

# The West Jersey Pioneer.

A Family Newspaper: Devoted to Morality, Education, Science, Arts, Amusements, Mechanics, Agriculture, Temperance, Domestic and Foreign News, &c.—Independent of Party or Sect.

\$1.00 IN ADVANCE!

BRIDGETON N. J. SATURDAY, DECEMBER II, 1858.

VOL. X—NO. 582

C. E. EDWARDS. J. W. EDWARDS.  
EDWARDS & BRO.  
SURGICAL AND MECHANICAL  
DENTISTS.  
CORNER OF MAIN AND SECOND STREETS  
MILLVILLE N. J.

D. H. SMOCK,  
Attorney at Law and Solicitor in Chancery,  
BRIDGETON, N. J.  
Office on Commerce St., over the CHRONICLE  
OFFICE. Ap 10-11.

J. R. HOAGLAND,  
Attorney at Law,  
Solicitor, Master & Examiner in Chancery,  
BRIDGETON, N. J.

Office on Commerce St., over the CHRONICLE  
OFFICE. Ap 10-11.

C. P. VANDERVEER. B. F. ARCHER.  
VANDERVEER & ARCHER,  
WHOLESALE  
GROCERS AND TEA DEALERS,  
N. 3 Market Street,  
RIDGEWAY HOUSE,  
PHILADELPHIA.

March 14, 1857—  
C. S. MILLER & CO.  
CHEAP FANCY DRY GOODS  
AND FRUIT, NO. 20,  
GROSBOIS BUILDING, COMMERCE AND LAUREL  
STREETS, BRIDGETON, N. J.

S. A. TAYLOR. M. J. NEWKIRK  
Taylor & Newkirk's  
FANCY  
DRY GOODS AND TRIMMING STORE,  
COMMERCE STREET,  
BRIDGETON, N. J.

Hosiery, Gloves, Laces and Ribbons of every  
variety, kept constantly on hand. Jan. 30.

OLIVER S. BELDEN, M. D.,  
OFFICE SITUATED ON LAUREL ST.,  
Opposite the First Presbyterian Church,

Having testimonies of scholarship from  
schools and positions of influence, I hope through  
a close attention to the duties of the physician to  
secure the confidence of the community in practice  
of medicine.

Bridgeton, June 12, 1858.

A CARD.  
J. KIRBY, Surgeon Dentist,  
respectfully offers his professional  
services to the inhabitants of Cumberland County  
and the public generally.

Office in the row of brick buildings, five doors  
west of E. Davis & Son's hotel, formerly occupied by  
J. D. Harbert. Mar. 28, 1857.

S. H. WOODRUFF,  
No. 26 Commerce Street  
DEALER IN  
Clocks, Watches, Jewelry and Silverware.  
May 29.

J. D. HARBERT,  
SURGEON DENTIST  
LATE OF BRIDGETON,  
No. 1330 Pine Street, near Broad  
PHILADELPHIA.

The Pine Street Unionists, from the  
Exchange, pass the door every ten minutes.

May 15, 3m.

DEY STRETTOUSE.  
54 56 & 58 Bay Street,  
NEW YORK.

Kept on the European Plan. Meals at all  
Hours of the Day.

LODGING ROOMS 50 CENTS, CROTON WATER  
IN EVERY ROOM.

R. B. Sharrets.

Sept. 25th, 58.

Henry Neff,  
SURGEON DENTIST.

COMMERCE St., a few doors east  
of the Presbyterian Session

Room and directly opposite the new  
Baptist Church, still continues to practice Dentistry  
in the same departments.

I have been using Neff's Extracting teeth, and it  
does really prevent the feeling of pain under the operation  
in all cases. I have extracted the teeth with the most sat-  
isfaction.

Bridgeton, June 27, 1858.

AMERICAN LIFE INSURANCE & TRUST CO.  
CAPITAL STOCK, \$500,000.

COMPANY'S Building, Walnut street, S. E.  
Corner of Fourth, Philadelphia.

Life Insurance at the usual Mutual rates, or at  
Joint Stock rates, at about 20 per cent less, or at  
Total Abstinence rates, the lowest in the world.

A. WHILLDN, President,  
J. C. SIMS, Secretary,  
W. M. BOWEN, Agent, and Medical Examiner  
Bridgeton N. J. Sept. 5, 1858.

WEST JERSEY R. R. CO.

WINTER ARRANGEMENT.

On and after Monday, October 18th, 1858,  
the Cars of the West Jersey Railroad Co  
will leave daily, (Sunday excepted) as  
follows:

LEAVE PHILADELPHIA,  
Walnut street, 8:45 and 11:15 A. M. and 2 and  
& 5 o'clock.

LEAVE WOODBURY,  
7:45 A. M. and 1 and 3 P. M.  
Cars between Philadelphia and Woodbury, 25cts.  
Richard Shipp, Agent.

BECK & LAWTON,  
MUSIC PUBLISHERS,  
AND  
NOTICE.

DEALERS IN ALL KINDS OF MUSICAL MERCHANDISE,  
No. 682 CHESTNUT STREET,  
(corner of Seventh).

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

JOSEPH HILLIER'S  
LOOKING-GLASS &  
Picture Frame Store.

Gilt and fancy wood frames, made to order.

No. 65 North Second Street,  
PHILADELPHIA.

Oct. 9, 1858.

DENNIS & JONES,  
MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS IN  
SPERM, LARD, SEA ELEPHANT, WHALE,  
TANNERS & MINERS' OIL, ALSO,  
SPERM, SOLAR SPERM, AND  
ADAMANTINE CANDLES.

Warehouse No. 24 South Wharves, Manufac-  
tory, Christian Smith & Son, Phila'da.  
Nov. 18, 1858.

Books sold for "Green Books,"

B. BOOMS, Bookseller and Bookseller  
of old and rare books, also a large  
selection of American and English literature.

Books sold for "Green Books,"

Saturday Morning, Decem. 11.

**The Pioneer has a LARGER Circulation than any weekly Paper in this State!**

Only \$1.00 per Year!

JAMES B. FERGUSON.—EDITOR.

The extreme length of the President's Message, which we give entire this week, has crowded out a large amount of other reading matter. It is an able document, and a lengthy one too, as will be discovered by all who attempt to read it.

At the message comes but once a year, we trust those of our readers who are not interested in such matters will overlook it.

Next week our usual variety of "interesting" reading shall appear.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

When we compare the condition of the country at the present day with what it was one year ago, at the meeting of Congress, we have much reason for gratitude to that Almighty Providence, which has never failed to interpose for our relief, at the most critical periods of our history. One year ago, the sectional strife between the North and the South on the dangerous subject of slavery, had again become so intense as to threaten the peace and perpetuity of the confederacy. The application for the admission of Kansas as a State into the Union, fostered this unhappy agitation, and brought the whole subject once more before Congress. It was the desire of every patriot that measures of legislation might be adopted, as would remove the excitement from the States, and confine it to the Territory where it legitimately belonged. Much has been done, I am happy to say, towards the accomplishment of this object, during the last session of Congress.

The Supreme Court of the United States had previously decided, that all American citizens have an equal right to enter any territory, whatever is held as property under the laws of any of the States, and to hold such property under the guardianship of the federal constitution, so long as the territorial condition shall remain.

This is now a well established position, and the proceedings of the last session were alone wanting to give it practical effect. The principle has been recognized, in some form or other, by an almost unanimous vote of both houses of Congress, that a Territory has a right to come into the Union either as a free or a slave State, according to the will of a majority of its people. The just equality of all the States has thus been vindicated, and a fruitful source of dangerous dissension among them has been removed.

Whilst such has been the beneficial tendency of your legislative proceedings outside of Kansas, their influence has nowhere been so happy as within that Territory itself. Left to manage and control its own affairs in its own way, without the pressure of external influence, the revolutionary Topeka organization, and all resistance to the territorial government established by Congress, have been finally abandoned. As a natural consequence that fine Territory now appears to be tranquil and prosperous, and is attracting increasing thousands of immigrants to make it their happy home.

The past unfortunate experience of Congress has enforced the lesson so often already taught, that resistance to lawfully authority, under our form of government, cannot fail in the end to prove disastrous to its authors. Had the people of the Territory yielded obedience to the laws enacted by their legislature, it would at the present moment have contained a large additional population of industrious and enterprising citizens, who have been deterred from entering its borders by the existence of civil strife and organized rebellion.

It was the resistance to rightful authority and the persevering attempts to establish a revolutionary government under the Topeka constitution, which caused the people of Kansas to commit the grave error of refusing to vote for delegates to the convention to frame a constitution, under a law not denied to be fair and just in its provisions. This refusal to vote has been the prolific source of all the evils which have followed. In their hostility to the territorial government, they disregarded the principle, absolutely essential to the working of our form of government, that a majority of those who vote—not the majority who may remain at home, from whatever cause—must decide the result of an election. For this reason, seeking to take advantage of their own error, they denied the authority of the convention thus elected to frame a constitution.

The convention, notwithstanding, proceeded to adopt a constitution unexceptionable in its general features, and providing for the subversion of the slavery question to a vote of the people, which, in my opinion, they were bound to do, under the Kansas and Nebraska act.

This was the all-important question which had alone controlled the Territory; and yet the opponents of the lawful government, persisting in their first error, refrained from exercising their right to vote, and preferred that slavery should continue, rather than renounce their revolutionary organization.

A wise and better spirit seemed to prevail before the first meeting of January last, when the convention, held under the constitution, "A majority of the people then voting in the Territory, and other States, for a majority of Congress, and members of the State legislature." The election was variously contested by the two political parties in Kansas, and a great many who voted that no previous election, and a majority of the members of the legislature, chose to that party which had previously refused to vote. The anti-slavery party were thus placed in the ascendant, and the political power of the State was

decomposed, the members of the government, for a number of days, could not be agreed upon. The President, however, having secured a majority of the members of the legislature, and having appointed a committee to consider the constitution, and to report to him, the same, he called a special session of the Legislature, and the bill was passed, and sent to the Governor, who signed it, and it became a law.

An election was held throughout Kansas, in pursuance of the provisions of this act, on the second day of August last, and it resulted in the rejection, by a large majority of the proposition submitted to the people by Congress. This being the case, they are now authorized to form another constitution preparatory to admission into the Union, but not until their number, as ascertained by a census, shall equal or exceed the ratio required to elect a member to the House of Representatives.

Under these circumstances, I submitted to Congress the constitution thus framed, with all the officers already elected, necessary to put the State government into operation, accompanied by a strong recommendation in favor of the admission of Kansas as a State. In the course of my long public life I have never performed any official act which, in the retrospect, has afforded me more heartfelt satisfaction. Its admission could have inflicted no possible injury on any human being, whilst it would, within a brief period, have restored peace to Kansas and harmony to the Union. In that event, the slavery question would have been finally settled, according to the legally expressed will of a majority of the voters and popular sovereignty would thus have been vindicated in a constitutional manner.

With my deep convictions of duty, I could have pursued no other course. It is true, that, as an individual, I had expressed an opinion, both before and during the session of the convention, in favor of submitting the remaining clauses of the constitution, as well as that concerning slavery, to the people. But, acting in an official character, neither myself nor any human authority had the power to rejudge the proceedings of the convention, and declare the constitution which had framed to be a nullity. To have done this would have been a violation of the Kansas Nebraska act, which left the people of the Territory "perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, subject only to the constitution of the United States." It would equally have violated the great principle of popular sovereignty at the foundation of our institutions, to deprive the people of the power, if they thought proper to exercise it, of confiding to delegates elected by themselves the trust of framing a constitution, without requiring them to subject their constituents to the trouble, expense, and delay of a new election. It would have been in opposition to many precedents in our history, commencing in the very best age of the republic, the admission of Territories as States into the Union, without a previous vote of the people approving their constitution.

Of course, it would be unjust to give this rule a retrospective application, and exclude a State which, acting upon the past practice of the government, had already formed its constitution, elected its legislature and other officers, and is now prepared to enter the Union.

It is to be lamented that a question so insignificant when viewed in its practical effects on the people of Kansas, whether decided one way or the other, should have kindled such a flame of excitement throughout the country. This reflection may prove to be a lesson of wisdom and warning for our future guidance. Practically considered, the question is simply whether the people of that territory should first come into the Union and then change any provision in their constitution not agreeable to themselves, or accomplish the very same object by remaining out of the Union and framing another constitution in accordance with their will?

In either case, the result would be precisely the same. The only difference in point of fact is, that the object would have been much sooner attained, and the pacification of Kansas more speedily effected, had it been admitted as a State during the last session of Congress.

My recommendation, however, for the immediate admission of Kansas, failed to meet the approbation of Congress. They deemed it wiser to adopt a different measure for the settlement of the question. For my own part I should have been willing to yield my assent to almost any constitutional measure to accomplish this object. I, therefore, cordially acquiesced in what has been called the English Compromise, and approved the "Act for the admission of the State of Kansas into the Union" upon the terms therein prescribed.

The federal government has ever been a liberal parent to the Territories, and a generous contributor to the useful enterprises of the early settlers. It has paid the expenses of their governments and legislative assemblies out of the common treasury, and thus relieved them from a heavy charge. Under these circumstances nothing can be better calculated to retard their material progress, than to divert them from their useful employments, prematurely exciting angry political contests among themselves, for the benefit of aspiring leaders. It is surely no hardship for embryo governors, senators, and members of Congress to wait until the number of inhabitants shall equal those of a single congressional district. They surely ought not to be permitted to rush into the Union, with a population less than one-half of several of the large counties in the interior of some of the States. This was the condition of Kansas when it made application to be admitted under the Topeka constitution. Both sides, it requires some time to render the mass of population collected in a new Territory, at all homogeneous, and to unite them on anything like a fixed policy. Establish the rule, and all will look forward to it and serve their country in this distant and apparently dangerous expedition. Thus it had ever been, and thus may it ever be!

The wisdom and economy of sending sufficient reinforcements to Utah are established not only by the event, but in the opinion of those who, from their position and opportunities, are the most capable of forming a correct judgment. Gen. Johnston, the commander of the forces, in addressing the Secretary of War from Fort Bridger, under date of October 18, 1857, expresses the opinion that "unless a large force is sent here, from the nature of the country, protracted war on their [the Mormons] part is inevitable." He considered necessary, to terminate the war "speedily and more economically than if attempted by insufficient means."

In the meantime, it was my anxious desire that the Mormons should yield obedience to the constitution and the laws, without rendering it necessary to resort to military force. To aid in accomplishing this object I deemed it advisable in April last, to despatch two distinguished citizens of the United States, Messrs. Powell and McCulloch, to Utah. They bore with them a proclamation addressed by myself to the inhabitants of Utah, dated on the sixth day of that month, warning them of their true condition, and how hopeless it was on their part to persist in rebellion against the United States, and offering all those who should submit to it, for the laudable purpose of improving their condition. Their first duty to themselves is to open and cultivate farms, to construct roads, to establish schools, to erect places of religious worship, and to devote their energies generally to reclaim the wilderness and to lay the foundations of a flourishing and prosperous commonwealth. If, in this incipient condition, with a population of a few thousand, they should prematurely enter the Union, they are oppressed by the burden of State taxation, and the means necessary for the improvement of the Territory and the advancement of their own interests, are thus entirely cut off.

Immediately upon the formation of a new territory, people from different States and from foreign countries rush into it, for the laudable purpose of improving their condition.

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The instructions to these agents, as well as a copy of the proclamation, and their reports, are herewith submitted. It will be seen by their report of the 3d of July last, that they have fully confirmed the opinion expressed by General Johnston in the previous October, as to the necessity of sending reinforcements to Utah. In this they state that they are firmly impressed with the belief that the presence of the army here, and the large additional force to be sent, will be a resource to the British government against those who, from their position and opportunities, are the most capable of forming a correct judgment. Gen. Johnston, the commander of the forces, in addressing the Secretary of War from Fort Bridger, under date of October 18, 1857, expresses the opinion that "unless a large force is sent here, from the nature of the country, protracted war on their [the Mormons] part is inevitable." He considered necessary, to terminate the war "speedily and more economically than if attempted by insufficient means."

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In the meantime, it was my anxious desire that the Mormons should yield obedience to the constitution and the laws, without rendering it necessary to resort to military force. To aid in accomplishing this object I deemed it advisable in April last, to despatch two distinguished citizens of the United States, Messrs. Powell and McCulloch, to Utah. They bear with them a proclamation addressed by myself to the inhabitants of Utah, dated on the sixth day of that month, warning them of their true condition, and how hopeless it was on their part to persist in rebellion against the United States, and offering all those who should submit to it, for the laudable purpose of improving their condition. Their first duty to themselves is to open and cultivate farms, to construct roads, to establish schools, to erect places of religious worship, and to devote their energies generally to reclaim the wilderness and to lay the foundations of a flourishing and prosperous commonwealth. If, in this incipient condition, with a population of a few thousand, they should prematurely enter the Union, they are oppressed by the burden of State taxation, and the means necessary for the improvement of the Territory and the advancement of their own interests, are thus entirely cut off.

The instructions to these agents, as well as a copy of the proclamation, and their reports, are herewith submitted. It will be seen by their report of the 3d of July last, that they have fully confirmed the opinion expressed by General Johnston in the previous October, as to the necessity of sending reinforcements to Utah. In this they state that they are firmly impressed with the belief that the presence of the army here, and the large additional force to be sent, will be a resource to the British government against those

up the Mexican boundary, recently established by the Mexican Government. This passes, however, to the Mexican boundary throughout the whole of Arizona.

I can imagine no possible remedy for those evils and no mode of restoring law and order on that remote and untried frontier, but the obvious means is to give power to the military to establish military posts within the same, and to command the Mexican Government. This protection may be withdrawn as soon as local governments shall be established in those Mexican States, capable of performing their duty to the United States, restraining the lawless, and preserving peace.

I do not doubt that this measure will be viewed in a friendly spirit by the governments and people of Chiapas and Sonora, as it will prove equally effectual for the protection of their citizens on that remote and desolate frontier, as for citizens of the United States.

And in this connection, permit me to recall your attention to the condition of Arizona. The population of that Territory, numbering, as is said, more than ten thousand souls, are practically without government, without laws, and without any effective administration of justice. Murder and other crimes are committed with impunity. This state of things calls loudly for redress; and I, therefore, recommend my recommendation for the establishment of a territorial government over Arizona.

The political condition of the narrow isthmus of Central America through which transit routes pass between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans presents a subject of deep interest to all commercial nations. A large portion of the isthmus between Europe and Asia is destined to the pass. To the United States these routes are of incalculable importance, as a means of communication between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, presents a subject of deep interest to all commercial nations. The transit of the Pacific coast, embracing the important ports of California and the four-fifths Territories of Oregon and Washington. All commercial interests, therefore, have a deep and direct interest in the safety of communications, shall be rendered secure from interruption. If an arm of the sea, connecting the two oceans, penetrated through Nicaragua and Costa Rica, could not be pretended that these States would be the right to arrest or retard its navigation, to the injury of other nations. The transit by land over the narrow isthmus, occupies nearly the same position. It is a highway in which they themselves have little interest, the rest of the world, whilst their field of navigation ought to be respected, as that of other nations, ought to require, that this important passage shall not be interrupted by civil wars and revolutionary outbreaks, which are so frequently occurring in that region. The stake is too important to be left to the vagaries of right companies, claiming a hold conflicting with that of Nicaragua.

The conference of Oran was not to stand still and await the adjustment of any such controversies. The government of the United States expected no more than this, and they will not derive any advantage from the Nicaraguan transit, notwithstanding the rest of the world. Its neutrality and protection, for the common use of all nations, is their only object. They have no objection that Nicaragua should demand and receive fair compensation, from the companies and individuals who may traverse that route, but they insist that it shall never hereafter be claimed by an arbitrary decree of that government. If any disputes arise between it and those with whom they may have entered into contracts, these must be adjusted by some fair tribunal provided for the purpose, and the route must not be closed pending the controversy. This is our whole policy, and it cannot fail to be acceptable to other nations.

All these difficulties might be avoided, if consistently with the good faith of Nicaragua, the use of this transit could be thrown open to general competition, providing at the same time for the payment of a reasonable rate to the Nicaragua government on passengers and freight.

In August, 1855, the Accessory Transit Company made its first trial trip over the Nicaraguan route, and in successful operation with great advantage to the public, until the 1st of February, 1856,<sup>22</sup> when it was closed, and the grant to this company, as well as its charter, were summarily and arbitrarily revoked by the government of President Rivas.

Prior to this date, however, in 1854, serious disputes concerning the settlement of the accounts had arisen between the company and the Government, threatening the interruption of the route at any moment. Then the United States, in vain endeavored to compose it. It would be less to narrate the various proceedings which took place between the parties up till the time when the transit was discontinued. Suffice it to say, that, since February, 1856, it has remained closed, to the prejudice of citizens of the United States, at that time the competition ceased between the two routes of Panama and Nicaragua, and it does not appear, of an unjust and unreasonable amount has been exacted from our citizens for their passage to and from California.

A treaty was signed on the 16th day of November, 1857, by the Secretary of State and Minister of Nicaragua, under the stipulations of which the joint protection of the transit route would have been given, not only to the United States but equally to all other nations. How, and on what pretenses, this instrument failed to receive the ratification of the Nicaraguan Government, will appear hereafter, when communicated from the State Department. The principal objection seems to have been, to the provision authorizing the United States to employ force to keep the route open, in case Nicaragua should fail to perform her part in this respect.

From the feebleness of that republic, its frequent changes of government, and its constant internal dissensions, this had become a most important stipulation, and one essentially necessary not only for the security of the route, but for the safety of American citizens passing and repassing to and from our Pacific possessions. Were such a stipulation entered into a treaty between the United States and Nicaragua the knowledge of this fact would of itself most probably prevent hostile parties from committing aggressions on the route, and render our actual interference for its protection unnecessary.

The executive government of this country, in its intercourse with foreign nations, is limited to the employment of diplomacy alone. When this fails, it can proceed no further. It cannot legitimately resort to force without the direct authority of Congress, except in resisting and repelling hostile attacks. It would have no authority to enter the territory of Nicaragua, even to prevent the destruction of the transit, and protect the lives and property of our citizens on their passage. It is true that on a sudden the two countries will greatly increase much to the advantage of both.

The claims of our citizens against the government of Brazil are not, in the aggregate, of very large amount; but some of them rest upon plain principles of justice, and their settlement did not to be longer delayed. A renewed and earnest, and I trust a successful effort, will be made by our minister to procure their final adjustment.

On the 2d of June last, Congress passed a joint resolution authorizing the President to adopt such measures, as he may judge fit, in his judgement, may be necessary and advisable, for the purpose of adjusting the differences between the United States and the Republic of Paraguay, in connection with the attack on the United States steamer "Wash. W. Hitchcock" and with all the measures referred to in the joint resolution.

On the 12th of July, following, they made an arrangement, by which they would make a joint declaration of war against Paraguay, and, even in case of a conflict, to do this together, without consulting each other.

In compliance with this arrangement, the United States, with the consent of Paraguay, with the understanding that the United States would be entitled to a compensation, and that those differences in fact, were not so full and manifest, as to be considered a violation of the law of nations, have thrown out these accusations against the United States, and, in consequence, the purpose of my own observation, to advise the Government, in the course of my communication with the Secretary of State, was to move immediately to the conclusion of a compact, by which the United States would be entitled to a compensation, and that those differences in fact, were not so full and manifest, as to be considered a violation of the law of nations.

A similar necessity exists for the passage of such an act, for the protection of the Panama and Colombia routes, which has been recently signed, under the most favorable circumstances, by the Presidents of the United States and of Colombia.

Up to the present time, the United States, the

