

# THE BANNER.

W. J. BURNS, Editor & Proprietor.

PLYMOUTH IND.

Thursday Morning, April 27, 1854.

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

Our Subscription List is still on the increase, and we return our sincere thanks to friends who seem to be still exerting a favorable influence in our behalf. We have also little contemptible influences operating against us, but we have barely felt them, and expect to feel them less when they are totally exhausted—the time for which is not very distant. Their principal weakness consists in a want of capacity on the part of their projectors to keep the objects of their efforts concealed. Plain, open sailing is the way to accomplish any purpose. Half a dozen faces on the same head look badly.

**THE GADSDEN TREATY.**—The United States Senate have rejected this treaty by a vote of 27 to 18, on the 18th inst. Much speculation exists as to the effect of the rejection. It was intimated by the President and certain members of the Cabinet, while the treaty was under discussion, that a refusal of the Senate to ratify it, would be followed by an immediate war with Mexico—the President considering himself called upon to seize the Mesilla valley, let come what may. This intimation was considered an attempt to intimidate the Senators. Those best informed at the Capitol, say that the President will appoint a commissioner to negotiate another treaty.

**DECLARATION OF WAR.**—We have the proceedings of the English and French Governments in the formal declaration of war against Russia, but their great length will prevent their publication in our paper. We shall, however, keep our readers fully advised of the movements of the parties, and now as we all know who the parties are and the principles involved in the contest, we can only watch and pray for the final overthrow of tyranny and treachery that have sought to enslave an already oppressed people. But if Russia is again successful in the enforcement of her unjust demands, it is difficult to conjecture what will be the next sacrifice she will require. We can but hope for a different result.

Russia's present indebtedness is said to amount to the enormous sum of \$912,710,000. To this is to be added her funded debt of \$249,070,000, making a grand total of \$1,158,780,000.

**THE WHEAT CROP.**—We notice that in several portions of this State the wheat crop has suffered very materially from the severe and unseasonable weather during the latter part of the winter. In many parts of Michigan it is reported to be winter-killed—some fields having been covered with solid cakes of ice during a great portion of the winter.

A fire recently occurred in Terre-Haute destroying property to the amount of \$50,000. It was believed to be the work of incendiaries.

The charge of "bought up presses" has run in our ears for a lifetime, but still it seems to be one of the most delusive fables that ever entered the head of a sane man. If the press anywhere in this country has been "bought up," we'll venture the price was so very low that the most lynx eyed would never be able to discover the "value received." The press may often essay in looking after popular will, but very seldom, we imagine, in opposing the will for the sake of reward from governmental authorities.

**Exchange.**

A recognition of the principle that the press should be controlled by, or subservient to popular sentiment, sanctions the supposition that it is "for sale." There are many who believe this principle correct. Most readers know what public sentiment is and how it is derived. If a minister of the gospel should take his position in the pulpit and attempt to preach in accordance with the dictates of public sentiment instead of discussing questions of right and wrong, he would doubtless be considered insane, or a malignant quack.

Should the press rely alone upon public sentiment for the formation of its creed—pandering to the excitement of passion, censuring and condemning without investigation, and encouraging vituperation and slander, no good could result from its operations.

But, upon such a presumption, if the press is "for sale," it is not generally the case that the highest bidder becomes the purchaser? Wealth and aristocracy frequently manufacture and control public sentiment. Then to secure the press from wretched and contaminating influences, is more than mortal minds can accomplish.

Who prefers supporting the truckling and duped conductor of the press, to the one who boldly, unequivocally and independently deprecates manifest wrongs and freely utters his willing commendation of what is right, regardless of all

consequences? When we see the scribblings of any author attempt to serve God and mammon in the same sentence—or in other words to carry water on both shoulders, we correctly estimate him as unworthy of public patronage. If it is practicable to say anything at all, it should be intelligibly said. Most men admire such frankness and independence, yet there are some who love it only so long as their own prejudiced notions are subserved.

**Railroad Consolidation.**—A meeting of the Stockholders of the Cincinnati, Cambridge and Chicago, and the Cincinnati New Castle and Michigan Railroad Co.'s, was held at Newcastle, Indiana, on the 10th inst., to consider the propriety of consolidation. The two Co.'s vote was taken upon the question, and over four thousand votes were cast in favor of consolidation and none against it. The consolidation was accordingly perfected, and the consolidated Company assumed the name of the "Cincinnati and Chicago Railroad Co."

The following Board of Directors was elected: Col. Hanna of Wabash county, Ind.; James Witzar, Grant county, Ind.; Judge W. Marsh and T. J. Sampson, Delaware county, Ind.; Judge M. L. Burdy, Henry county, Ind.; S. Meredith, Wm. Butler, John Cram and Jesse Hiant, Wayne county, Ind.; Gen. M. Oult, Indianapolis; Robert M. Moor, Richard M. Corwin and Caleb B. Smith, Cincinnati.

The officers elected were as follows:

Calvin B. Smith, President.

S. Meredith, Vice President.

Thomas Newby, Secretary.

This road is a continuation of the Cincinnati Western Railroad, and part of the direct line between Cincinnati and Chicago. A large force is now at work, and the whole is progressing in a most satisfactory manner.

*Chicago Journal.*

We have been informed that this road is to be built to this place and no farther, but that an arrangement has been entered into for it to use the Fort Wayne & Chicago road from this place to Chicago. This arrangement will give us three roads, east, south and south east, and two to Chicago, one of which intersects the N. L. & S. M. at Laporte, and the other runs direct to Chicago. We shall be pretty well cared for in the way of Railroads.

**The Other Side.**—A week or two since, we inserted the gentlemanly card of a distant subscriber, which was accompanied with his subscription to the Banner. The following being rather an anomaly in the practice, we insert it to show what contemptible meanness some men will resort to. Since the 28th of July last we have regularly sent the paper to Mr. B., and as late as the 24th of last February the P. M. informed us that he was taking it out of the office. The following is his mode of stopping it, supposing that "it never suited for it," fully satisfies us for the papers he has had of us:

CLERMONT, Ia., April 15, 1854.

W. J. BURNS.—Sir:—I want you to stop that paper you send me for I never signed for it.

JAMES BALLARD.

Now let the reader give such conduct a name to suit himself, and if he calls it *swindling* in its most aggravating form, we can't help it.

The Lafayette Courier and Delphi Times are attempting to put forward Jo. Bingham of Lafayette, as the democratic nominee for State Auditor. Does that party intend to adopt it as an inviolable test of qualifications and capacity, that when an aspirant fails to get office at the hands of his own immediate fellow citizens, that his rejection grants him a preference over those who have been tried and proved themselves worthy of public trust and confidence? This man Bingham, was beaten for Clerk of Tippecanoe County last fall, by quite a young man, and by a large majority for a Democratic county.

For the Banner.

SCHOOL HOUSE.

Mr. BRITTON.—Common schools are the glory of our country. The advantages which our youth enjoy for obtaining an education, are of a superior character. But there are many things which injure the prosperity of our schools, and one of these things is the general unfitness of the houses in which our schools are taught. Teachers and scholars know something of this by sad experience. Most of our school houses are objectionable in some respect. Some of them are too small, some are too cold, some have not a sufficiency of light, some have all these failings combined. Others though sufficiently large and warm, are poorly provided with seats. Frequently the only seats used are rough benches without backs, on which small children are compelled to sit six or seven hours every day, in a position both wearisome, painful and unhealthy. These things operate powerfully against the scholar's improvement. Having taught school some myself, and taking a deep interest in the subject of education, I have felt like calling the attention of our citizens to this subject. Poor school houses are serious drawbacks upon our educational prosperity, and it is time that this difficulty was removed. Our school houses should be so constructed as to conduce to the scholar's comfort, health, pleasure and improvement. I have given these few hints, hoping that others who have more time and ability, will write on this subject.

W.  
Plymouth, Apr. 23, 1854.

The Mormon saints claim the power of healing the sick and blind by touching them. With the imposter.—Rochester Flag.

For the Banner.  
A Prohibitory law, No. 3.

Mr. BRITTON.—As "Observer" has left my main position untouched, I shall only on the present occasion, make a few quotations from his last communication, and give them a brief answer.

"What a man engaged in a lawful calling, and following it in a lawful way, to blame?"

Ans. Human laws are not the standard of right; they do not, they cannot change the nature of right and wrong.

The principle of right has for its foundation the will of our Maker.

Says Blackstone, "As man depends absolutely upon his Maker for everything, it is necessary that he should conform to his Maker's will." This will of his Maker is called the law of nature. The law of nature being coeval with mankind and dictated by God Himself, is of course superior in obligation to any other. It is binding over all the globe, in all countries, and at all times.

No human laws are of any validity if contrary to this, and such as are valid derive all their force and all their authority immediately from this original.

Right, then, is not founded upon human law, but human law

should be founded upon right. Actions opposed to God's law are necessarily wrong, and those who indulge in them are necessarily culpable, even if their conduct is allowed or sanctioned by scores of legislative enactments.

The question, and the only question involved is this, does musilling harmonize with God's will which is in the foundation of all law? Let us see. Obedience to God's will or law, makes mankind as they should by. This principle opposes all wrong, and if carried out universally it would promote peace and right throughout the world. Actions which have a contrary effect, are, of course, opposed to this law; and that the effect of musilling is demoralizing and baneful, is a fact which has not only been demonstrated in my former communication, but which is demonstrated by daily observation.

"This (the term *shame*) is letting down a peg; it used to be guilt."

Ans. My manuscript says *blame* (the printer having made a mistake) and the word was used by me not to describe the character of the liquor traffic, but to answer "Observer's" interrogatory in a former communication. His inquiry, "who is to blame," and the reason why he made the inquiry, are doubtless recited. If the term *guilt* suits my friend better, I shall not object.

"Yes, 'a prohibitory law' words almost every fanatic's mouth."

Ans. I glory in that kind of fanaticism which would, if carried out, break up grogshops which would carry the inebriate which would carry joy to desperate firesides which would shield the rising generation from the danger of becoming drunkards, and relieve our country of an incalculable amount of woes and crime and death.

"But this is only a starting point to take away our liberties—liberties for which our forefathers fought, bled and died."

Ans. Our forefathers did not fight and bleed and die, that their posterity might enjoy the liberty of blighting their prospects, of destroying their happiness and usefulness, of brutalizing their powers, and of bringing themselves to a drunkard's grave. From such liberty, good Lord deliver us.

"The next will be tobacco and tea and coffee."

Ans. I would put all under the ban of a prohibitory law, if they were as destructive in their consequences as intoxicating liquors.

"What was Solomon's plant—a prohibitory law? No. Train up a child in the way he should go."

Ans. Solomon's maxim is a good one, but it is not universally or even generally followed.

Numbers do not train themselves, their children or others under their control to habits of well-doing—the opponents of a prohibitory law are doubtless as negligent in this respect as others.

Among the latter class can be found many who train themselves to a frequent use of the bottle, and inculcate the practice, so far at least as example is concerned. "Observer" might as well oppose all laws, as to oppose a prohibitory law. The same reasons which call for the enactment of other laws, namely, the peace, safety and welfare of society, these same reasons call for a law which will suppress the liquor traffic.

A levy of 16,000 men is about to be made in France.

ARRIVAL OF THE ASIA.

New York, April 29.

The Asia arrived at noon. She brings Liverpool dates to the 8th inst.

No battle has yet taken place on the Baltic.

The Russians are dismantling their fortresses on the island.

Admiral Napier's fleet is still at King's Bay.

Navigation has opened to St. Petersburg.

The allied fleet has entered the Black Sea to effect a movement in conjunction with Omar Pacha.

They have steered for Varna.

As soon as hostilities commence in the Baltic, the Emperor and the Russian

Court will remove to Moscow.

Advises from Odessa of March 25th.

Admiral Napier's fleet is still at

Sebastopol, it is believed to attack

the Dardanelles.

On the 23d of March the Russian de-

partment forced the passage of the

Danube above Tulza.

There were the usual rumors of treachery on the part of the Turkish

commanders of the different fortresses

that have fallen into the hands of the

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