About Tamaqua, and Pennsylvanian Inland Towns in General—About Roughs and who they go for—How the Quiet and Moral Classes are Waking up to Action.

Tamaqua is a great place. It is the centre of a large mining district, and is a pretty considerably well built town. Until quite recently the people of Tamaqua and neighborhood were, with hardly an exception, thorough going democrats. Recent events have awakened them up. They have examined and reflected, and a great majority have come to the conclusion that political justice, truth and virtue do not reside in an empty name and noisy boasting about generalities, constitution, Union, &c., &c., but that it resides in action, and that it is an insult to the understanding to suppose that a party which goes for one section of the Union most especially—which gives up everything to that section—which murders innocent citizens, and takes from them the freedom of voting and speaking and meeting together, to please that one section—can be either a democratic party (in the true sense of the word) or a national party, caring for the interest of the people. They have therefore repudiated apostate democracy and come out for Fremont. They are now building a large Fremont hall here in Tamaqua, for the purpose of Fremont meetings. The town is built up entirely by miners, and has a solid, sterling appearance, the houses being built mostly of stone or brick. Indeed, all these inland Pennsylvanian towns have an air of solidity, business doing and well being. The people are well off, as may be judged from the fact that these miners, whose faces begrimed with coal dust, and the rudeness of whose rough attire would suggest a different conclusion, earn regularly, from year's end to year's end, from $16 to $20 and $25 a week. Such a lot of money, spread among so many people, acts like a magnet upon the good things of this life, and causes the milk and honey to overflow and abound. It is a land really flowing with milk and honey. As I observed before, all the inland towns of Pennsylvania present the same appearance of solid prosperity and well being. Unlike large cities, such as New York and Philadelphia, there are no depots in these towns of squalid poverty and cringing pauperism, hid in cellars and dirty streets and alleys. There are some loafers, however, and rowdies, in each of these towns, men who spend their time in taverns, drinking, betting and talking politics; and, strange to say, these men are almost all Buchanan men. It would seem as if professional rowdies were supported by and kept in the pay of the apostate democracy, who have in their hands the distribution of the Treasury pap.

Rome was ruined when the Sylla and Cæsars bought and fed the rowdies; and American liberty will be ruined, American prosperity will be made the prey of the violent, if a corrupt party, gorged with the national wealth and drunk with power, is suffered to go on in the course it pursues.

It is high time that the quiet, retired, sober minded classes of the people, men who live at home, whose shouts are not heard in the streets, nor their voices in loud altercation in the taverns, should arouse in their moral might and oppose a barrier to the wide spread torrent of corruption.

Pennsylvania is now doing this. The men who cared not about voting before will give their votes at this Presidential election, in condemnation of violence, bloodshed and bowie knife government. Some of the most respectable clergy have assured me that, whereas, in past elections they never even voted, in this one they have taken care to have themselves assessed, that they may vote for Fremont, and thereby for the redemption of the country from misrule, anarchy and bloodshed.

Our Pottsville Correspondence.

POTTSVILLE, Oct. 4, 1856.

Buchanan and Breckinridge Electioneering in Pennsylvania on the Fremont and Free Kansas Platform—Death of Mr. Platform.

If the Southern capitalists, the three hundred and forty-six thousand slaveholders, who threaten (*i. e.*, some half a dozen of them) to dissolve the Union, and to forsake a nation of twenty millions of people—if they cannot have it all their own way in the government of that nation—if they were to catch a man from the North among them who dared to speak of "free Kansas," would they not indignantly lynch him, or arrest and try him, and send him by force out of the country? They would do so—they do so. Then if they can but catch Mr. Buchanan and the few desperate men who, having encased their consciences in brass and adamant, follow still his desperate fortune at all hazards, they certainly will lynch him and them all. Why so? Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Breckinridge are now going all over and round about the State of Pennsylvania preaching "free Kansas." Are they converted? Are they become young republicans and true democrats? Have they abandoned the apostate democracy? What does this mean? Has Mr. Platform already jumped off from the platform? Has he who laid himself down on the backs of Pierce and John Yen Buren, and who gave himself up to be bestrided by a negro slavedriver and negroes—has he shaken off the black nightmare, the heavy incubus, and jumped upright from off his bearers and ceased to be Mr. Platform? Is Mr. Platform dead? Yes, he has done so, and Mr. Platform is dead. I can produce the placard paraded now in the interior towns and villages of Pennsylvania, headed, in large flaming letters, "Buchanan, Breckinridge and free Kansas." Here there is public notification of the death of Mr. Platform. This is his last dying speech and confession.

This is the second time that Mr. Buchanan bears public testimony before the world in favor of Mr. Fremont and his principles. First, under oath, in London, and now by his public placards in the interior of Pennsylvania. Not having the fear of lynching before his eyes, Mr. Buchanan proclaims himself before the people of Pennsylvania a friend of free Kansas—that is, of making Kansas free. Now, this is the Fremont platform.

Is Mr. Buchanan sincere, or is it merely an election trick, intended to cheat and deceive the good people of Pennsylvania? If we will not insult Messrs. Buchanan and Breckinridge by supposing them guilty of the vilest cheating and lying, we must believe them to be sincere converts. The dilemma is inextricable for them; they are either one or the other.

It would be an unavailing quibble to plead and say that Mr. Buchanan has not done this; it is his friends who have done it. Mr. Buchanan is to profit by it, if it can be made successful in cheating the people of Pennsylvania. He who has hirelings engaged in stealing or lying for him is, in the eye of the law, just as guilty of stealing or of lying as his agents, more especially when it is all done for his profit. A participation in the profits, if any can be made, is participation in the crime.

POTTSVILLE, Penn., Oct. 4, 1856.

Are the Fremonters Cheated by the Fillmoreites? We shall See—Trading on the Wrong Platform—Let us Look into it.

There is more danger to the Fremont cause in Pennsylvania, at the November election, from the Know Nothings or Fillmore men, than there is, by a long degree, from any other quarter whatever. The reason is not because of the real strength of Fillmore in Pennsylvania, (which, though it is not little, is as nothing in all Pennsylvania compared with that of Fremont,) but because of confusion and deception. The Fillmore men, having no national issue or platform of their own, which they dare avow, put their man on Fremont's platform. By this means thousands are drawn away for Fillmore, believing it to be in the same cause and on the same principles. This is natural enough; for if Fillmore really stood in honesty and truth on the same great national democratic principles on which Fremont stands, it would be immaterial, perhaps, to the country which of the two were made the choice of the people for the Presidency. But the Know Nothings put Fillmore on Fremont's platform, when the man himself is not there, and would be able to say, if he were elected, "I never was on that platform." Thousands of voters will give Fillmore by this deception, who, if they knew the platform he stands upon, would abjure him and the deceit practised upon them.

If the South take up Fillmore, and the fusion intimated by Governor Floyd is accomplished, that will open the eyes of a great many of his present followers in Pennsylvania.

By means of the deception they practise in pretending to advocate Fremont principles, their party makes the greatest show in this contest in Pennsylvania. It is because there are thousands of Fremonters drawn in with them, believing Fillmore to be as much in favor of liberty, and opposed to slavery extension as Fremont himself.

They had a meeting here yesterday evening, and have meetings almost every evening in all the towns round about. Their advertised speakers did not come, being engaged speaking elsewhere, but they made a great display with music, wagons, fireworks, transparencies and blazing torches. All they have to say, and all they can say against the republican party is, that it is a sectional party. What do they mean by this? They say that the Fremont party is a Northern party, and therefore it is sectional. This comes with bad grace from the man who bid so high for the votes of the south in his Albany speech. Who is most sectional—the man who goes for supporting the violence and robbery of a few hot-headed aristocrats of the South, or the man who goes for putting a stop to such violence and robbery, without diminishing the rights of either South or North?

The meeting, as to its numbers and enthusiasm, did not correspond with the display and enthusiasm of its getters-up. There were at the utmost not more than five hundred present. Of these it was plainly to be perceived that only a few dozen men were sympathisers and co-workers. The Fremont meetings are everywhere three times as large, without fireworks, transparencies and bands of music to attract. The Fillmore meetings are accordingly composed in great part of noisy boys, and the Fremont meetings of attentive listeners. But the bands, and the transparencies, and the rockets, make the greatest show.

Their speakers inveighed much against Mr. Buchanan; but their standard bearer (and they know it) stands upon the same platform, if you take out the Cuba plank, and put in Know Nothingism in its place. The platform is, in general words, "subserviency to a few violent men belonging to a section of the Union." Both Fillmore and Buchanan stand before the people upon sectional views and principles, which are to surrender power, place, territory and everything to a section.

But why are the natives, or Know Nothings, so hostile to Buchanan and his party? Their opposition is based upon quite other grounds than that of the Fremonters. Theirs is the hereditary and federal hatred of the old enemies of Jefferson and of democracy. It is the hatred of all the old parties heretofore opposed to the democrats, now united together under the one name of Americans. This accounts for the fact, and explains how it is that so many of the old whig party have joined the present apostate democratic party. They could not join it while it was true to its professed principles, for they were the followers of the old federals, and hated democratic principles. But now that the party is become itself the greatest of all enemies to true democracy—they, the old enemies of democracy—join it gladly, and from principle. The others do not go over to the apostate democracy, because they cannot discern between principles and names—because they have not wit enough to perceive that though it retains the old name, it is no longer a democratic party, but is a purely sectional, negro driving party—a Calhoun nullification party—a party federal and despotic in its action, and whose end and aim is despotism.

Besides this, they are kept together by the plank of Nativeism on which they stand. Those of the old enemies of democracy who care not for that plank, have all gone over to the apostate democracy. They see it is the old enemy of liberty now, instead of being the democracy which it was. The Fremonters in their opposition to the apostate democracy are laboring to re-establish the old and true principles of Jeffersonian democracy. In the one single principle of indignant hostility to the extension of anything upon free men by force and violence, they show the true spirit of democracy, and that they are the only true democrats. Hence it is that all true democrats are joining them daily and forsaking the apostate democracy.

The opposition of the Fillmore party to Mr. Buchanan is an opposition of man to man, not of principle to principle. Fremont alone stands upon principle, and opposes great national republican principles, not to a man or to men, but to false principles to tyrannical principles, which have brought civil war upon the country—which civil war, if he is not elected, though now hushed up, will burst out again in the blackest colors, and spread from Territories to States.

So great is the hereditary hatred to popular principles of the varied elements of the old federal parties, now amalgamated together in Pennsylvania in the Know Noting party, that they would infinitely rather see Fremont defeated than Buchanan.

They are not, as supporters of Fillmore, on the free and liberal side of the great issue now before the people. Mr. Fillmore has not uttered a word, and dare not breathe a syllable in reprobation of the forced extension of slavery in Kansas Territory. They are as hostile to Fremont on this great issue as Mr. Buchanan himself. That such is their position is manifest enough, from the fact that their candidate is as acceptable to the Southern fire-eaters as the candidate of the apostate democracy. They differ from Mr. Buchanan but in their personal preference for Mr. Fillmore, and in their belief that he is less a democrat in principle than Mr. Buchanan. But they differ from Fremont in this, that he has no principle in his platform on which they could unite, and they would oppose any other man as much as him who stood upon the same ground. Buchanan, from the old scent of democracy adhering still to the old cask, is too democratic for them; but Fremont, fresh before the people in all the vitality of young and healthy democracy, is far more odious in their sight.

They seduce many true democrats into their ranks by electioneering with Fremont principles, and to retain them there they have a double set of principles. This is necessary because they have a double set of men in their ranks. This is how they can vindicate their conduct and duplicity, and affirm their truth and sincerity. For one set of men among them is honest and sincere in advocating Fremont principles, and the other is honest and sincere in advocating Know Nothingism, and subjection to the will of the South. So they are all honest, all honorable men, and yet combined, they palm a fraud upon the people in putting forward a man who sustains the oppression, violence and tyranny against which the people are risen up in arms, under the banner of Fremont.

But should those among them who approve of Fremont principles, and who are opposed to the forced extension of slavery, help to elect Fillmore over Fremont, they would be undeceived, and discover that they had been cheated when too late. Fillmore would soon undeceive them with a pleasant smile and bow, and let them know that though they went with him, he never went with them. He would let them know that he only went for the Buchanan platform, improved by the addition of Know Nothingism and a little more old federalism, and that he was never pledged to anything else. To pacify their feelings, wounded by the cheat practised on them, they would be told that Fillmore had not deceived them, that he was with them in heart on the Kansas question, but that out of love for the Union, and to save it, he had gone upon the Buchanan platform. So that he had acted very wisely, and they ought to love him still better, because he had saved the Union (they think to save the Union by the very policy which has endangered it, and which, if Fremont is not elected, will destroy it in the end).

Now for this party to use Fremont men and their principles, in order to get himself elected, while he is prepared to kick them away, with all their principles, if elected, is a fraud upon those men. Every man therefore opposed to the forced extension of slavery, who does not go for Fremont, but lets himself be led away to vote for Fillmore, is deceived and cheated, and will be betrayed by the man for whom he votes.

The platform of that man is total subserviency to Southern freaters and nullifiers. It has other minor ingredients, but they do not change its real character. Know Nothingism is only a seasoning and flavoring thrown into the pudding, helping to disguise the chief ingredient, making a collateral and false issue for those who would be ashamed to avow and vote for the true issue on which Fillmore really stands. This is duplicity and double dealing. In this view, Buchanan, as to his platform is simply Buchanan. But Fillmore is Buchanan disguised, having a changeable set of cloaks to put on as suits the occasion and the latitude. The cloak under which some thus go for Buchanan, in going for him, is Know Nothingism. The cloak under which others see him and go for him, is Free Kansas and Fremont principles. The cloak under which the south see him and go for him, is subserviency to the 346,000 slaveholders as opposed to twenty millions of people. Each cloak is adapted to the climate, the latitude, and the state and temperature of the contest, according to where he is shown and the double-faced image set up.

It is because this compound party of compound principles takes away many from the Fremont ranks by deceit and duplicity, many who will be deceived into voting for the forced extension, which they abhor, that it is of no little importance to unmask and unclook Mr. Fillmore, or rather his party, and set the thing in its real light. It is in Pennsylvania, their headquarters, that they must be seen and studied to be understood.

There is danger to the Fremont cause in Pennsylvania from the Fillmore party; of the two adversaries there Buchanan is the least to be feared. If the dodging and duplicity of this faction is not well understood and met in time, thousands of voters will be deceived to vote for Fillmore, who, if they knew the truth, would rather cut off their own right hand than do such a thing.

Of course this danger only exists as to the November election. In the meantime all Fremonters in Pennsylvania will vote the Union ticket, though it is chiefly composed of Fillmore men.

The only real objection to this ticket is, that it conceals the greater strength of Fremont, and makes the weakness and insignificance of the Know Nothings appear strong and significant; that it puffs them up with the idea that they are mighty and are going to sweep the track before them in November. Their meeting was a fizzle, and their speeches and arguments hollow and empty, yet as noisy as the drums they sounded. Where there are no good and true principles there can be no good reasoning, no real eloquence, and no popular enthusiasm.

POTTSVILLE, Oct. 5, 1856.

Great Republican Meeting at Pottsville, Pa.—Speeches of Governor Hamlin and Judge Wilmot, and Mr. Warrener, of Mass.—The Ordinance of '87 Reviewed.

It is a noble sight to see the people assembled and listening with deep attention and understanding to reasonings and arguments touching the welfare and interests of the nation. It puts one in mind of the assemblies of the Athenians when they gathered together to hear Pericles, Demosthenes and Æschylus urge upon them their interests, and point out to them with impassioned eloquence and powerful reasoning the dangers which threaten the republic. Such a sight might have been seen here in Pottsville last evening (Saturday, 4th), when Governor Hamlin, David Wilmot and Mr. Warrener, of Mass., addressed the people. The speeches of these three gentlemen, though differing, of course, in style, manner and voice, were yet, each one of them, a train of logical argumentation, of sound ratiocination, combined with a powerful and lucid statement of facts.

It was pleasing to notice the deep attention given to reasonings, demonstrations and arguments, which, though divested of everything like didactic display or scholastic ostentation, yet required mind to understand, and continuity of attention to follow in all their concatenations. I confess, that with these impressions produced upon my mind by the fact before my eyes, I listened to the speakers with delight, and looked upon the people with admiration. It was the lively attention of persons deeply interested in what they heard. There were no signs of uneasiness or satiety. As the speeches were protracted and the night advanced, the interest seemed to increase. The street, crowded with the listening mass in front of the platform, was hushed and silent as if it were deserted. Ladies, in groups, were to be seen standing at a little distance off from the dense mass which immediately surrounded the platform—a mass dark from its density, and illuminated only by stars around it. These were all eagerly listening to the animated words of Governor Hamlin. His voice, clear and sonorous, was audible at a distance, and the windows and doors of the houses, up and down the street to a considerable length, were filled with attentive auditors.

It was no trifling subject which these crowds now heard discussed; the occasion of such a meeting was no little or unimportant one—it was the most serious and solemn moment of political deliberation which ever has occurred in this Union since its foundation, and the people, by their earnest attention, seemed as if fully conscious of it. Such is the character at this great crisis, not of this only, but of every meeting of the people everywhere, where truth is brought to light, and lies are not made a substitute for history; where, on whatever side it may be, honesty presides in the purpose, and truth reigns paramount to passion.

Governor Hamlin did justice to the subject, and though his speech was deeply argumentative, he completely riveted the minds of his hearers to the subject. Had I not witnessed it myself, I could not have believed that a popular assembly would have received with such evident pleasure addresses so entirely devoid of the arts and tricks generally considered necessary to captivate popular attention.

Altogether, I estimated the number present at one thousand or fifteen hundred. This is a very large assemblage for a small inland town, and it certainly was three times the number of those who attended the night before at the noisy Fillmore meeting.

The field of discussion which the important issue now before the people presents, is vast and varied in all the points in which it may be viewed. As many speakers as there may be, the topics for discussion are as many, and none of them, such is their importance, can be properly treated by a speaker without deep study, connected historical references, and a continuous chain of reasoning. Neither can they be properly understood or appreciated by an audience without following the connection of facts and arguments. Each of these necessary requirements were to a great extent supplied by both speakers and audience at the meeting here described.

Mr. Warrener was the first speaker, and for a time, from the inflexibility of his voice and the stiff constraint of his delivery, failed to command much attention or produce satisfaction in the hearer. But after listening a while, the weight of his argument, the depth of his thought, and the ability of his descriptions, made every objection vanish, and led one to the conclusion that he was an able and talented speaker. Whatever his defects might be as to delivery, he gradually won upon his audience, and produced a sensible effect. When he sat down he was greeted with loud and warm cheering.

Governor Hamlin spoke next, and gave in a masterly style a clear view of the total departure of the present democracy from democratic principles. He answered their charges against the republican party, and showed that they were the real abolitionists who had abolished the freedom and rights of the people by the course and measures they had pursued. His review of the conduct and principles of the party was a fair historical criticism, equally removed from abuse or exaggeration. At times the Governor rose to the sublimity of the poet in his descriptions, but in general his style of speaking is of the solid Websterian order. Great expectation had been raised by the announcement of his name as one of the speakers, and no one was disappointed. He produced great effect, because it evidently was not his aim to produce effect, but to communicate that which he himself was deeply impressed with the truth of. At intervals the silence of the assembly was momentarily broken by loud bursts of vehement applause.

The Hon. David Wilmot followed, and in a course of elaborate argument traced the history of the constitution and laws, and showed how these have been totally overthrown by the present doctrines and actions of the democratic party. Judge Wilmot is too well known to require any account of his manner of speaking, but it ought to be mentioned that, though in referring to the subject he spoke upon, it would seem as if, from its familiarity, it must fail to be attractive, yet he handled it in such a way as to clothe it in all the freshness and charm of novelty, proving, that though a man may think he already knows all about the matter, yet in truth he does not know the half of it. The history of the ordinance of '87 is extremely interesting. Mr. Wilmot threw a great deal of historical light upon the subject. He showed how that ordinance originated. It was a positive enactment and organic law, drawn up by the founders of this republic and received, sanctioned and decreed by Congress, enacting virtually that while slavery was not to be meddled with in the States where it prevailed, yet that henceforth no more slavery should prevail in any other portion or part of the United States. That the United States, with the exception of a few States where slavery still existed, should be free States. In a word, it solemnly prohibited the extension of slavery. It is said that Virginia made that ordinance, and that in giving up the territory which she claimed as belonging to her she stipulated that it should be free. Virginia therefore, it is said, deserved all the credit of it. This is not exactly the fact. Virginia at first refused to cede her territory, not on the question as to freedom, but because she wanted to keep it to herself. Other States as well as Virginia refused to yield to the central government the Territories they claimed to own. And why? Simply because they required certain conditions to be agreed on before they would give them up to be the common property of the Union. They demanded that all future States should be free States. They protested against the extension of slavery. Maryland was one of these protesting States, and she placed on record a strong remonstrance against the erection of other than free States out of these Territories. At length the difficulty was removed; the States which then held slaves agreed that there should be no extension of slavery. They came into the conditions, and provided that all the future States henceforth to be made out of the Territories belonging to the United States should forever be free States. Then it was that Virginia consented to give up her back territory on these conditions and on this proviso, and it does her credit, certainly. The struggle on this question continued for three years. It was the question whether slavery should be permitted to be carried into other parts of the Union, and whether it should be extended, or whether it should be prevented forever from any further extension. Jefferson, Washington, Franklin, and all the great founders of our Union, Virginia, Maryland, and all other States north of them, contended for liberty and for founding free States. They prevailed. The question which is now the issue of this day and of this contest was then settled by Washington, by Jefferson, and by the Congress of that day. Then all our patriots, all our great men, were anti-Buchanan men; all our democrats were then directly opposed to what is now the doctrine of the democrats, as they falsely call themselves. Then the question of Kansas was virtually settled, and it was decided that Kansas ought to be free. (Loud cheers.) Then it was that on the very question, as settled then in favor of freedom and free States, that the present democracy sprang into vitality and existence. Now, is it rational to assert and maintain that the founders of the constitution, who struggled so long and so manfully for freedom and the Free States—who fought the battle which we are now fighting against all future extension of slavery—I ask, is it rational to maintain that they intended to plant and that they actually planted, slavery in the constitution? Would they who fought three long years against the extension of slavery, and for making all future States free States—would they have turned around and made a constitution, designed, as it is now pretended, to extend slavery everywhere in the future domains of the republic? The territory belonging to Virginia and Maryland was then slave territory, inasmuch as those States were slave States. The ordinance on which, as a solemn compromise and basis of accord the constitution was erected, made slave territory free, it forever excluded slavery. This organic law of our republic was afterwards solemnly renewed and ratified, and sustained by subsequent Congresses. Five times, while Indiana and Illinois were Territories, some few slaveholders had power and influence enough to get up petitions to Congress to suspend the ordinance against slavery. Each time Congress refused. One of the strongest and most powerful reports in opposition to this insidious effort was drawn up by John Randolph, of Virginia. They were resisted by all the democracy with unanimity and indignation. Then democracy was not the corrupt and fallen thing that it has become this day by the abandonment of democratic principles. At the time of the formation of the constitution the voice of all our great men was against slavery. They did not meddle with it in the States where it existed, but they zealously labored to prevent and forbid forever any further extension of it. We, the republicans of this day, are with them; we do not seek to meddle with it where it lawfully exists, but we are now labouring, as they then labored, to prevent its extension. We are doing more—we are laboring to prevent its extension, and not that only, but its extension by violence, bloodshed and civil war. (Loud cheers.) At the time referred to, Virginia deplored the existence of slavery, and united to make it an organic law of the republic that this evil, which all acknowledged to be such, should never more be extended. All subsequent extensions of it have been in violation of the spirit and letter of the constitution and of the organic laws of the land. There have been subsequent extension. It is to be deplored, because at every extension the slaveholders require a still further extension. It must now be stopped from being extended into Kansas, for if not, they will extend it more and more, until as they even boast, they will carry it into Massachusetts, and call the roll of their slaves at the foot of Bunker Hill monument. I know that the maker of that boast denies that he ever made it in any public speech. I do not say that he ever did. This denial is a mean and contemptible evasion. It is what is called a "negative pregnant." No! He never made it in a public speech. He would not have been so bold and hardy; but he made the declaration seriously, in a private company. Then give them Kansas, and they will want more again. Give them the extension they want now, and they will go on for more and more extension. But if you, by your votes, give them supple, obedient men, who will give them Kansas, or submit and let them take it, you yourselves, by so doing, will be guilty of giving them Kansas. If you vote for Buchanan or for Fillmore, these men, either one of them, will give them Kansas, or which is the same thing will let them take it, and then pretend they could not help it. If, then, you cast a single vote for either of these candidates, you vote for extending slavery, you give them Kansas, you vote against Washington, against Jefferson, against democracy itself in its springs and its purest fountains. (Loud cries of "Never," "Never," and enthusiastic applause kept up and renewed for a long time.) The slaveholders are not satisfied if you let them alone; they call you abolitionists, if you will not let them go on and extend their system wherever they wish. They slander and malign Washington in so doing. He, that great man, not only strove against extension, but he longed to see slavery itself rooted out of Virginia, his native State. He repeatedly expressed this hope. In a letter of his, to his correspondent and friend, John St. Clair, of Scotland, in speaking on agricultural subjects, he gives utterance to the desire of his heart. He described to his friend in Scotland the valley of the Potomac, where he himself resided. He urges upon his friend to emigrate to that locality, as being of surpassing beauty and convenient in access to markets, &c. He says, in the same letter, that the only advantage Pennsylvania has over Virginia for emigration and settlement was, that slavery did not exist in Pennsylvania. But he hoped that before long Virginia would possess the same advantage, and abolish slavery, thereby becoming equal to Pennsylvania in that respect. Such was his wish; and he lived in a day when it was not treason, as it is now, by the new democratic code, to give utterance to his opinions. This wish would long ago have been accomplished had not the great extension of slavery, which has since taken place, contrary to the spirit of the constitution and the laws of the land, made it profitable to slaveholders in Virginia to breed slaves for the more Southern market. Hence it is they wish to elect Buchanan for President, because, as the song says—

"'Tis a price set on niggers,
James Buchanan is the man
To raise the price of niggers."

The opening of new territories to slavery has made it a matter of profit to raise slaves for sale. It is the opening of a new market. Therefore, if you give Kansas to slavery, or which is the same thing, if you elect either Buchanan or Fillmore, you help to raise the price of blood! You open a new market for slaves! You open a market to supply which, children will be torn from the bosom of their mothers, and husbands be separated from their wives. By electing Fremont, a stop will be put to this horrid extension! A stop will be put to civil war! A stop will be put to this brutal slave trade! A stop will be put to measures and to a policy which will infallibly destroy our liberties and the Union of those States. Will you not put your vote to this inevitable ruin, by the election of John Charles Fremont. (Cries of "We will, we will," and loud and continued applause.)

With this speech the meeting concluded.

It was indeed an assemblage deserving to be specially recorded. The speeches were remarkable; for the present is a crisis which is the parent of earnest eloquence, which brings into action all the energies of the mind and all the feelings of the heart on the side of truth, liberty and justice. Such as this meeting was, is generally the character of all the Fremont meetings. The description of this one applies to all. Not only the speeches were remarkable, but the deep, earnest attention of the people was more remarkable. It is manifest that their hearts and their best feelings are deeply enlisted in the cause of liberty, the Union and Fremont.

POTTSVILLE, Schuylkill Co., Oct. 5, 1856.

The Prospects in Schuylkill County—Speeches of Hamlin and Wilmot—The Newspapers and their Circulation.

A ride of some six hours' duration through immeasurably the wildest, roughest, hardest looking country ever traversed by me, transferred me from the capital of the State to Pottsville, distant from each other ninety-five miles.

A Fremont meeting (8 o'clock P. M.) being in full and enthusiastic blast, I loitered awhile to witness the demonstration and listen to the speakers. Governor Hamlin, of Maine, was the orator, and in this stronghold of democracy was discoursing, with evident effect, of his past affinities to that party and his reasons for his present relations to republicanism. His plain and unpretending, and therefore forcible manner, accompanied as it was by a zeal and earnestness that will not be appeased by anything short of a positive victory, is destined, unless I greatly err in my estimate, to effect wondrous changes and revolutions in the sentiments of the miners and colliers of his coal and iron infested region. He was succeeded by Judge Wilmot in a speech of much power and force on the successive aggressions of the slave power and its progressive encroachments, &c., on free white labor. The crowd in attendance was large beyond precedent, and the most jubilant spirit permeated the whole body.

These gentlemen—a strong team—are perambulating these mountain fastnesses, and on every hill top and in every valley, are, literally face to face, conjuring the benighted democracy to turn from the error of their ways.

Meetings are being held daily, and conversions are frequent and numerous.

The democracy claim the county by 1,200 majority. The republicans concede it by 600. I incline to the opinion, however, that at about midway between the two calculations the truth will be found to reside.

The population of Pottsville numbers some ten thousand persons, who are variously engaged in mining and mercantile operations, to a very large extent. It sustains five weekly newspapers, as follows, viz.:—

Miner's Journal, (Fremont)	2,860
Register and Emporium, (dem.)	1,080
Gazette, (do.)	600
Jefferson Democrat, (German)	800
Lighthouse,