

Betting on Elections.

One of the most dangerous and deplorable evils with which this republic is afflicted, is the general practice of betting on elections; and, perhaps, it has never raged more extensively than during the present political campaign.

"We learn," says that journal "that at one of our first hotels, sums were deposited with the proprietors in various amounts to \$30,000 on the general issue of the election, and a merchant of responsibility, on hearing that a person had expressed a willingness to bet a large sum on the result, left word that if he was a responsible person, and entered into bonds not to evade payment by law! should it go against him, he was ready to sign the bet for \$20,000. A fortune; an amount which few can earn in twenty years' hard labor, hazarded on a single game of chance! No, say the parties, it is not chance—it is not hazard; we know how it will go. But how can it be fully known, until the ballot boxes are opened? We speak within bounds when we say that \$500,000 have been staked on Pennsylvania; and in subscriptions of money, voluntary gifts, assessments, loss of time, which is money, and bets on the Presidential election, it will cost the people of this country, within bounds, seven millions of dollars—when the legitimate outlay should only be a few thousand dollars for contingent expenses.

It appears to us that every thinking man, at the moment of excitement passes away, will be ready to admit the justice of the remarks above quoted; and it would be a matter of rejoicing if, from this time forth, all such would sternly set their faces against a practice so fraught with evil. Never make a bet; and least of all never suffer yourselves to risk sums of money upon the result of a political contest, as if it were on a par with a horse race or a cock fight.

A HISTORICAL FACT.—By reference to a map of Delaware, it will be seen that the boundary between that state and this is of a semicircular form, as if drawn with mathematical accuracy. The Germantown Telegraph says it was so drawn. William Penn presented to his daughter Letitia a circuit, of which New Castle was the centre, of fifteen miles round, which he called Letitia Manor; and it is that which gives the singular appearance to the boundary line; it was originally designed to be a portion of Pennsylvania.

HERMITAGE TOMB.—The editor of the Detroit Free Press, who recently made an excursion to the residence at Gen. Jackson, thus describes the family vault: "One of the most interesting scenes about the Hermitage, and one eminently characteristic of its distinguished occupant, is the monument erected by Gen. Jackson in his garden to the memory of his deceased wife. The whole, from top to base, is built of marble. First, there is a vault of circular form, twelve or fifteen feet in diameter. In the centre stands a pedestal of square hewn marble, six or eight feet high, and the whole is surrounded and sheltered by a marble roof. In the vault, on one side of the pedestal, are the remains of his wife, covered with a marble slab, on which is engraved a sublime description of her worth and virtues. On the other side is a place prepared for his own remains, which is also covered with a marble slab, and on which there is yet no inscription."

A SHREWD YANKEE.—The New York Sun relates the following anecdote of a shrewd Yankee: "Some time ago the steamboats running between this city and Hartford carried passengers for \$2.50, and charged nothing extra for berths, excepting on Saturday nights, when an additional half dollar was demanded for this accommodation. A live Yankee took passage at Hartford on Saturday afternoon, paying the usual sum of two and a half dollars for his ticket; and at an early hour in the evening he was observed sitting in the cabin, with his back against a post, fast asleep. He continued in this position until twelve o'clock, when he awoke, stretched himself, gave a yawn, pulled off his boots and "turned in" to the best berth he could find. As he had not taken possession of it until Sunday morning he of course, had no "extras" to pay; and as he had been "broken of his rest" in the early part of the night, he was, of course, justifiable in making up for lost time in the morning. So he snoozed away until ten o'clock, much to the dissatisfaction of the chambermaid, and then took his departure, telling the captain he had "never made a half a dollar so easy afore in all his born days."

APPLE BREAD.—A Frenchman has succeeded in making bread—one third pressed apple, and two thirds flour.

Two young men were heard saying—Bill—who is Jas. K. Polk? Sam—He is an eminent lawyer. No; I'll be darned if he aint a brick-maker, for he has used up all the Clay in Kentucky.



THE AMERICAN.

Saturday, Nov. 16, 1844.

V. B. F. L. M. E. L., Esq., at his Real Estate and Coal Office, No. 59 Pine Street, Philadelphia, is authorized to act as Agent, and receipt for all monies due this office, for subscription or advertising.

LITTLE'S LIVING AGE.—The last number of this excellent periodical is filled, as usual, with a great variety of useful and entertaining matter, extracted from the best periodicals of the age.

SABBATH.—The Reading Rail Road Company have resolved to discontinue travelling on the Sabbath on the road, after the expiration of this month.

CONTEMPTIBLE HOAX.—The Danville Democrat of Friday, the 8th inst., contained a statement of a great fire that occurred in this place on the day previous, in which it was said that the whole block of buildings, from the State House corner to the store of H. S. Masser, was consumed. The fire, it was said, originated in the kitchen of Mr. Wharton's Hotel. It is needless to say that the whole was a base fabrication, and that there was no grounds, whatever, for such a report. The editor of the "Democrat" has since informed us that Washington Gearhart, a boy of about 14, from this place, brought the report to Danville, and after repeated questions by a number of persons, and with a knowledge that it would be published, insisted upon the truth of the story. The editor was, of course, very indignant on account of the imposture practised upon himself and the public, and felt determined, if the law would reach the case, to have it enforced. Of all the species of lying, we know of none more base and contemptible, and which deserves severer punishment.

Mr. Polk—the Tariff.

Now, as the election of James K. Polk is conceded, there have already been numerous predictions, foreboding ruin and disaster to the country. We know there are many of our political opponents who sincerely thought, and still think, that on Mr. Clay's election depended the prosperity of the people. That his defeat would bring with it ruin and destruction to all our great manufacturing interests. Such reasoning is altogether premature, and calculated to do no good. Mr. Polk, it is true, has not been so closely identified with the manufacturing interests as Mr. Clay, but it must be recollected that he has been sustained, and nobly sustained in this State, under many adverse circumstances, with full confidence that he would sustain the manufacturing as well as other interests of the state, according to the promise every where made by his own personal and influential friends. Mr. Polk is a man of high character and spotless integrity. He therefore, cannot, and we think will not, basely betray those who have placed their confidence in him. He will recollect that without Pennsylvania he could never have been elected. That the people of Pennsylvania are almost unanimous in favor of a tariff, affording protection to their manufactures.—That it was with a firm belief that he would foster these interests, as they had been assured by himself and his friends, that they gave him their support. To betray them now would be worse than Arnold's Treason. These we know to be the feelings of almost the entire democracy of this section of the State, and we might say of the whole State. The four counties of Northumberland, Columbia, Schuylkill and Luzerne, gave him a majority of 4,681. These counties possess almost boundless wealth in their coal and iron, and are, therefore, deeply interested in the tariff. They have given this large vote under the most positive assurance that their great interests would be protected, and would be to the man who should attempt to betray them. But we have already stated that Mr. Polk is a man of high character and standing, and should not rashly be judged or suspected of betraying those who had generously supported him. Should he do so, we will be among the first to denounce him.

DANIEL WEBSTER, a few days since, attended a large political meeting at Faneuil Hall, Boston. He acknowledged that the whigs had lost their game, but requested them to keep up their courage and remain true to their principles. Mr. Webster plainly intimated that Pennsylvania and New York had been carried mainly by the aid of foreign votes, and expressed his determination to go in for a reform and revision of the naturalization laws at once. He was loudly cheered by the meeting. Mr. Webster will probably become the candidate of the Native Americans, although Gen. Scott is already in the field, as the candidate selected by some of the members of that party.

The Abolition vote in New York exceeds 15,000, in Ohio it is about 10,000, in Massachusetts nearly 11,000, and in Pennsylvania 2,700. The Abolitionists hold the balance of power in the first three States, which cast 71 electoral votes, and come near it in our own.

The following was handed to us by a young lady. After the excitement of the election has subsided, it will probably be a relief to resort to solutions of problems of this kind— Before a circle let appear Twice twenty-five, and five in rear; One-fifth of eight affix, and then You'll quickly find what conquers men.

ELECTION RETURNS.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

Pennsylvania—Official.

The Democratic Union says:—We have compiled, from various sources, the official vote for President in every county of the State, except M'Kean, where we give the reported majority. A comparison with the returns made to the Department of State proves their correctness. It will be observed that the whole vote cast in the State is, 328,108

Whole vote in 1840, 287,695 Increase in four years, 40,413 Assuming the reported majority in M'Kean to be correct, the majority for POLK and DALLAS in Pennsylvania is precisely

Table showing election returns for Pennsylvania by county, including columns for 1840 and 1841, and names of candidates like Adams, Allegheny, Armstrong, etc.

Majorities. 343 6,382

NEW YORK.—The Empire State has gone for Polk by a majority of about 6,000. Silas Wright has been elected Governor by a majority of about 10,000.

VIRGINIA.—The "Old Dominion" has given Polk a majority of over 1,000, being an increase of about 2,500 over Van Buren's vote in 1840.

MARYLAND has given her electoral vote for Clay by a majority of 3,283. Pratt's majority for Governor, was 548. Harrison's majority, in 1840, was 1,776.

CONNECTICUT has also gone, as usual, for the whigs. Clay's majority, 3,352. Harrison's majority in 1840, was 6,331.

RHODE ISLAND.—This is the only state in the Union which has given an increased whig vote since 1840. Clay's majority is 2,502. Harrison's majority, in 1840, was 1977. Clay's increase over Harrison, 525.

KENTUCKY.—This State, the home of Mr. Clay, has gone for him by a majority of about 10,000.

MICHIGAN.—The returns from this State show that this young giant of the West has given a majority of between 4,000 and 6,000 for Polk.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—This State has gone almost unanimously for the democrats. The electors for President, in this State, are elected by the Legislature. The result of the recent election in this State for Congressmen and members of the State Legislature, is as follows—

Democrats. Whigs. Senate, 42 60 House, 124 60 166 dem. maj on jt ballot

NORTH CAROLINA.—"Old Rip" it seems has not yet quite waked up. Clay's majority in this State is about 4,000. Whig majority in 1840 for Governor was 3,153.

NEW JERSEY.—This State has given her vote to Clay by a majority of 783. Harrison had 2,317.

GEORGIA.—This was considered one of the doubtful States. She has given her electoral vote for Polk, by about 1,800. Harrison's majority in 1840 was 8,340.

INDIANA.—This State, which was also one of the doubtful, has gone for Polk, by a small majority.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—Has given Polk a majority of about 10,000 over Clay, and about 6,500 over whigs and abolitionists.

MASSACHUSETTS has given Clay a majority of 14,572, over Polk. Birney's vote was 10,800. Clay's majority over both, 3,772. The whigs have elected all of the 10 members of Congress, being a gain of two. In the Senate the whigs have elected all. In the House the whig majority is 122.

MAINE.—About 40 towns have been heard from which show an increased democratic vote, since September last. The State will give Polk at least 6,000 majority.

DELAWARE.—This little State has gone for Clay, by a majority of about 500.

ILLINOIS.—One county (Cook) has been heard from. The majority for Polk, in the State, will be from 5,000 to 10,000.

TENNESSEE.—In fifteen counties heard from, Polk has a gain of 1,075 votes over his own vote in 1840, when Jones beat him for Governor by a majority of 3,833. There are 68 counties in the State. At this rate of increase the State must have gone for Polk.

LOUISIANA.—The City of New Orleans gives a small increase for Clay.

BETTING.—It has been estimated that not less than eight or ten millions of dollars have been bet on the recent elections in the U. States. This kind of gambling is carried to a fearful extent, and is fraught with consequences of greater evil than is generally supposed. In point of morality, it is no better than gaming with cards, dice, or horse-racing. In its consequences it is much more dangerous and injurious, as it has a tendency to impair the elective franchise, by a resort to bribery, corruption, and other fraudulent means. It is impossible to put a stop to this kind of political gambling by legislative enactments. It only remains for the moral sense of the community to discourage this vice, by placing it, in point of respectability, in the same grade with other games of hazard.

Presidential Election.

The following is probably a fair estimate of what the result will be.

Table showing estimated electoral votes for Polk and Clay across various states like Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, South Carolina, etc.

Polk, Certain. Clay, Certain. Pennsylvania, 26 Ohio, 23 New Hampshire, 6 Connecticut, 6 South Carolina, 9 Rhode Island, 4 Virginia, 17 Maryland, 8 New York, 36 New Jersey, 7 Georgia, 10 North Carolina, 11 Michigan, 5 Kentucky, 12 Indiana, 12 Delaware, 3 Massachusetts, 12 Total, 121 86

REURNS TO COME IN. Polk claims. Clay Claims. Illinois, 9 Vermont, 6 Arkansas, 3 Louisiana, 6 Missouri, 7 Tennessee, (doubt.) 13 Maine, 9 Alabama, 9 Mississippi, 6 Total, 43 25

The following exhibits an estimate of the probable majorities given to Messrs. Polk and Clay, so far as heard from.

Table showing probable majorities for Polk and Clay in states like New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, etc.

Vote for James G. Birney, the Abolition Candidate for President.

Table showing electoral votes for James G. Birney across various states like Adams, Allegheny, Armstrong, etc.

POLITICAL COMPLEXION OF THE U. S. SENATE.—The Journal of Commerce thus estimates the present and probable position of parties in the U. S. Senate—

Table showing Whigs and Democrats in the Senate, including columns for Hold over, New Senators already elected, etc.

Certain to be elected from the political complexion of the Legislature already chosen.

There is also a Senator to be elected in Virginia, whose Legislature nominally contains a Whig majority of two members; another in Delaware, and a third in Michigan. In the last mentioned State the Whigs have not the least chance. Therefore, in order to retain a majority in the Senate, they must elect the Senator from Virginia, and the Senator from Delaware.

As to the last, the result will be known in a day or two. The Legislature, upon whom the election of a U. S. Senator will devolve, was chosen last Tuesday.

Unless the Whigs get both of these Senators there will be in effect a Democratic majority, as the Vice President of the United States is, ex-officio, President of the Senate, and has the casting vote.

F. J. Lemoyne, the abolition candidate for Governor in Pennsylvania, received 2,675 votes.

Buffalo, which gave a majority of 312 for Harrison, has now given 60 for Polk.

ANTI-SLAVERY PARTY IN A SLAVE STATE.—The Liberty Party have an organization in Virginia, and at the late election polled a considerable vote in a few counties.

APPOINTMENT BY THE GOVERNOR.—Governor Porter has appointed Luther Kidder, Esq., late Senator from Luzerne District, Judge of Schuylkill District.

THE CANAL NAVIGATION.—The announcement of the Harrisburg Argus that the navigation will close on the 15th inst. is incorrect, as appears by the following letter from the Collector of the Columbia and Philadelphia Railway to the Philadelphia Ledger:

"MESSRS. EDITORS.—In your paper of Saturday last you copied from the Harrisburg Argus, that the freight and packet boats are to be taken off the Pennsylvania Canal, on the 15th inst., and that the navigation will then close.

This is an error, the arrangement of the packet line is made to stop at that time. The navigation will be left open for freight as long as the weather will permit. Please notice this fact. JOHN J. CASH, Collector, C. & P. R. Office, Philada., Nov. 11th, 1844.

MAIN LINE.—The Commissioners for the sale of stock in the Pennsylvania Canal and Railroad Company, agreeably to the act of the last Legislature, met at the Exchange, Philadelphia, on Monday last, and fixed upon the 20th of January, 1845, as the day for exposing said stock for sale.

NATIVE BORN CITIZENS.—In the Court of Chancery, New York, on Monday, Assistant Vice Chancellor Sandford decided in the case of B. Lynch vs. J. Clark and Julia Lynch, that a child born in this country, of alien parents, is a citizen of the United States. The rule applies equally where the parents are here temporarily, as when they come here for a permanent residence. The children of foreign ambassadors are an exception.

QUICK TRAVELLING.—The Locomotive Express which conveyed the election news from New York to Philadelphia, on Wednesday week, by the Camden and Amboy Railroad, ran 65 miles in one hour and fifty minutes.

The Louisville Democrat intimates that five women of the town, dressed in male attire, voted at the late election.

MEXICAN INDEMNITY.—The New York papers say that 200,000 Mexican dollars are daily expected there, part of the Mexican indemnification money.

SUGAR CROP.—The present year's crop of sugar in Louisiana, it is estimated, will reach 150,000 or 200,000 hogsheds.

AN EXTENSIVE ORCHARD.—Mr. Pell, of Ulster County, New York, has an orchard of twenty thousand trees, bearing the Newton pippin.

MORE BU. GUNS.—Some large guns for the U. S. Government have just been furnished at Ulsterburg. They weigh five tons.

MR. VAN RENSSLAER, who has had a difficulty with his tenants in New York, it is said is about to make his residence in Pennsylvania, in order that he may bring a suit against the State of New York, in the United States Supreme Court, to compel that State to have its laws executed against these tenants who resist his right. His place of residence, it is understood, will be in Bristol.

HEALTH OF LOUIS PHILIPPE.—The Revue de Paris asserts that the health of the King is in a very precarious state.

CORNSTALK SUGAR.—Mr. John Beal, of New Harmony, Indiana, has made three hundred and ninety-five pounds of good sugar this season from the cornstalks that grew on three quarters of an acre. This is at the rate of five hundred pounds per acre. His plan is thus briefly noticed in the Cleveland Herald: "When the ears begin to form they are pulled off. When the leaves are dead, about half way up the stalk is stripped of leaves, cut up at the root, the top cut off, and then ground in a sugar mill. Twenty stalks will yield about one pound and a half, and this three fourths is ground sugar. Mr. B. made eighty pounds in a day, with a simple apparatus of his own construction. Five hundred pounds at four cents per pound is \$20 per acre. It would have produced, say fifty bushels of corn, at 25 cents, or \$12.50."

Lard oil is made in Cincinnati in twenty-two establishments, which manufacture an aggregate of six hundred thousand gallons per annum, value at fifty cents, nearly one third of a million of dollars. The value of the stearine and other residuum, must be at least as much more.

Oranges were the staple of Florida province to 1835, and some trees were known to be one hundred and fifty years old; but one night in the month of February of that year, a severe frost killed them all, since which this profitable tree has been lost.

FARMER'S PROFITS.—In middle Tennessee you can buy as much corn as you want at 10 cents per bushel, or 70 cents per barrel, and dull at that. You can buy butter at 5 cents per pound; chickens at 12 1-2 cts. per pair; fine turkeys at 25 cts.

THE OLDEST HORSE IN THE UNION.—Mr. Mauran, of 72 Wall street, New York, owns a horse that is forty-two years old, he drives him from Staten Island, almost daily, and he can travel a mile in less than four minutes.

Some villains blew up the Iron Safe of Mr. Thomas Gilpin, Merchant of Cincinnati, on the night of the 6th, by the application of powder into the key-hole. The safe was demolished, and considerable damage done to the store, but the villains got no money.

A London directory shows a large number of streets having the same name. For example, there are 28 King streets, 20 Queen streets, 36 Charles streets, 25 Church streets, 23 John streets, 3 Water lanes, 2 Water streets, &c.

The London Times contains, on an average, eight hundred new advertisements per day. The English are an advertising people—they know it pays.

The Mobile Herald states that it is impossible to rent a house in that city with sufficient accommodations for a large family. The city is growing rapidly.

It is said that Messrs. Lovell & Marshall have already expended 15,000 dollars in the attempt to raise the wreck of the Missouri, at Gibraltar. They still hope to be successful.

In 1773 the first stage coaches were established between Philadelphia and New York, going through in two days, with a fare of \$4 for each passenger.

MORE OF ITS EFFECTS.—Mr. Addison Davis, in a letter to the editor of the Essex County Washingtonian, says that twenty-six persons are now in the Insane Asylum at Brattleborough, Vt., in consequence of insanity produced by the influence of Millerism.

DEFENDING HIMSELF.—Joshua V. Himes, the Second Advent lecturer, has appeared in the columns of the Boston Post with a defence against the numerous statements put forth, calculated to inflict injury upon his character. His character as a prophet is certainly below par.

There are 13 newspapers published at present in Wisconsin territory—5 whig, 6 democrats, 1 abolition and 1 neutral. This speaks well for the future prospects of this rich and fertile territory.

The Autocrat of Russia has decreed the transportation in a body of 150,000 Jews. He has conceived this plan—he has announced it—and his sentence of death must be executed. Neither supplication nor the interest of his subjects will be able to suspend his infamous command. The will of one man disposes of the lives and fortunes of 150,000 of his fellow creatures.

SALE OF A CHURCH LIVING.—Yesterday the sale by auction of the important church preferment, consisting of the advowson, the next presentation to St. Neots, Suffolk, took place at the Auction Mart. It was described as being worth twelve years' purchase, at the sum of 8,000l. The annual income was stated to be, after deducting 132l. 6s. 8d. for poor rates, &c., 710l., in addition to which the glebe comprised 43 acres, 2 rods, and 30 perches of excellent land, with a parsonage house. The real income derived from the commutation, value of the glebe land, and surplus fees was derived as follows—from tithes, 780l. 10s., glebe land 80l., and surplus fees 20l., which were subject to the deductions above stated. The living is situated about nine miles from the market town of Bury of St. Edmund's and five from Stowmarket, and is known in the immediate locality, as 'Rattlesden.' The number of acres is about 3,200, and the Rev. James Baker, who is 75 years of age, is the incumbent. The property was put at 5,000 guineas, and after an animated competition, was knocked down at 6,000 guineas.—London Sun.