

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES for 1844.

FOR PRESIDENT: MARTIN VAN BUREN, of New York. FOR VICE PRESIDENT: RICHARD M. JOHNSON, of Kentucky.



THE FREE TRADER.

Ottawa, Ill., Friday, May 10, 1844.

The fourth volume of this paper will expire in a few weeks, and this is to notify those indebted to it that payment will be demanded before the commencement of the fifth volume.

Conventions.—The congressional convention for this district, meets at this place on the 6th of next month.

The Texas Treaty.—The treaty which is now before the senate for ratification, is said to provide for the annexation of Texas as a territory, and not as a state.

National Armory.—We observe that Mr. McClelland's bill providing for the erection of an armory at Massac, on the Ohio river, in this state, appropriates fifty thousand dollars for the purchase of the site, and commencing the construction of the necessary works.

Congressional Nominations.—The democrats of the third congressional district in this state, have again placed in nomination the Hon. ORLANDO B. FICKLES for re-election.

Virgin in Election.—The New York Tribune received this morning contains returns from about half the state. There were two members of congress to elect, one in Wisc's and one in Gilmer's district.

The New York Tribune comes to us this morning loaded with important documents in relation to the Texas question, first among which is a copy of the treaty of annexation just formed.

The Democratic National Convention assembles at Baltimore on the 27th inst. The delegate from this district, J. V. A. Hoxs, Esq., left this place on Tuesday last for Baltimore.

The Whig National Convention met at Baltimore on Monday last. No news yet in regard to the nomination. Clay and Davis—"the northern Puritan and southern Blackleg"—will doubtless be the nominees.

Tylerism in Missouri appears to be in about as flourishing a condition as it is in this state. A state convention was recently held in St. Louis, where all the faithful had been duly warned to attend.

The Phillips Case.—Letter from Gov. Ford.

GENTLEMEN:—Your letter in relation to James M. Phillips and the proceedings of a public meeting in your neighborhood, have been received and duly considered.

It appears that Phillips was charged with having committed murder in the county of La Salle on the 28th day of January, 1843; that he was, on trial, acquitted of murder but convicted of manslaughter and sentenced by the jury to the penitentiary for three years.

On the 7th day of February, 1843, all the previous laws for the punishment of manslaughter were repealed, without any saving clause as to crimes previously committed.

It appears that Phillips committed his offence under the old law, and before the new law was passed. Under these circumstances he could not be punished under the old law, for that law had been repealed; and at the time of the trial was of no more force than if it had never been enacted.

But you may probably think that Phillips ought to have been punished under the old law. If you do, you are in great error. There is no principle of law better settled than this: that where a law, providing for the punishment of crimes, has been absolutely repealed, without any saving clause, as in this case, the punishment provided by such repealed law cannot afterwards be inflicted.

Phillips could not longer be detained in jail, because he had been acquitted of the murder and found guilty of an offence for which the law provided no punishment. A new trial could not have been ordered, without the consent of the criminal.

This error in the law of 1842-'43, was perceived and much regretted not long after the adjournment of the legislature. The judges on other circuits have been forced to act on it, in the same manner that the judge did in yours. The error is in the law—not in the courts. It is a clear case in which the judges have been bound to act as they have done.

I am, gentlemen, with high consideration, Your obedient servant, THOMAS FORD.

To Messrs. J. H. Henderson, Amos Foster, John Hubbard, N. Youngman, and A. D. Carter, Committee, &c.

The Illinois Canal Loan.—It will be seen by the following extract from a letter from one of the largest holders in London of Illinois Canal Bonds, and a subscriber to the new Canal Loan, that the prospect of obtaining the required subscription abroad is on the whole very favorable.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters of the 16th of January, and February 12th.

I have since seen Mr. Ryan, and received the report of Gov. Davis and Mr. Swift. I gladly gave the tribute of my admiration and thanks to the two Commissioners, for the talent, industry and tact displayed in the Report—the contents of which, on the whole, are most satisfactory.

The report is now in the hands of the printer, and when circulated, will, I trust, make as favorable an impression on the bondholders and the public as it ought to do, and command all the attention which its importance deserves.

The conduct of the Legislatures of Indiana and Pennsylvania is a great drawback, to our success, and adds largely to our difficulty in getting an enlarged subscription to the Illinois contract.

The opinion and report of the Commissioners strengthen my determination to exert myself to carry out the plan laid down by you.—If I can do so without losing sight of the great principles on which I have always laid so much stress, and which I feel my bounded duty to assert in this, the first practical effort to sustain the credit of a non-paying State.

Senator Niles.—The New York Evening Post, alluding to the remarks made in certain journals about Senator Niles, says:

According to Dr. Brigham, Mr. Niles has been restored to the complete soundness of his intellect as he possessed it in his best days, when it was distinguished for clearness, method, and solidity. It is now more than three months since a perfect cure was effected. The slanders of the journalists who talk of him as an insane man are wholly without ground or apology, and are as profligate as they are unmanly and cruel.

Sixty-Two Whigs at one Haul.—The Tocain of Liberty, published at Lawrenceville, Indiana, says: "The son of Judge Isaac Dunn of this place, and SIXTY-ONE others, who have heretofore been identified with whiggery, have abandoned the whig party and enrolled themselves under the glorious banner of democracy. It is said that young Dunn is making speeches, in which he exposes the corruptions of the whigs in a masterly manner. Roll on the ball!"

FROM EUROPE.

Correspondence of the Free Trader.

PARIS, April 2, 1844.

Messrs. Hise & Osmon:—To fill out this letter, I will give you two or three stray notions about this city. For the first time I have beheld the emporium of fashion and folly, the nursery of the arts and sciences, and the sink of vice and immorality—the seat of learning and the abode of ignorance—the cradle of liberty and the hot-bed of tyranny—the seat of ease and pleasure, and the scene of bloody, wicked, and unnatural rebellions—in fine, a city embodying the most complicated mixture of all that is good and bad, great and small, beautiful and hideous, useful and worthless, that the world ever beheld in any age or country.

Paris has been the theatre of so many thrilling events, bloody revolutions, and memorable scenes in the history of the last thousand years, that the stranger stands bewildered and doubts the evidence of his senses on his first visit to this truly wonderful city. He naturally asks himself the question: Can this gay, fashionable, and happy city be the Paris whose citizens forgot the ties of humanity, desecrated churches, trampled upon religion, dethroned justice, scorned the law, thirsted for human blood and revelled in crime? Are these gay, laughing, good-natured, lazy Frenchmen, the fiendish, savage, cruel monsters who, with a ruthless arm, dealt death and destruction among the unoffending, fattened upon the unholy spoils of plunder, and triumphed in the wrongs of injured innocence? They look as mild and unoffending as sporting lambs or cooing doves, but a closer scrutiny will convince the observer that there is something of the wolf and tiger in their composition.

I availed myself of the first leisure moment to take a view of Paris and its environs. To enable me to form a correct idea of the position of the city and the locality of the numerous objects of interest, I proceeded to the Triumphal Arch de l'Étoile, which stands upon an eminence near the western boundary of the city, upon the high road to the palace of Neuilly. This Arch is 152 feet high, and was commenced by Napoleon in 1806, in commemoration of his victories. It is a most superb structure, well worthy its great projector.

Ascended by an interior winding stair case, and beheld from its summit one of the most enchanting views that ever greeted the vision of mortal man. Below lay outstretched the beautiful city—the proud capital of La Belle France. Immediately in front lay the charming Champs Elysees, terminated by the Place la Concorde, beyond which appeared the lovely garden and imposing palace of the Tuileries, joined by the noble palace and wonderful gallery of the Louvre. Beyond the whole appeared the palace of Justice, the Hotel de Ville, and the venerable cathedral of Notre Dame. To the right stretched the Champs de Mars, terminated by the Ecole de Militaire; beyond appeared the Hotel des Invalides, with its beautiful and lofty dome towering high above all surrounding objects. Still further on appeared the garden and palace of the Luxembourg, and beyond rose the imposing Pantheon. On the left appeared the beautiful church of La Madeleine, the Academy Royal, the Bourse, and the Triumphal Pillar of the Place Vendome. On either side the entire surface was studded with long rows of houses, ornamental gardens, fine churches and broad avenues. Through the whole distance around the Seine, spanned by numerous light and beautiful bridges. On the west, St. Clouds lay in full view. On the north lay Mts. Vauxcelles and Montmartre, and on the east lay Vincennes. The forests of Boulogne, St. Germain, Vincennes, and Bondy, giving a darker shade to the richer colors, formed a pleasing relief to the whole picture, around which stretched a line of hills whose green slopes and varied heights, formed a background of exceedingly rich and varied beauty.

I passed the palaces and galleries by unheeded, until I visited the burial place of Napoleon. I paid the only mark of respect to the memory of the great man that was in my power. I shut my eyes to all the pomp and splendor of the living, until I had sought out the silent tomb of the dead and wept over the remains of the gifted child of Genius. I gazed upon his quiet resting place for a long time with devout veneration and awe. My mind reverted to the greatness of the man, to his glorious achievements, his gigantic schemes, the lofty conception of his mighty mind, and the height to which it soared above all great men of the present age, and of all past time. And then, with a sorrowing and swelling heart, I thought of his cruel reverse of fortune—of the revenging, tyrannical, unworthy spirit shown by the powers who enslaved him. They could boast of their conquest over him, yet feared their victim and doomed him to pine and die upon a barren rock. They could deprive him of freedom, but they could not rob him of his laurels. Fame had, long before, placed upon his brow her choicest diadem—Glory had spread upon him her mantle of richest gems, and the trumpet-tongue of Renown had echoed his name in every land and clime.

The extent and magnificence of the palaces greatly exceeds any conception that can be formed of them. It has been the pride of each monarch to enlarge and improve upon what had been begun by his predecessor. I will not attempt a description of any of them at present, because to convey any idea of these princely homes would require much space and time. The objects that struck me with the most interest, and as the most creditable to Paris, were the extensive and almost endless galleries of paintings, and the numerous collections of specimens of the fine arts. Some conception of the extent of these collections may be formed, from the simple fact that one room, of a great many, is 1,322 feet long and 42 feet wide, and entirely filled with the paintings of deceased masters. This room contains 1,406 paintings, many of them of immense size—all of the Italian, Flemish, German and French schools.

The public gardens are numerous and laid out with great magnificence, and adorned with fine statuary, groves, and fountains. All these places, as well as the galleries, are open to the public, and when I passed through I should think there were several thousand in some of these places. Some were walking, some playing, some sitting, and some sleeping. They were of all ages, sizes, grades, complexions, sexes and conditions. A more motley group could not have been assembled if the Judgment Trump had sounded. The mustached Frenchman, the burly Englishman, the cute Yankee, the swarthy Spaniard, the sable African, the shaven Jew, and turbaned Turk walk side by side. Old soldiers and young renegades, ladies of fashion and washerwomen, dandies and beggars, statesmen and clowns, the grave and gay, the ugly and handsome, the fat and lean, and the good and bad—all mingled together, smiling, frowning, simpering, cursing, laughing and swearing; in fact, exhibiting a most faithful miniature of Parisian life.

The visitor will be convinced of this fact, after seeing this great emporium and its public edifices, viz: that Napoleon was the greatest man of his time, and that Louis Philippe is the greatest man of the present time. The admiration for these great men must increase as their great measures become better known and understood. Louis Philippe, in almost all public measures of importance, religiously carries out the design of Napoleon in every particular, and when enquiring the history of many of the most important objects, I was told they were begun by Napoleon and completed by Louis Philippe. With the exception of the love of war by the former, there is a very striking similarity in the two reigns—each devoted to glorifying France. The present sovereign is boldly surrounding Paris with an impregnable wall, and strongly fortifying every point surrounding the environs. There is manifestly a determination that the allied powers shall not again enter this city.

The present king is a very fine looking man for one of his age. He has a fortune that is said to exceed any man's in the world. Some even estimate his annual income at \$7,000,000. If he lives to complete all he has begun, he will make France all that Napoleon himself could have desired. All the members of the royal family appear to be greatly beloved and admired, and they all appear to possess a very high order of intellect. The daughters appear to distinguish themselves as well as the sons. At the palace of Neuilly the sole ornaments of the Queen's rooms, are the prizes of her children. I saw a most beautiful and chaste marble statue of Joan of Arc, by the young princess that died. It was upon the death of this daughter that the Queen made the memorable exclamation: "I have a daughter less—Heaven an angel more." Truly yours, ALMA.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the Free Trader.

WASHINGTON, April 23, 1844.

Messrs. Hise & Osmon:—The house yesterday refused to reconsider the bill making appropriations for western waters; and, by 10 majority took up for discussion the tariff bill.

The senate was in secret session, all day, on the Texas treaty. The Oregon negotiation is suspended to give Packenham time to write home for instructions.

WASHINGTON, April 24. You remember that John White, of Kentucky, the speaker of the con congress, is Mr. Clay's confidential adviser and the Clay leader in the present congress. Mr. Rathbun, a very unpretending democrat from New York, this day, said something in a low whisper against Mr. Clay, and a fisty-cuff fight was the consequence, as White sat next to him. As the sergeant-at-arms was going to separate them, he was seized by the throat by a stranger who had no right inside the bar of the house. This stranger, Gen. McCauslin, of Ohio, put out the door, where he belonged. As soon as the door was shut he fired directly through the door into the house and dangerously wounded one of the policemen. He is now under arrest, and has a bowie knife and two pistols. He is from Clay's district in Kentucky, and a delegate to the Baltimore whig convention. Here is a specimen for you!

WASHINGTON, April 25. Congress has adjourned over until to-morrow, when the funeral of Gen. P. F. Bossier, of Louisiana, will be attended, being the tenth member of the present congress that has died; and the marks of consumption are apparent in the countenances of many more, and many are now confined to their rooms which they never more to leave.

The Texas treaty cannot pass the senate.

The Chicago Journal and Mr. Wentworth. If the whigs of Chicago, in their new editor, have an abler writer than Mr. Brackett, we can assure them they have not one who is half as much of a gentleman or has half the regard for the common courtesies of life. One of the reporters of the National Intelligencer recently, either through design or mistake, represented Col. Wentworth as using the name of the Deity profanely in one of his speeches in the house. This the editor of the Journal, without taking any notice whatever of Mr. W.'s explanation which appeared in the Washington papers the day after the speech in the Intelligencer came out, at once seized upon and made it the occasion for leaping upon Mr. W. about a column of hypocritical abuse so low and contemptible that few fish markets can hope to equal it. But the explanation of Col. W., which we give below, is a sufficient answer to all the Journal's pious blackguardism, and must place the editor before the community in any thing but an enviable light.

Mr. WENTWORTH rose, as soon as the journal had been read, and said he desired permission to make an explanation, which was personal to himself. He hoped the unanimous consent of the House would be granted. (Cries of "go on.") A few moments since a friend had called his attention to a paragraph in the National Intelligencer, in which he was represented as having used the name of God in the most profane manner on the floor of this House. Now, as well might the various gentlemen here, who have pronounced eulogies on their deceased friends, be accused of profanity, when,

under such circumstances, they used the name of the Deity. It would be recollected by the House, that, in the course of the debate yesterday on the bill for the improvement of certain harbors and rivers he made some remarks in favor of the objects intended to be provided for by the bill; and having received a letter from a friend communicating to him the intelligence that his neighbors and constituents, to the number of from 40 to 50, had met a watery grave on the lake, he confessed he spoke under considerable excitement. In speaking of that ruin and devastation which overspread the lake—a ruin which involved both life and property—the words "my God," did occur; but in no profane, but in a devout sense, as a part of a sentence, and not as an exclamation even; but the National Intelligencer had represented him—and why, he could not conjecture, as he said nothing like it—as saying "by God," profanely. He hoped no gentleman in this House would consider him capable of coming into this House and using profane language, and especially under such solemn, and, to him very painful circumstances; he should despise himself if he had done so. Having made the explanation, he would not detain the House further than to express the hope that those who had done him the injustice, (and he had a right to presume it was unintentional) of which he complained, would now retrieve their error by giving publicity to his explanation.

Arrest of Freeman the Mail Robber.

Thornton H. Freeman, late Postmaster at Carrollton, Missouri, during the summer and fall of 1843, abstracted various letters from the mail containing money and drafts, amounting to about \$6,000; committing forgeries in several cases in order to obtain money on the drafts and checks thus obtained. A \$50 bill stolen from the mail was traced to his hands, and on the 21st of last October, he was arrested by the U. S. Marshal, from whom he escaped the next day, by asking permission to go to his wife's room before he was removed from the house—his wife being dangerously ill in consequence of the charges against her husband. He ran through the house, made his way through the bushes to where a horse had been secreted for him by his brother, and effected his escape.

No trace of him could be found at the time, but he was afterwards known to have crossed the Mississippi at Nauvoo, early in November, and was traced as far as Peoria.

The brother, James W. Freeman was arrested in St. Louis on the 8th inst, under the belief that he was an accomplice, and letters were found upon him dated from London, Upper Canada, from Thornton. Our very efficient Post Office Agent, J. Brown, Esq., arrived at St. Louis four days after this discovery, and having obtained the necessary paper, immediately started in pursuit. At Peoria, Mr. Brown met James W. Freeman and a friend calling himself Stewart, and it became a matter of contention as to which should reach London first. At Chicago, the two friends separated, one taking the land route across Michigan, the other taking passage on the Bunker Hill, with Mr. Brown. By the kindness of Capt. Ward of the Clamjon, who gave him a letter to a friend on the St. Clair River, Mr. Brown was enabled to get horses at the nearest point from London and thus beat his competitors by thirty-two hours; and with the assistance of the Canadian authorities, he succeeded in arresting the robber. Mr. Brown was accompanied by Mr. Starkweather, of the Chicago Post Office, from whose good judgment and efficient services he derived great benefit.

We are indebted to Mr. Brown, who is now in this city with the robber, for the facts above stated.—St. Louis Repub.

Iron Steamer.—Mr. TOMLINSON, of Pittsburg, is now erecting in his shipyard at that place, two Iron Steamers. The first and largest is a government steam frigate, 177 feet in length. The other is a merchant vessel, building for Lieutenant McLAUGHLIN. The plates of iron used in their construction are beautifully moulded to form by the pressure of screws, without the marks of sledge or hammer; and the joints, it is stated, are fitted with all the precision in wood.—The government frigate will, it is said, cost from \$150,000 to \$200,000.

Round the World.—The Natchez, which arrived at New York on the 23d ult. from Canton, left New York for Valparaiso on the 24th of June last, and has made the voyage round the world in nine months and twenty-six days, one month and 18 days of which the vessel was on the west coast of South America.

A sad accident occurred at Norwich, Connecticut, on the afternoon of the 15th ult. The powder house, containing 100 barrels of powder, was fired by a party of boys who were at play near the building with a gun. It is not known whether the fire was communicated by the discharge of the gun, or whether the house was broken into and a train laid and the house blown up. Two of the boys are fatally wounded, and the other two are so badly hurt as to be unable to give any account of the affair.

Sunday Mails.—The ladies say that they are opposed to stopping the males on the sabbath, especially in the evening, unless they are stopped at their house.

Washington's Camp Chest.—We understand that the Camp-chest used by General Washington during the Revolutionary war, and lately bequeathed to Congress by the late Wm. Sydney Winder, of Baltimore county, Md., will be presented this day by the Hon. John Quincy Adams.—Nat. Int.

Col. BENTON, it is stated in the Washington papers, has lost entirely the hearing of his left ear, from the injuries inflicted by the bursting of the gun on board the Princeton.