

Phyonth Banner.

PLYMOUTH, IND.

Thursday Morning, Mar. 1, 1855.

At the inception of our alliance with the Banner, we promised, among other things to keep our patrons posted upon Politics, Religion and Agriculture, as might be in our favor, and we intend to keep with them this plighted obligation. But fellow patrons while you expect these things from us, do not bow submissively, to that sluggish God, Inertia; or gaze stupidly upon the momentous scenes, daily transpiring around you, without moving a muscle to aid their progress. How does the ambitious Politician hope to obtain the goal of his desire, unless he act vigorously in his own behalf? How does the Christian expect to be regenerated and clothed for eternity unless he go about it with a contrite spirit, and say "Lord, what will thou have me do?" Certainly by standing afar off (like the proud Pharisee) and thanking God that they are not as other men, will not do the purifying work. How has it been with the efforts of Bro. Cunningham for the last few weeks, at the Presbyterian church of our place? His efforts have been crowned with abundant success, which proves clearly that he has received the co-operation of the many souls who have been brought to a knowledge of the truth. Will the Yeomanry of our country contend one moment for that flimsy and nonsensical doctrine, that their granaries are filled with abundance from the prolific hand of a bountiful Providence, as they sit indifferently by, and proffer not a fostering hand? It is not so. Our lots are not cast in such pleasant places. No such promises are given us; but the irrevocable mandate has gone forth from that Sovereign who never retracts, "That there shall be a seed time and Harvest," and that man "shall eat bread in the sweat of his face." Surely then it is expected and required of man that he will act the part of a good husbandman, sow his grain in due time, sift well the wheat from the tares, and finally that he will do all on his part that is required of him and trust to Providence for the balance.

According to estimation Great Britain annually expends for shaving three million of pounds sterling. (\$15,000,000.) The Rev. P. Barlow, incumbent of Lockfield, Eng., appeared in the Pulpit with his beard on, and resembled Cromer and Latimer so much, that some of the congregation left the church.

The Democratic Mass Meeting on the 22nd, surpassed the expectations of the most sanguine, there was a larger assemblage than has been witnessed in Indianapolis of some years. The meeting was called to order by O. B. Torbit, president of the Association, who after explaining the object of the meeting, declined serving as president on the occasion, when Gen. John L. Spann, of Jennings, was called to the chair and George P. Buell & Austin H. Brown, were chosen secretaries, after which a committee was appointed to draft a report and resolutions for the consideration of the meeting. The Hon. G. N. Fitch being loudly called upon, came forward and addressed the meeting on the political topics of the day, briefly reviewing the causes of the late accidental defeat of the Democratic party. The speaker was frequently interrupted by the applause and approbation of the meeting.

Gov. J. A. Wright, in answer to a loud call, came forward and delivered a speech replete with democratic doctrine. He reviewed the great questions before the public in a strain of genuine and impassioned eloquence. He urged, with great earnestness, the necessity of taking broad national ground, and avoiding side issues. He said the private opinions of Democrats upon questions merely domestic in their character, should not be regarded as a test of Democracy. He liked that kind of a Democrat who could make the same speech in the north, the south, the east and the west, and who everywhere and at all times, is ready to support the constitution and the union.

Mr. Denby of Vanderburgh, offered the following resolution, which was adopted by consent.

Resolved.—That the Democratic party on this, the anniversary of the birth day of Washington, re-extends the sentiments of his farewell address, particularly with reference to the preservation of the Union of these States, the formation of sectional parties, and the dangerous and licentious tendency of secret political associations.

After which speeches were made by the following gentlemen: Mr. Danby, G. F. Cookerly, Archibald Johnson, and M. Carnahan, after which Judge Lowry, from the Committee on an address and resolutions, made the following report:

To the PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF INDIANA.—The present condition of political affairs in this country is a subject of much interest to every citizen. The elements which constitute the causes of difference in political action and principle are so diversified and opposite in character, that it is a matter of difficulty often for the candid mind to decide what course or influence is safest or best; to discriminate between the transient and permanent; to draw a just line of distinction between the

honest and dishonest pretensions of political leaders.

LEGISLATIVE.

Senate.—14th.—Senate went into Committee of the Whole, and occupied the greater portion of the afternoon in the consideration of the House bill to regulate the fees of officers. After the adoption of various amendments, the Committee arose and was discharged from the further consideration of the subject. A bill fixing the time of holding courts in the 9th Judicial Circuit, was read three times and passed.

House.—A report was made declaring that the Courts of Common Pleas had no jurisdiction to grant divorces; that it was inexpedient to confer such power upon them, and that no law could be passed legalizing divorces heretofore granted by such courts—the report was concurred in. A joint resolution was reported to amend the State Constitution.

1. Allowing no foreigner to vote unless naturalized under the laws of the United States, and a resident for six months in this State.

2. That militia officers having no annual salary, and deputy postmasters having a salary not exceeding ninety dollars, shall not be prohibited from holding another office.

3. To allow sessions of the Legislature to be held annually; and without limit as to time of holding them.

4. In amendments to existing laws, the act as revised or the section as amended, only to be set forth.

5. The words "and of uniform operation throughout the State" to be struck out of 23d section of article 4.

Joint resolutions introduced, to prohibit the introduction of foreign liquors, except as authorized by the State; to ask Congress a donation of 160 acres of land to all residents in good faith thereon; to amend the 8th article of the State Constitution.

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Bills introduced to authorize county treasurers to refund to tax payers the amount of special school tax paid by them, by giving a credit on their other school taxes; to amend the statute punishing burglary; to amend the 50th section of the act relative to the settlement of decedents' estates; to assess a tax on dogs for the benefit of those losing sheep by them; to encourage the breed of horses by taxation fifteen dollars; to authorize county recorders to demand their fees in advance, to protect persons in this State from arrest under the fugitive slave law; to establish a State Bank and branches.

Bills passed to provide for issuing new certificates of State Stock when casually destroyed.

Feb. 15. Senate.—Bills passed; to fix the time of holding the Common Pleas Courts in the counties of Tippecanoe and White; to fix the time of holding Common Pleas Courts in the county of Tipton; to amend the act for appointment and election of Supervisors.

A communication from the Auditor of State, in answer to a resolution of the Senate, stated that no bills had been issued by him since he came into office, and that the

Aggregate amount of the circulating notes of the various banks is \$4,581,833 Notes cancelled since he assumed the duties of the office, for which bonds have been surrendered. 628,155

Leaving in circulation \$3,963,674 Of which is specie paying banks 1,530,253

Depreciated currency \$2,364,421 Senate adjourned.

House.—Bills passed.—To provide for the trial of cases when the Judge of the Circuit Court is interested or otherwise disqualified; to hold adjourned Courts, &c. To more effectually suppress lotteries. To authorize the commissioners of the Sinking Fund to adjust the claim of Feb. 19.—Senate.—Senate adjourned.

Agreeable to previous order the bill to establish a Bank with branches, was taken up, and the question on concurring in any combination to defeat the Democracy provided the victory, if gained, be called their victory, and the spoils secured, set apart as their spoils. The remark applied by the sagacious Carey to the Federalists who opposed the Democracy of 1814, is but too applicable to the enemies of Democratic principles today—"Your party rises as your country sinks; it sinks as your country rises."

Several resolutions were submitted and unanimously concurred in, among which were the following:

Resolved, That this Association, recommend to the citizens of the State, a special organization of the Democracy of every county in the State, which organization shall be based upon the National Democracy platform of 1852 involving no new issues, or incorporating any new creed, which involves local questions or sectional issues.

Resolved, That one of the great and cardinal principles of Democracy is the inherent right of the people to govern themselves.

Resolved, That the elevation of our distinguished fellow-citizens; the Hon. J. D. B. Brier, to the position of Vice President of the United States, is a compliment to the man, and to the State of Indiana; which we receive with a high degree of pride and satisfaction.

Resolved, That while we discard any new party tests, we believe it is right and proper, that the constituents of a representative and his fellow citizens should hold to strict accountability, the man, who, in the support of opposition to, measures, violate, the letter or spirit of the National Democratic creed, and his professions and pledges. That we cannot countenance a departure from the true principles of Democracy in the legislation or administration of our National or State Governments, and that we will have no fellowship with the avowed and secret enemies of constitutional rights, and of the Union of the States.

The meeting then adjourned to meet at 7 o'clock in the evening, and was principally taken up by speeches by John L. Robinson, of Rush, Geo. E. Gordon, G. F. Cookerly, Geo. W. Brown, Lieut. Gov. Willard.

The following bills were passed; to create the office of Attorney General, provide for his election, define his duties, &c. To amend section 17 and part of 18 of the act incorporating the Lagro.

The following bills were passed; to provide for the school tax collected of them under the act of 1852. [There was a provision in that act as reported, exempting this class from taxation for school purposes, but omitted in the engrossment of it.]

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the Governor, transmitting the Report of the State Board of Agriculture and the county societies—referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

Reports—By Mr. Erzler, bill reported to refund to Free Blacks the school taxes collected of them under the act of 1852. [There was a provision in that act as reported, exempting this class from taxation for school purposes, but omitted in the engrossment of it.]

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the Treasurer of State, showing that the expenditures of the State for 1855, would exceed the estimates by about ninety-four thousand dollars.

The following bills were passed; to provide for his election, define his duties, &c. To amend section 17 and part of 18 of the act incorporating the Lagro.

Marion, and Jonesboro plank road Company; Joint resolution relative to the election of United States Senator. To regulate the business of Foreign Insurance Companies in this State. Joint resolution asking Congress to patent to the State certain lands returned as swamp lands; To provide for issuing fee bills and executions against sureties in appeal bonds in the Supreme Court. To amend sec. 3 of the act incorporating towns &c. To authorize the successors of administrators or executors to sell lands under orders procured by such administrators or executors. To fix the times of holding Courts of Common Pleas in Tippecanoe and White.

Feb. 27.—Senate met.

The bill to change the time of holding courts in the 11th Judicial Circuit was reported back and passed.

The House resumed the consideration of the school bill.

CONGRESSIONAL.

House.—Feb. 14.—Mr. Hunter read a bill appropriating \$125,000 for the purchase of a site for the erection of military defense at the termination of the Gulf Railway, in Louisiana, which was passed.

An amendment was then offered and adopted—yeas 100, nays 82; that another appropriation bill was necessary for this year, as the bill failed to pass last session.

Mr. Olds' amendment, as before reported, was adopted—yeas 100, nays 82.

At this point a message was received from the President informing the House that he had vetoed the French Spoliation Bill. (Great sensation.)

Mr. Olds proposed that the message be read and printed, and considered Monday at one o'clock.

Mr. Bury of Virginia, suggested Tues. next.

The Haven moved that the reading be dispensed with. [Votes of "No," "No," "Read," "Read," and much confusion.] Points of order were raised, that the bill pending must be disposed of before the message could be acted on, which was agreed to.

An amendment was then offered and adopted—yeas 92, nays 82; that another appropriation bill was necessary for this year, as the bill failed to pass last session.

Mr. Murray, from the committee on Printing, reported a resolution, which was passed, ordering the printing of 12,000 copies of the Report of the Commissioners of Patents, for the use of the members, and 10,000 copies for the use of the Commissioner, also for the printing of 2000 copies of the mechanical part. A resolution was also passed, for printing 10,000 copies of the report of Commodore Perry's Expedition to Japan; also for printing 10,000 copies of the Survey on the Pacific coast.

Senate.—WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Mr. Toucey introduced a bill to increase the salaries of the Judges of the Supreme Court, which was passed—yeas 30 nays 15.

A bill was reported from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, appropriating \$75,000 to Commodore Perry, for negotiating the treaty with Japan.

The Pacific railway bill was then taken up.

Mr. Gwin moved for the adoption of Mr. Douglas' substitute, proposing three routes, as an amendment to the original bill, which was agreed to.

House.—The Speaker announced the first business in order to be Benet's bill granting lands equally to all the States by such citizens as may have been at any time aggrieved by the acts of the French Government, and says, for three reasons, the bill ought not to meet the Executive Sanction.

Senate.—Feb. 29.—The Pacific railway bill was then taken up.

Mr. Clayton addressed the Senate, in a complete manner, discharged their whole duty to such citizens as may have been at any time aggrieved by the acts of the French Government, and says, for three reasons, the bill ought not to meet the Executive Sanction.

Mr. Hamilton was entitled to the floor. Mr. Haven appealed to him to yield, in order that the House might go into committee of the whole on the State of the Union on the appropriation bills. He said there were now but fourteen days of the session remaining, and those bills may be lost unless they are at once acted upon.

Mr. Houston said he had not doubt of it.

Mr. Hamilton then moved that Benet's bill be referred to the committee of the whole on the State of the Union, and demanded the previous question pending which the House went into committee on the Mail Steamer appropriation.

Mr. Olds proposed to amend the bill, by appropriating \$855,000 to the Collins line of steamers, for the transportation of the mails from New York to Liverpool, under certain restrictions, and requiring that the company construct another steamer of a like capacity with the Baltic, within two years. Mr. Olds urged the amendment, and spoke in high terms of the Collins line. He stated he had previously opposed this appropriation, but he now believed it was necessary to the service to maintain the line.

Mr. Smith, of Va., offered an amendment, which led to a personal controversy of some length, between Messrs. Hine and Olds, the former charging the latter with inconsistency.

Mr. Walbridge followed in an elaborate defense of the Collins line, and against reducing the amount paid by the Government, but without taking final action, the House adjourned.

Senate.—Feb. 16.—This being private bill day, Mr. Mason, from the committee on Foreign Relations, reported back the House bill re-modeling the Consular system of the United States.

A veto message has been prepared by the President against the French Spoliation Bill. It will probably be sent to the Senate to-morrow.

Prohibiting the establishment of Agencies for the classification of the Free Bank paper.

The bill was then ordered to engrossment.

Feb. 21.—House met.

Mr. Meredith, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill to provide for a State revenue for 1855 and 1856. [The bill levies a tax of 20 cents on the 100 dollars worth, and a poll tax of 50 cents for each year.]

The following bills were passed; to amend the act relative to the incorporation of High Schools &c. To amend the act relative to Weights and Measures.

House proceeded to the consideration of the School bill, in Committee of the Whole. Mr. Buskirk in the chair.

The first section provides for a tax of 30 cents on the hundred dollars worth of property, and 50 cts. on each poll.

Mr. Hume moved to strike out 30 and insert 10, and reduce the poll tax to 25 cents.

Mr. Frazer showed by reference to the Superintendents report on this subject, that the act entitled an act to prohibit the manufacture and sale of spirituous liquors, etc., and in the cultivation of the grape, and manufacture of spirituous liquors, etc., and in the cultivation of native wines, and in the planting and cultivation of orchards for the manufacture of cider; and also, in the cultivation of large tracts, for the raising of hops and barley, and where, as the operations of the said Act, will legislate from the rightful ownership of the citizens of Indiana property of immense value, abrogating the right of the citizen to engage in, and carry on any trade or traffic, hitherto recognized by the laws of the State as an indispensable right, in the possession of which he should always be secure.

And whereas the operation of said act would not only be subversive of the principles of a free Government, but demoralizing in all its tendencies; weakening the obligations which every good citizen should think to obey, the laws of the State, and bring into contempt the legislative acts of the General Assembly.

Sec. 1. Therefore be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, That the act entitled an act to prohibit the manufacture and sale of spirituous and intoxicating liquors, except those named, and to repeal all former acts inconsistent therewith; and for the suppression of intemperance, passed on the 21st day of February, A. D. 1855;

Whereas, A bill recently passed the present General Assembly, entitled an act to prohibit the manufacture and sale of spirituous and intoxicating liquors, except in a species of length, urging its necessity and eulogizing the Collins line of steamers, and said it was a credit to the country.

Mr. Breckenridge opposed the amendment.

The debate was further continued, Messrs. Lyon, Yates, Washburne of Maine, and Cutting, spoke in favor of the amendment, and Mr. Smith, of Va., and others in opposition to it.

The amendment was then agreed to, and the committee arose, and without taking any further action on the bill, the House adjourned.

The amendment was lost. Ayes 34, Nays 42.

Mr. Newcomb moved to strike out 30 and insert 20.

Mr. Merrifield moved to amend so as to provide for a tax of 25 cts; which motion was lost.

Mr. Newcomb's amendment was adopted.

Feb. 23.—Senate met.

An act to allow Railroad Companies to compromise with mortgages, &c.—Passed.

Bill authorizing the completion of the cells in the State Prison. Passed.

House.—Reports—By Mr. Smith, of Perry, bill for the better management of the Blind Asylum.

Mr. Smith stated, that the same restrictions as to the expenditures which existed in the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, were contained in this bill. The necessity for this was shown in the fact that

the average cost for each pupil was nearly \$230, whilst in the Deaf and Dumb it was but \$125.]