

# THE BANNER.

W. J. BURNS, Editor & Proprietor.

PLYMOUTH IND.

Thursday Morning, Feb. 9, 1854.

Advertisements to insure insertion, must be handed in by Tuesday preceding the day of publication.

soon was it down again. At last he thought he had a good aim; "bang" went the gun down fell the dead body to the ground with a heavy thump, and down went the Master Thief too as fast as he could.

"Well," said the Squire, "it is quite true that I am chief magistrate in these parts; but people are fond of talking, and it would be a bore if they came to see this dead man's body. I think the best thing to be done is that I should go down and bury him."

"You must do as you think best, dear;" said his wife. So the Squire got out of bed and went down stairs, and he had scarce put his foot out of the door before the Master Thief stole in and went straight up stairs to his wife.

"Why, dear, back already!" said she, for she thought it was her husband.

"Oh yes, I only just put him into a hole, and threw a little earth over him. It is enough that he is out of sight, but it is such a bad night out of doors; and by I'll do it better. But just let me have the sheet to wipe myself with—he was so bloody—and I have made myself in such a mess with him."

So he got the sheet.

After a while he said—

"Do you know I am afraid you must let me have your night shift too, for the sheet won't do by itself, that I can see."

So she give him the shift also. But just then it came across his mind that he had forgotten to lock the house door, so he must step down and look to that before he came back to bed, and away he went with both shift and sheet.

A little while after came the right Squire.

"Why! what a time you've taken to lock the door, dear!" said his wife; "and what have you done with the sheet and shift?"

"What do you say?" said the Squire.

"Why, I am asking what you have done with the sheet and shift that you had to wipe the blood," said she.

"What, in the devil's name?" said the Squire, "has he taken me in this time too?"

Next day came the Master Thief and asked for the Squire's daughter as he had promised; and then the Squire dared not do any thing else than to give her to him and a good lump of money into the bargain, for, to tell the truth he was afraid lest the Master Thief should steal the eyes out of his head, and that people would begin to say spiteful things of him if he broke his word. So the Master Thief lived well and happily from that time forward. I don't know whether he stole any more; but if he did, I am quite sure it was only for the sake of a bit of fun.

The Democratic members of the Georgia Legislature met in caucus at Augusta, on the 19th ult., and adopted resolutions, among which are the following:—

**Resolved.** That the Democratic party of Georgia emphatically avows its construction of the Baltimore platform of 1852, in reference to the slavery question, to be a distinct repudiation of the principles of the Wilmot Proviso in any future organization of territory now in our possession, or hereafter to be acquired, and that we cannot recognize any one as belonging to the Democratic party who shall seek to enforce, or shall advocate this principle so repudiated.

**Resolved.** That while our warmest sympathies are due to those northern Democrats who, amidst the storm of fanaticism on the slavery question, which has raged in past years in their section of the Union, stood firmly by the rights of the South we recognize as Democrats all our fellow citizens of the North who now stand firmly with us on the platform of the National Democratic Party, and are therefore pledged to defend the South from any future assaults upon her institutions.

**HONEST OCCURRENCE.**—We have been furnished by Samuel C. Meredith with the particulars of the following lamentable occurrence: A company of young men from Cambridge City and Connersville went out on Monday night to shoot pigeons a few miles from the latter place. On their return, between twelve and one o'clock, those who lived in Connersville left the omnibus at a point where the road branched off toward Cambridge. As one of them, Mr. MARSHALL W. PARKER, was taking his gun from a wagon, it was discharged by some accident, the load passing into his breast, through his heart, and out at his back, the slugs which composed part of it striking a watch seal and forcing it along with his chain and watch partly into his body. He was instantly killed. The deceased was a son of Hon. Samuel W. Parker, member of Congress from that District. His age was twenty-one years. He had just left College, with bright prospects for the future.

The news of his death will overwhelm with grief his parents, who are at Washington City.

**GUANO.**—The British Government has received official despatches from the Admiral commanding in the Pacific relative to the quantity of Guano remaining upon the Chincha Islands. It is estimated that the available supply amounts to 8 millions six hundred thousand tons; but the Admiral imagines that the islands will be exhausted of saleable guano, worth freighting to England, in eight or nine years.

This is very significant information; it should incite our farmers to look for new fertilizers at home.

"I have very little respect for the tie of this world," as the chap said when the rope was put around his neck.

Wayne, and the other southeast to Cincinnati, via Peru, and we shall hazard nothing in saying that in less than twelve months, we shall have ample railroad facilities. With a view to these facts, are not our citizens tired of seeing their little half starved newspaper as the only means through which to give them publicity? Circulate your prospectuses and come on with your subscribers, and it will be different after three weeks more.

**Solon Robinson.**—The recent biographer of this new Richmond in the literary world, have omitted an important item which occurred some twenty-three or four years ago. Gen. John L. Spann was favored with a little post office at his farm in the north part of Jefferson county in this State, during Gen. Jackson's first Presidential term, which he had named Lancaster. Solon Robinson was either directly or indirectly acting as a kind of mail agent at that time, and from some cause or other was induced to suspect that packages containing money were not always safe through this office. He mailed a letter at some office north of Lancaster, on the Indianapolis and Madison mail route, (which was then carried by stages, through in two days,) to the address of some one at Lancaster, Pa., but intentionally, no doubt, made the Pa. so that there was so little difference between it and Ia., that on a subsequent investigation, neither court, lawyers, or jury were able to discover a material difference.

**Ecclesiastical.**—Rev. L. NEBEKER, pastor of the M. E. Church at this place, on last Sabbath evening announced the commencement of a discourse to be continued from Sabbath to Sabbath for an indefinite period, upon the authenticity and advantages of the Bible. His text is in 2 Tim. 31 ch. 16v. "All Scripture is given in inspiration of God," &c.

A deeply interesting subject has been selected, and we have no doubt but it will be ably handled.

The authenticity of the Bible is a question which has very naturally fed for centuries, skepticism and infidelity.

**Premiums.**—At the late meeting of the "Northern Indiana Teacher's Institute" held at South Bend, our county seems to have been quite liberally and favorably represented. The committee on Essays reported that thirty had been contributed.

For one on the subject of *Teaching Grammar*, B. F. Kendall Esq. of Yellow River, was awarded a Diploma, and for one on *Physiology*, Miss Lois Helen Leiland was awarded the first premium, and for one upon the same subject, Vernon Gould was awarded a Diploma.

There were but nine subjects treated upon by those receiving premiums. The session is said to have been a lively and interesting one.

**Another Fire.**—The dwelling house of Charles Cook, some four or five miles west of this place, was consumed by fire on Saturday evening last, together with the greater part of its contents. Mr. C. and his wife were at the house of a neighbor, and the children at home did not discover the fire in time for their alarm to be of much service, as it had caught in the upper part of the building, and was too far advanced before they discovered it.—

They however, displayed extraordinary presence of mind. Their ages being about 7, 9 and 11, and instead of running to their parents as most children would have done, they proceeded to carry out their beds, clothing &c., the youngest taking it rather hard because he lost his boots.

**On the March.**—Plymouth is regularly and constantly improving—about as fast as could be expected or desired. It is frequently the case that the smaller towns in the west, in anticipation of the construction of some stupendous public improvement, overleap themselves. Their projectors and builders reach beyond their means, and with a burrah and hubbub endeavor to push obscure villages into magnificent cities. Such has not been the case at Plymouth. We have no empty stately edifices, whose crumbling and dilapidated walls continually admonish us of the folly of their builders. We have no idle machinery awkwardly erected in half finished frames in the different corners of our town, rusting and rotting for want of sufficient employment to prevent such decay. We have no empty dwellings—our shops and store-houses are all occupied; and better than all, we have as few confirmed loafers as any other village containing 1200 inhabitants.

During the past season 72 buildings were erected, besides numerous improvements made to old ones, and during the approaching summer double this number will be erected. The little post office, which a year ago, had difficulty in securing a competent keeper, mailed last week, four hundred and forty-six letters from this place—about 64 per day.

Two Railroads from this place west, finding their terminus at Chicago, are now under construction—one of them running east from this place to Fort

Congress.—Quite a heated and animated discussion was going on at our latest date in the Senate upon the bill reported by McDouglas of Ill. for the organization of Nebraska Territory—its friends claiming that they had taken the principles of the Compromise of 1850 as its guide, and had made each and every provision of the bill accord with those principles, leaving to the people of the territory the privilege of governing themselves free of all control, except by the Constitution of the United States, and restricting them upon no particular subject, by their position north or south of any arbitrary geographical line. The committee considered that the Missouri Compromise had been suspended by the Compromise of 1850.

The bill meets with formidable opposition, and from present indications will soon meet a quiet and peaceful death.

It has lately been decided by the Supreme court in Michigan that the prohibitory law of that State is constitutional. Where's the Detroit Squire?

The Peru and Indianapolis Railroad is fast approaching its completion. It will be done by the 17th inst. and perhaps sooner.

**JOSEPH ROBINSON** Esq., an old and reputable legislator from Decatur county in this State, and an able lawyer, died at Greensburg a few days ago.

We have heretofore neglected to notice the death of the Hon. George H. Dunn of Lawrenceburg, which occurred a couple of weeks ago.

The next day, Mr. Agent came along, clothed in his officials, and finding the letter in the office at Lancaster, Ia., awaiting its proper owner, took it from Gen. Spann, travelled on to Madison with it in his own possession, and at that place an examination was had of this package, which when opened, proved destitute of a ten dollar bill it professed to bear to Lancaster Pa., and of the mailing of which, the sagacious agent had as evidence the P. M. where he had started it.

He had Gen. Spann arrested and taken to Madison for trial, and upon examination of the evidence, his Madison testi-

monies were

many proved fatal to his successful prosecution—as the witness who aided in first examining the packages—after Robinson had travelled some twelve miles with it in his own possession—testified that the letter had been broken open, and in attempting to fasten it again, with the same wafer, it was still wet!

Gen. Spann was honorably acquitted amidst the shouts of his old neighbors and friends of both political parties—and since which time he has almost constantly been honored by his fellow citizens with a seat in either one or the other branches of the State Legislature, and we believe is now in the State Senate from Jennings county—the county seat of which is but eight or ten miles from his old post office home.

But Solon—since that time, has had his locations as varied, if possible, as public opinion seemed to be at that time, of his honesty and integrity. A part of the time in the north part of this State, occasionally resurrecting his forgotten past deeds by scribbling for some Agricultural paper—and if we are not mistaken, favoring Socialism, or Faany Wrightism, and lately at his new location, his Hot Corn Stories seem to be giving him a kick ahead; but a late number of the New York Courier and Enquirer, closes a short review of that production by saying that it "belongs to the bewildered philosophy of the socialist school—a philosophy which exalts the sensibilities above the conscience, the imagination above the judgment—which annuls moral sanctions, and makes sin simply identical with misfortune—which confounds all the natural relations of society, and either altogether puts from itself all the rules and ordinances of the divine government, or turns them into an unmeaning jumble—a philosophy which is utterly demoralizing, heathenizing and ruinous. This is the system which shapes this in the spirit which vivifies this book.—Christian childhood should shrink from it as from a basilisk, and Christian manhood should brand it with ineffaceable infamy."

**A Mistake.**—It seems to have been rather

erroneously reported through the country

for the past week or ten days, that whilst

on his way to Jeffersonville, Eno had

managed to get the advantage of Sheriff

Thompson, killed him and made his

escape. There must be some mistake

about this, as we are pretty certain that

the keeper of the States' prison has Eno,

and we are sure that we still have our

excellent Sheriff. He got the wool over

the eyes of a Michigan Sheriff, but ours

is not always asleep when his eyes are

shut—by a jug full.

The next State Fair is to be held at

Madison.

**FROM ERIE.**

**BUFFALO, Feb. 2.**

The railroad men relaid the track where it was torn up, yesterday; but, two hours afterwards, in consequence of the excitement among the people, Mayor King ordered it to be torn up again. Gov. Bigler is said to be displeased with this act of the Mayor, and signified that it should be laid to day. The excitement runs high and the people seem disposed to act independently of the Governor. Yesterday the mob, headed by Mr. Loomis, Conductor of the port, endeavored to prevent the departure of the freight train on the Western Road. Gov. Bigler has appointed Col. Packard to take charge of the Western Road. The two roads now run side by side. Gov. Bigler went down last evening, with the intention of forming a connection. He was deterred by fear of the assembled mob. Passenger trains will run regularly from to-day, changing at Erie.

A call for a public meeting, expressive of hostility to Senator Douglass' Nebraska Bill, has been extensively signed and circulated in New York. The Washington correspondence of the Tribune pronounces it an Administration measure and says that the Cabinet is a unit on the subject.



By Telegraph for the Banner.  
The Laporte Fire.

It Will be perceived by the following Jispach—for which we are under obligations to Mr. McDonald, our operator at this place—that the fire at Laporte on Tuesday evening was not so disastrous as many of our citizens were at first led to suppose.

LAPORTE, Feb. 8, 1854.

Between six and seven o'clock last evening a fire broke out in some old buildings belonging to the Railroad company, formerly used as an engine house and return shop. They were entirely consumed.—Two freight cars, six or seven hundred gallons of oil and about fifty tons of stone coal were in the buildings, but the coal was but little injured. The large brick machine shops and engine house were saved by the most energetic efforts. The large round house was also in imminent danger, and was on fire several times.

Great credit is due to those persons who stationed themselves on the top of the buildings endangered, with water, during the whole time, amidst the smoke and flames that seemed almost beyond human endurance. The wind was fortunately from the south—had it been from the north, it would have been impossible to have saved the engine house and the extensive machine shops.

The loss will probably not exceed 3 or 4 thousand dollars.

For the Banner.

Mr. Editor:—The first thing I want to say is, that the man who cannot bear to hear an Editor say anything against his views of right, or propriety, without "flaring up," is wanting very materially in charity, to say the least of it. And though I may be considered as standing connected with the man that stopped his paper because the Editor advocated the temperance reform; yet, if he is not heartily ashamed and sorry for what he has done; and if he does not come and renew his subscription, I hereby notify "all whom it may concern," that I have no fellowship with him. Now the next man I want to get a crack at, is Mr. W., your correspondent "on a prohibitory law."—

And now it will be necessary for me, perhaps to say before I go further, that what I said on the subject of charity or a willingness to regard with favor, as far as possible, the opinions of those who differ with us, is not said for the purpose of conciliating the minds of those who oppose me; I only ask to stand, and have this question stand in its true light before the public.

Why is it that the friends of a prohibitory law, on the subject of the manufacture, use and sale of ardent spirits as a beverage, have so long delayed to answer, or try to answer, my arguments, published several weeks ago in the Banner? and although Mr. W. does not in word allude to me, yet evidently that is his object.

W. says, "as long as intoxicating liquors are sold, (as above mentioned) so long drunkards will be manufactured." Well, suppose that is true; who is to blame? Again: "moral suasion alone will never induce all to give up the liquor traffic." What then is to be done? Why forsooth, W. says, *make them quit*. Observer says *give them a tremendous letting alone*. A grog seller once settled in a quiet, sober, quaker village, opened up his wares, and announced to the "public in general" that he was ready for operations. The friends called a meeting to know what should be done, some were for tearing down his house, and made flowing speeches. Others were more moderate, finally it was agreed they should "let him alone." And so they did. The first day, he sat in his front door, puffing a "half spanish," and waiting for a customer; the second morning swept out his shop, and took his seat much as before, while the busy quakers were about their various employments; the third day came, and our hero by this time, becoming somewhat short of the necessities of life, sallied forth in search of some provisions for his family. Approaching a sedate old gentleman, he inquired if he had a ham to spare him; to which the Friend replies in the negative. Have you some chickens to let me have? to which the answer was as before, and so on for several articles, to all of which he was answered in the same way. He approached another, with no better success, and a third. Becoming astonished at the course pursued by his new neighbors, (for there was every indication of plenty,) he wished to know the reason of such a course. "I'll tell thee," said one of them, "you see we have no use

for thee, and we do not wish to lay violent hands on any man, or his property, and so we concluded to let thee alone." The result is easily conjectured. Now, it strikes me that if this plan was carried out, the result would be accomplished without legislation.

M. W. says, "moral suasion will not always be successful in reforming the drunkard." Well what next? Why take him by the nape of the neck from the gutter to—Heaven, I suppose, or at least by "legal suasion." I believe I now have answered all the arguments of Mr. W. that amount to anything.

OBSERVER.

A couple of men, in North Carolina, who were guilty, some time since, of hunting up a runaway slave, with bloodhounds and torturing him to death, have been sentenced to be hung, and all the people say amen!

From the Cincinnati Commercial.  
Individuality—Party.

In this number I shall briefly notice the influences which, in this country, hinder the development of a free and manly character, and the dangers that threaten our free institutions.

The first influence which I shall notice, is unfavorable to manly development is that of party. I shall not combat the common opinion that parties are essential to a republic. This may be true, and yet it will not thence follow, that party machinery as generally used in this country, is not an evil. I affirm that American political parties are unfavorable to individual development. How? I will illustrate.

First. By the habit which they engender of indiscriminate