THE BEDFORD GAZETTE.

Bedford, Aug. 31, 1855.

G. W. Bowman, Editor and Proprietor.

Democracic Candidate for Canal Commissioner,

HON. ARNOLD PLUMER,

OF VENANGO COUNTY.

DEMOCRATIC COUNTY MEETING.

☞The Democracy of BEDFORD County will hold a

Grand Mass Meeting

in the Court-House in the Borough of Bedford on MONDAY EVENING of the approaching County Court for the purpose of nominating a Ticket to be supported at the next election, and to adopt such measures as may be deemed necessary to secure its triumphant success at the Polls. As there will be no amalgamation in the formation of this Ticket—no bowing of the knee to any principle not recognized in the creed of JEFFERSON, JACKSON, POLK and PIERCE, it is earnestly hoped that every man who still adheres to these glorious old land-marks will be present to give force and countenance to the proceedings. All who stand opposed to Know Nothingism—who repudiate the abominable acts of the late Legislature—and who desire, honestly, the triumph of DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES—are cordially invited to attend. A number of able speakers will be present to address the meeting.

THE K. N. WATCHWORD!

☞" Initiate EVERY VOTER who may " apply for admission into the Order. REJECT " NO VOTER! Be not afraid of exposure, as " it will not hurt our party. If there are some " who do not wish to go to the Council, 'put " them through' at their own homes, or at your " own house, OR ANY WHERE ELSE!"

This is the rallying cry *now* adopted by the Know Nothing *wire-workers* in Bedford, at the *head* of whom stands the man who gave the casting-vote in favor of the "JUG LAW," the *Hon.* F. R. Jordan. "*Initiate every voter,*" whether *Catholic Priest, Irishman, Scotchman, Dutchman, Frenchman, Englishman, Mexican, Hessian*, or any body else, so that he has a *vote!* As infamous as is the proposition, it can't "hurt our (K. N.) Party." If the *Constitution* had not prevented them last winter from conferring upon colored persons all the rights of citizenship, they would also call for the initiation of this class of people into their Lodges, on the ground that no species of degradation "can hurt their party." No matter what the *character* of the voter—whether Christian, Mormon, Infidel, Debauchee—no matter where he was born, or to *whom he owes allegiance*—if he only enjoys the right to *vote*, "put him through," regardless of *Exposure*—"at their own homes," "at your own house," or, to carry out the figure, in a *barn, cow stable, privy, sheep stye, doggery, gambling room*, "or any where else!"

Heretofore, the watchword has been, "*None but Americans on Guard!*" Now, put any body on Guard so that he takes an *Oath* to support the *leaders* of this dark-lantern Order for office!—the plain meaning of the above quotation!

Last August the motto was, "*Down with all Catholics: all Irishmen; all Germans; all grades of FOREIGNERS!* Now this class of people are invited into *full fellowship*, provided they have votes, and will *swear* eternal hostility to the Democratic Party. And this is the company in which the *Christian Advocate*, the *Lutheran Observer*, and certain *Ministers* and *official members* in Churches find themselves, who entered into a defence of the order with the avowed *charitable* intention of crushing, by *an arm of flesh*, all who dared to worship at a Catholic altar. *What a Communion!*

We venture to assert, that in the political history of the world there cannot be found so mean, so dirty, so infamous an appeal to white freemen as the above, and we think our honest *Farmers, Mechanics, and Working Men*, will recoil, as they would from a pestilence, from either uniting with, or remaining in an organization which thus proclaims its own disgrace.

For a free white man to be threatened to be dogged to his house, his stable, his field, "or any other place," to be "put through" by some sneaking know nothing night owl, who has taken upon himself the right to administer oaths, is so degrading to common decency, that no man could believe it, did he not see the record with his own eyes.

It is now evident that the *leaders* of Know Nothingism would invest the 'POPE of ROME' with Supreme Power in this country, were he mean enough to join them, and had the offices and the patronage of the Government at his disposal.

The time has arrived for independent FREEMEN to assert their rights in a bold, open, and fearless manner; and we trust we shall have such a meeting on next Monday evening as will satisfy the public that the good citizens of Bedford county are determined to do their whole duty on the 2d Tuesday of October next.

K. N. BLASPHEMY!

☞The Frederick Citizen says that a Mr. Steel, of Virginia, the great orator of a K. N. Demonstration made in that place recently, in speaking of those members of the order who became ashamed of their association, and left the dark lanternites in time to vote for HENRY A. WISE for Governor, denounced them in the following blasphemous terms:

"*They are a doubly damned, deeply dyed, hell-begotten, God-forsaken, hydra headed, triple tongued, cloven footed, set of perjured traitors, whom if the earth were the fulcrum, and the heavens the lever, almighty power could not in a thousand years raise to the common level of culprits.*"

And these are the kind of men who *head* a party which desires to take *Religion* into its especial keeping!!

Wm. B. Sipes, late an *attache* of the *Penna. Patriot* office, has been appointed to a clerkship in the Harrisburg Post Office.

Prohibitory Liquor Law in New York.

☞The Judges of the Supreme Court of the second Judicial District of New York have declared the Liquor Law passed by the K. N. Legislature of that State, last winter, "as repugnant to the provisions of the Constitution for the protection of liberty and property, and absolutely void. Judge Brown maintains that intoxicating liquors are property in the fullest sense; that the Legislature cannot alter their nature, and cannot, therefore, forbid their sale. The Legislature cannot declare liquor to be a nuisance. The right to import conveys the right to sell.

The *Temperance* question has been run into the ground by old *hacks* and *political ministers*, who, for the last few years, have been making this subject a one idea "*hobby*," and the cause is in a worse condition now than it was twenty years ago. The "JUG LAW" passed by the Pennsylvania K. N. Legislature, and the law passed by the K. N. Legislature in Massachusetts, rendering a man liable to a fine of $200 and imprisonment in the County jail for one year for making either cider or currant wine, is alarming evidence of the disgraceful extent to which those political *tricksters* have carried the matter.

The People Insulted!

☞ WILLIAM F. JOHNSTON, and twelve other old worn out *hacks*, embodying all the elements of *political iniquity*, appear before the public in an address in which they declare that they stand "*opposed to the corruption and debasement of OLD political parties*" and ask the people to follow them in another abolition crusade, now that Know Nothingism has had its day! The ex-Governor and his twelve associates denounce the action of the National K. N. Convention (on the slavery question,) which met in Philadelphia in June last, in the following terms:

"It stultifies and degrades us before the people; and, more than this, it *pledges* us to do what we *know to be wrong*, and to omit doing what we *know to be right*. Were we to obey the command, we should gain no more elections—nor should we deserve to gain them"

This is the declaration of Wm. F. Johnston over his own signature. Now, we ask the people to remember that the Know Nothings of BEDFORD COUNTY, a few weeks since, met in Convention in Bedford, and passed resolutions solemnly endorsing that very portion of the K. N. National Convention thus denounced by JOHNSTON and his confederates, consequently, in his estimation they stand branded as stultified and degraded—as pledged to do what they know to be wrong, and to omit doing what they know to be right—as unworthy to gain any more elections! This is no fancy sketch—but the sentiments deliberately uttered by two wings of a party professing to work in the same harness.

Freemen of Bedford County, how do you like the association? BILL JOHNSTON opposed to the corruptions of OLD political parties! Rich, truly. He certainly looks upon the people as fools.

☞We learn from the Beaver *Star* of last Friday that THOS. J. POWER, Gov. Pollock's especial *pet*, was badly defeated in the K. N. Convention of that County on the 23d inst. for a seat in the Legislature, only having received 11 out of 42 votes! The Star says it is gratifying to find *renegade* Democrats thus rewarded by their new allies. The name of Governor Pollock is about the poorest endorsement that any office-seeking politician could lay hold of. His administration is as stupid as a toad, and as insipid as a crab apple—despised by Democrats, and *ridiculed* by those who brought it into power.

☞We are indebted to Hon. S. L. RUSSELL for valuable Public Documents. We are sorry that Mr. R. is not yet in Congress instead of Mr. Robinson, for his course there indicated that of an upright man and an honorable politician. Although a uniform and consistent Whig, he has never bowed the knee to the dark spirit of Know Nothingism, but proclaims his opposition to the Order as boldly as any other man in the State. His vote in Congress, on this subject, when Know Nothingism was at its highest pitch, proved his devotion to the country and the Constitution. There are many Whigs in Bedford County, who feel proud to follow the example he has set them.

A New Religion.

"Brothers, let us have American liberty and American religion."—*Speech of Hon. K. Rayner, in Know-Nothing Convention.*

The religion of Christ used to be considered good enough for Americans, although it *did* originate in a foreign land. But that was when people were simple enough to credit its teachings, and believed that something good could come even out of Nazareth.—A new religion, it seems, is now wanted, to keep pace with the new lights of Know Nothingism. If it is to be purely American, though, it must be either Mormonism or Millerism; for these are the only religions of American growth that we know of.—Which one our K. N. brethren will choose, is yet uncertain. But, certainly, by all means, let them have "an American religion"—for there is nothing in the Christian religion which sanctions their proscriptive and intolerant purposes.

"Let us in Pennsylvania, manage our *local* and *State* politics as the interests of the locality and the State may require."—*Extract from Bill Johnston's Address, Aug.* 10, 1855.

Why not, then, allow the Southern States the same right? Whilst Know Nothingism desires to rule Pennsylvania according to its narrow and contracted views, it also wants to rule the *local* affairs of States thousands of miles away from us. Very patriotic in Old Bill, of bar-room memory!!

Casting Up the Vote.—The recent elections are a good index of what will be the result in the Presidential battle of 1856. Let us see how the account stands in electoral votes. The Democrats have carried the following States:

	Majority.	No. of Electors
Tennessee,	2,000	12
Virginia,	10,000	15
North Carolina,	9,000	10
Alabama,	10,000	9
Texas,	4,000	4
	34,000	50

Kentucky has gone Know-Nothing by about four thousand majority. She has twelve electoral votes. Thus far in 1855 the Democracy have beat their opponents more than four to one.

The Bedford Gazette

☞Was established by Charles McDowell, Esq. on the 21st day of September, A. D. 1805, consequently on the 21st day of September next, it will have reached its 50th year, having never changed hands but once since the first No. was issued. It has entered upon the 24th volume under its present Proprietor.

Washington Union.

☞The Washington Union was never conducted with so much ability as at present. Its editorials are written with a degree of power, eloquence, and truth, such as never emanated from that city before. Every Democrat in the Nation must feel proud of this great democratic organ located at the National seat of Government.

☞The Democrats of Old Northampton met in Easton, in Mass Meeting, on last Monday, week—which the Argus represents as the largest August meeting ever held in that place. The following, among other resolutions, were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the conduct of the last Legislature in passing the odious "Jug Law" in opposition to the expressed will of the people, was an unwarrantable assumption of power, which cannot be too severely censured and condemned. That we disapprove of all laws which tend to abridge or interfere with the private rights of man, and deny the right of any Legislature to force upon their constituents a law which they had rejected at the ballot box as unsuited to the wants and wishes of a free people.

Resolved, That we regard with bitter contempt the passage of the act of our last Know-Nothing legislature, the increasing of the members pay from $300 to $500—abolishing the tonnage tax on the Pennsylvania Railroad, by which the State loss is increased to $250,000, and for the creation of Banks and shaving shops, all of which were approved by Gov. Pollock—and that we know it will surely receive the condemnation of the tax payers of Pennsylvania.

A WORD IN SEASON.

☞The following PLEDGE, or something similar, is being exacted from each member composing the Democratic Delegate Conventions in Pennsylvania—and will be applied to the Convention which will be chosen on next Monday evening to make the nominations for Bedford county. The Pledge which will be exacted from the candidates will be similar to that given by the York county candidates, which will be found on the first page:

"The undersigned having been regularly chosen as Delegates to the Democratic County Convention, do hereby voluntarily declare that we belong to no secret or public political organization, other than the Democratic party—that we have no connection with the so called "Know-Nothings" and do not intend to have; and we further express it as our deliberate opinion that any man who will sign this Declaration, who, at the same time is a member of that order, is unworthy public confidence and deserves the scorn and contempt of every honorable man in the community."

DEATH OF AN OLD CITIZEN.—We are pained to chronicle the demise of one of our oldest citizens, GEORGE B. SPANG, Esq., at the advanced age of nearly 79 years, who died at his residence on Monday morning last.

Mr. S. resided at his late place of residence for upwards of thirty years, and few people in the county are so well and favorably known to all classes of the community as he was. For the last ten or fifteen years he had retired from active business life, although apparently hale and hearty—so that we almost looked upon him as a relic of a past generation.

Last spring it may be remembered, that his house was burned down, and with it the old familiar objects that he had so long looked upon that they had almost become household gods. The blow was a severe one, and the prediction, made at the time, that he would not survive the catastrophe, has been verified.

He was buried on the Thursday following on a rising knoll on the northern part of his farm followed to his last resting place by a large train of mourning friends, and acquaintances. He lived nine years over the time allotted to man, and passed to eternity like an infant falls to sleep. Peace to his manes. He died without an enemy, and in the full hope of a blissful immortality.—*Hollidaysburg Standard.*

☞The Washington Union publishes the Fulton county resolutions passed at the late Democratic meeting, quite a compliment to their author, JAMES B. SANSOM, Esq. editor of the Democrat.

☞Our friend TRAVER, editor of the Hollidaysburg Standard, one of the very best papers in Pennsylvania, analizes the present Know Nothing Ticket (selected in the midnight Order for Blair county) in a manner which cannot fail to prove interesting to the people at large; and, therefore, we take great pleasure in laying his eloquent and forcible comments before the people of Bedford county, which are as follows:

KNOW NOTHING NOMINATIONS.

The die is cast—the ordeal is past—and the country is safe! The Blair County Know Nothing Nominations are made, although not yet officially announced. The patient patriots, who are so anxious to rule America, have, after much fighting and wrangling, and totally disregarding the injunction of the National Council, that the "office should seek the man, and not the man the office," selected the following piebald ticket. The pure and disinterested patriotism of these Pope-fighters is sufficient to make a horse grin:—

For Assembly—JOHN M. GIBBONEY.
" Prothonotary—JOSEPH BALDRIDGE.
" Sheriff—GEORGE PORT.
" Associate Judges—SAMUEL DEAN, JOHN PENN JONES.
" Commissioner—JAMES HUTCHINSON.

There you have it—all pure patriots, fresh from the ranks of the—Know Nothings!

John M. Gibboney is an old broken down politician, who has spent about twenty years of his life in the "wild-hunt after office." Up to last summer he professed to be a Democrat, and has been a standing candidate for every office within the gift of the party.—In 1846 he was appointed Register and Recorder by Gov. Shunk, on the formation of the new county.—Subsequently he wormed himself into numerous petty offices—made several unsuccessful attempts to get appointments from the Canal Board—until the election of President Pierce, when he received the Duncansville Post Office. It was ascertained last Summer, that, for the promise of something more lucrative, he had joined the K. N's, and the Democrats of that place had him removed. At the time of his removal he declared over his own signature that he was no Know Nothing, and had been sacrificed in consequence of his devotion to the temperance cause!—What kind of a Representative would a man make who could be guilty of such a wilful falsehood?—Is he likely to be an improvement on the cattle purchased by Simon Cameron last winter? It is a notorious fact that John M. Gibboney is not qualified for the office, and we have less faith in his integrity than we have in that of any old broken-down office-hunter we know of. It will be a bitter pill for some of the old Whigs to be forced to swallow this ancient enemy; but the oaths are recorded, and it must be done.

Joseph Baldridge has the nomination for Prothonotary. Against Baldridge we have little to say, further than that his nomination is another brand of the lie on Know Nothing professions, because he is not *fresh* from the ranks of the people. He was postmaster in this place from 1819 to 1831, and since then he has been the Prothonotary in fact, in place of McNeal, elected to the office. We did not think that he would have embraced the narrow bigotry of the order; but having tasted the sweets of office, where the labor is light, and the pay heavy, he is loth to quit. However, he is not yet elected, and he *may* "meet with troubles and trials on the way."

For Sheriff, Geo. Port—at least so it is said, although at the time we write this, it is alleged that the result is not summed up. Assuming that he is the candidate, we have another fine specimen of a man "fresh from the ranks of the people." He has held the offices of Constable, Assessor, Coroner, Mercantile Appraiser and Court Crier for the last nine or ten years, and has been a standing candidate for a Whig nomination for the Sheriff's office, ever since Blair has been a county. We presume he bases his claims for a nomination upon the fact that he was among the first that opened a K. N. Lodge in this place.

For Associate Judges we have Samuel Dean and John Penn Jones. The former has been a county Commissioner, and his name has been prominently before the people for office ever since the organization of the county. The latter had the County Treasury for one term, but still considers himself fresh enough from the ranks of the people to have the profits of a little side show. His great terror of sworn secret societies kept him from joining the order until he found that his political salvation or his success in the wild hunt for office compelled him to cave.—He is a *very* pure patriot—this old Antimason is.

The last man on the list is an ex-Democrat for Commissioner, which makes it a perfect Kangaroo ticket, its greatest strength being in its tail. James Hutchinson is a man of more ability than Gibboney, and a much more popular man.

It is a notorious fact, that all the men on this ticket are the supporters of the infamous JUG LAW passed by the late Legislature, as well as rank Abolitionists. If the people of Blair County are prepared to elevate to office broken-down political office-seekers so deeply tinged with the damnable heresies of Yankee fanatics, we mistake their honesty, their intelligence and their patriotism.—*Hollidaysburg Standard.*

The Tribune and the Pennsylvania Judiciary.

When a newspaper so reckless and unprincipled as the New York Tribune, speaks well of a public officer, he has good reason to suspect that there is something wrong in his conduct. When, on the contrary, that paper speaks evil of him, the intelligent and upright portion of the public at once unite in opinion that he has done something worthy of commendation. When the *Tribune* calls Judge KANE "a fanatical, reckless, passionate Judge, who blinded by rage, and impelled by hatred, is ready to make false constructions and violate rights," the public may be assured that Judge KANE has done something in support of that great Union of the States which the *Tribune* and its negro pic nic friends desire to see dissolved. When Chief Justice Lewis is called "a skulking Chief Justice," because he did not officiously volunteer an opinion on questions not necessarily arising in the case before him, all men of common sense will at once commend the prudence and sound legal propriety of the course adopted by the Chief Justice. If that eminent jurist had followed the example of the *Tribune's* favorite (Judge Culver), who attended and addressed a meeting of negroes, where sentiments of open hostility to our great Union were publicly proclaimed, and which adjourned with cheers for Passmore Williamson, he could have enjoyed the highest laudations of that degraded print. But Heaven forbid that any Pennsylvania Judge should ever so far debase himself as to receive praise from the New York *Tribune*, for officiously pre-judging questions before they arise, or criminally participating in seditious and traitorous amalgamation meetings.—Chief Justice Lewis has been the longest on the bench of any Judge now in commission in the State. He has held judicial stations under all the various changes which have taken place in our constitution, and holds his present high office by the voice of the people of his native State, who have known him all his life.—He is not officiously addicted to pre-judging questions not before him; nor has he ever been known to shrink from the faithful and fearless performance of his duty in all questions when they properly arise. If there be any trait in the judicial character of Chief Justice LEWIS which particularly distinguishes him, it is his perfect independence and fearlessness in the performance of his duty. When Judge STORY, under a mistaken view of the law, volunteered the celebrated opinion in PRIGGS vs. Pennsylvania, that the States had no right to legislate *even in affirmance of their Constitutional obligations*, to surrender fugitive slaves, Chief Justice LEWIS had the boldness to disregard that opinion and execute the Pennsylvania statute for the surrender of fugitives from labor, notwithstanding Judge STORY'S opinion, until the act was repealed by the Legislature of the State. When the Legislature passed the appraisment law, prohibiting the sale of property for the payment of debts, unless it brought two-thirds of its appraised value, Chief Justice LEWIS not only pronounced the law unconstitutional, because it impaired the obligation of contracts, but disregarded the opinion of the Supreme Court of the State in its favor, on the ground that it was a violation of the Constitution of the United States—holding that *on such a question*, he must take his rule of decision from the Supreme Court of the United States, he then being Judge of the Second Judicial district of Pennsylvania. When the Legislature and the wealth and influence of the whole State were running wild in favor of municipal subscriptions to railroads, Judge LEWIS had the firmness to meet the constitutional question boldly, and to deny the power of the legislature to impose any such burthens on the people.

Many other instances might be mentioned in the career of the Chief Justice to show that of all charges he is least liable to that of "skulking" questions legitimately brought before him. No man knows the truth of what we have said, *better than the principal proprietor of the Tribune*, although he has thought proper to promulgate this slander.—*Pennsylvanian.*

ACCIDENT.—On Monday evening last a train of trucks came down the new Portage Rail Road, accompanied by one of the State locomotives. At the Portage Iron Works, while running at a moderate rate of speed, one of the wheels in the last truck broke and a piece of the flange struck HIRAM LENTZ (one of the employees on the road) immediately on the neck and mouth. The neck was gashed frightfully, his jaw was fractured, and two or three of his teeth were knocked out. His wounds were dressed by Dr. H. T. Coffey, and he is doing well. He was setting on the hind truck at the time, and his escape from death was a narrow one.—*Hollidaysburg Standard.*

"HOW CAN I GET OUT?"—Asked the honest man who thoughtlessly entered the Know-Nothing dens. Listen! David, when persecuted of Saul, and ungratefully treated by Nabal, called God's name to witness that he would smite unto death Nabal and his household.—Abigail, Nabal's wife, went out with presents and met David, and David found that his vow was wrong and fulfilled it not; but permitted Nabal and his household to live. David was a man after God's own heart. If any righteous man yet remains in the God-forsaken Know-Nothing dens let him break his vow as did David the King, and escape from the wretched association as soon as he can.

☞Our old friend, D. WILLIAMS, Esq. Proprietor of the Latrobe Hotel, is spending a few days at the Bedford Springs, looking well, as usual. He is well known as a Rail Road Contractor.

☞CONFEREE MEETING.—The Ebensburg *Sentinel* suggests Thursday, Sept. 13, as the day for the legislative conferees to assemble in Bedford—in reply to which we would just say that that that period is entirely too late—and we must insist that the conference be held at the usual time, on Tuesday the 4th September.

THE MARKETS.

PHILADELPHIA, August 28.

The receipts of Flour are increasing, the inspections of the past week amounting to upwards 13,000 barrels. The market continues exceedingly dull, and prices favor buyers.—There is very little export demand, and the only transaction reported was 400 barrels, a straight brand, at something less than $8,75 per barrel, the exact price not made public. The sales for home consumption are limited within the range of $8 75a9 75 for common and extra brands, as in quality, and fancy lots at higher quotations. Rye Flour continues very scarce, and it is wanted at $7 25. A sale of 300 barrels Pennsylvania Corn Meal at $4 50 per barrel, at which holders are firm.

GRAIN—The demand for Wheat is limited, but prices are unchanged. Sales of 4a5000 bushels good and prime Delaware and Pennsylvania red $1 80a1 83, mostly at the former rate at which it closed dull, and white at $1 90a1 95 per bushel. A sale of 300 bushels Rye at $1 12. Corn is scarce—small sales of both yellow and white at 95 cents. Oats are unchanged—2000 bushels good Southern sold at 40 cents per bushel.

Stephens on Know-Nothingism.

The Hon. A. H. STEPHENS who is one of the ablest men of Georgia, and a distinguished Whig member of Congress, delivered recently at a dinner tendered him by the citizens of Columbia county, a most powerful appeal to his constituents, on the dangerous character of the new secret organization. After discussing at length one of the particular oaths of the order which in the face of the Constitution, imposes a religious test, Mr. Stephens proceeds:

"But I cannot dwell upon this first degree obligation. It would take an hour to expose the mischievous consequences that may be expected legitimately to flow from the practical operation of the several parts of it. Such for instance, as that which swears every member of the party, in these words:

"You will, in all political matters, so far as this order is concerned, comply with the will of the majority, though it may conflict with your own personal preference," &c.

And again:

"You will not, under any circumstances, expose the name of any member of this order, nor reveal the existence of such an association."

Mark this language—"under any circumstances." Suppose public duty should demand of a good citizen "unwittingly" drawn into it, to make known, not only the existence of such an association, but the vows of its members; would good men, with no objects, ever want such protection against exposure and discovery, as is here most solemnly provided?

But again:

"That you will answer an imperative notice issued by the proper authority; obey the command of the State Council, president or his deputy, will assemble by such notice and respond to the claim of a sign or cry of order, unless it be physically impossible."

Fellow-citizens, you who are Know-Nothings, I do not wish to say anything calculated to wound your feelings, but can you imagine anything more inconsistent with the manliness of character which should characterize freemen, than this obligation—this oath to obey the command of the president and his deputy? Suppose that command should be to raise a riot—as was the case in Cincinnati. To scatter "red paper," bloody symbols to light up civil war in the land! Ought a freeman then, in advance, to swear that he will obey the command of any man on earth? Did not a vow thus inconsiderately taken and much more inconsiderately kept by Herod, present the head of John the Baptist on a charger, and may not a similar occurrence happen again? And to respond to the claim of a sign, or cry, of the "Order" unless it be physically impossible!

Now what liberty of thought, or right of judgment is reserved to a man as a freeman, after taking, or while under such an obligation? I speak plainly, and I tell you one and all, if I had ever taken it or if I were now under it, I would not let yonder sun go down before I would throw off this restriction upon my own right of judgment—this bond upon my own free will, and this heavy yoke upon my independence as a man—unless it should be "physically impossible!" I would break the bonds as Samson did the "withes." A freeman's strength lies in his sovereign independence!

[A gentleman in the crowd—Mr. Green—interrupted, asked Mr. Stephens if he had read the admonitions given in charge, after the obligation taken just referred to by him.]

Mr. Stephens.—I have read the obligation, and the whole of it. What follows in the ceremony of initiated, I intend to read it. What the gentleman calls the admonitions comes after the 3d degree, I expect. That I will come to after a while, if my strength to speak so long will permit. This is the ceremony which follows initiation into the first degree. But one word as to the concluding part of this oath:

"Binding yourself in the penalty of excommunication from the Order, the forfeiture of all intercourse with its members, and being denounced in all the societies of the same, as a wilful traitor to your God and your country."

Now, who commissioned you, or any of you, to denounce a man as "traitor to his God or his country?" Whence is your authority derived? What Star Chamber Court, worse than Spanish Inquisition, ever gave you such power over your fellow-citizens? But what follows is in these words:

"The candidates are then invested by the Instructor with everything appertaining to the first degree, with the signs, countersigns and passwords, with the 'sign of recognition;' the 'answer,' and the 'grip,' with the means by which public notice of a meeting is given, the 'cry of distress,' the 'sign of caution;' after which the President impresses on the initiated the importance of secrecy, the manner of proceeding recommending candidates for initiation, and the responsibilitiy of the duties, which they have assumed."

A part of this, it is true, may be considered admonitory; but the most of it relates to the signs and countersigns, the passwords and the "grip," with the "sign of caution" and the "cry of distress"—all of which the new disciple, or neophyte, is given to understand he is bound to respond to, unless it be "physically impossible"—and under which if some "worthy brother" abolitionist at the North should come out here, and be taken up, and be about to be lynched, as he ought to be, he would confidently expect to be protected, if there were any members of the Order about. For the "cry of distress" must under the obligation, be responded to, "unless it be physically impossible." Is that the admonition the gentleman wanted read?

[Mr. Green again interrupted, and was understood by Mr. S. to say, if he expected to be sustained and supported by the people of Columbia county he had better make no points with him.]

Mr. S. continuing, said: My object, sir, is not to make points with you, or any other man. It is to present to the people here the principles of a party, which I think radically wrong, exceedingly mischievous and dangerous to the Republic. This I shall do, without any reference to the effect it may have upon my being sustained either by you, or by the people of Columbia county, or without any regard to the effect it may have either upon your vote or influence. I have no soft phrases or honeyed words to utter, either to gain your vote or that of others. I am on no mealy-mouthed expedition in addressing the people of this district. I shall speak respectfully, but frankly—candidly, but boldly, let the consequences be what they may. "I ask no favors, and shall shrink from no responsibility."

A man who would flatter the people to get office, would, under different circumstances, lick the dust from the foot of a monarch for the same object. As I would scorn to do the last I equally scorn to do the first. So we may just as well understand ourselves and our positions in this particular before proceeding further; and so far as my election is concerned, I do not intend to swerve the sixteenth thousandth part of a hair's breadth from my principles and my convictions of duty to get a man's vote. I am quite as independent as you are, and I think more so, for I have not sworn to comply with the will of any set of men against my own—whether you have or not is known to yourself.

Should I be elected, I shall feel not only grateful for, but gratified at, the continued confidence of the people of the District. But if by the exercise of their own free will—untrammelled, or unshackled, or even under trammels and shackles, voluntarily on their part assumed and worn, they signify at the polls a preference for another, I shall not utter a murmur.—From that independent spirit with which I was born, and with which I am this day sustained, I shall at my quiet home draw, even in defeat, more pleasure, peace and contentment, than success with all its honors could possibly afford if attended with a consciousness that they had been acquired by the slightest sacrifice of principle. I have no selfish or venal terms to offer or accept by which I shall ever hold office. Had I been base enough to enter into "stipulations," as some have reported, they know very well where I could have got it upon much better "terms" than those I choose to stand upon before you. My terms are those of an independent freeman unaided by power, unseduced by flatterry and incorruptible by the rewards of office or "the hopes thereof." If you or your party, had the world in a swing, and all its kingdoms at your disposal, and were to offer the whole of them to me, as Satan did Christ, on the condition that I should bow down and worship at your unholy shrine, I would spurn your proffered honors. This I wrote to one who professed to be a friend and who presented the temptation of silence. This I say to you—I shall never be silent when I believe my country is in danger.—No, never! If for this you strike me down, strike me down!

A FRANK ADMISSION FROM A KNOW-NOTHING ORGAN.—Prior to the late elections in Tennessee, Kentucky, and North Carolina, the Buffalo (New-York) Commercial, a leading Know-Nothing organ, made the following frank admission, which was not only uttered in sincerity, but has the merit of being founded in truth:

"If Gentry is defeated in Tennessee, and the Democrats achieve a decided success in North Carolina, the American party will no longer have an existence as a national organization.—Even if they win a signal victory in Kentucky on Monday next, it will avail them nothing, coming upon an overthrow in the States just named."

The Albany Argus of the 9th instant has the following seasonable comment on the above:

"The Buffalo Commercial used the above language in an article concerning the elections in North Carolina and Tennessee, which appeared in that paper on the 2d instant. The contingency suggested has occurred. Gentry is defeated in Tennessee, and the democrats have achieved a decided success in North Carolina—electing, in the latter State, five out of the eight members of Congress. The Buffalo Commercial is a Know-Nothing paper, and of course looks with anxiety upon the result of the summer elections. It very frankly states the importance of the struggle in Tennessee and North Carolina, and does not over-estimate the influence of a result adverse to Know-Nothingism. Following upon the heels of a defeat in Virginia, the repulse in the two former States settle the question that the order has no political strength in the South, and 'will no longer have an existence as a national organization.' The Commercial is right in its conclusion that success in Kentucky, which the Know-Nothings have probably secured, 'will avail them nothing, coming upon an overthrow in the other States just named. Know-Nothingism now disappears from the stage as a powerful political element, and the Presidential contest will be conducted uninfluenced, to any considerable extent, by this disturbing force.

"It is to be presumed that candid and intelligent members of the order, after this distinct admission by one of its leading and its ablest organs, that it 'no longer has an existence as a national organization,' will prefer to abandon its past pretensions in that respect, to regard the mission of the order as ended, and to attach themselves to such living organizations as best accord with their sympathies. Democrats, it seems to us, will not deem it wise to seperate themselves longer from their political brethren, in the expectation that this secret order will have the power to accomplish any results which they desire.'

The contingency suggested by the Buffalo Commercial has not only occured, but Alabama, too, has proclaimed in thunder tones to her sister States, that Know-Nothingism cannot have an existence as a national organization.

The Louisville Riots.

We have published every statement, no matter upon which side, which seemed calculated to shed light on the origin and character of the late deplorable riots connected with the Louisville election. These statements seem to establish beyond controversy the following points:

1. That the Mayor, Council and Police of Louisville were affiliated with the Know-Nothings, well known on all sides to desire the success of their ticket, and that the polls, inside and out, were controlled by that party.

2. That it was manifest before the election that the full vote could not be polled unless both parties cordially united in securing the utmost facilities for rapid and uninterrupted voting.

3. That the Anti-Know-Nothing organization, in view of these facts, appealed before the day of election to the Know-Nothing committees for a united and cordial effort to secure reasonable access to the polls to every legal voter; but the overture was unceremoniously repulsed.

4. That the polls were surrounded before and after they were opened by formidable bodies of the midnight Order, known to and communicating with each other by means of secret signs or pass-words, who allowed voters who had "seen Sam" to pass in, while they excluded those who could not give the required signals, but especially those whose garb or speech proclaimed them of foreign birth.

5. That this game was played so openly that it early became obvious that the votes of the great body of the adopted citizens could not be polled: and a remonstrance against it by the Hon. Wm. P. Thomasson was resented by personal violence. The Hon. William Preston, the present Whig Representative in Congress from the District and the Anti-Know-Nothing candidate for re-election, upon visiting the polls and seeing that the adopted citizens could not exercise their right if at all without subjecting themselves to violence and outrage, advised them to make no further attempt to vote, but let the election go by default.

6. That many of the adopted citizens, strongly excited by their virtual disfranchisement and indignant at the outrageous conduct of the Know-Nothings on and off the election lands, doubtless infuriated also by the liquor which flows too freely on such occasions, commenced a riot by attacks on those whom they knew or supposed to be Know-Nothings, firing into the streets and killing or wounding several persons.

7. That these riotous outbreaks were repelled by the more numerous and better armed Know-Nothings, who attacked the houses from which shots were alleged to have been fired not merely with guns but with torches, burning down whole blocks of Irish dwellings and shooting those whom the flames drove thence, until some ten or fifteen Irish and Germans were shot or roasted.

8. That the Catholic Cathedral and the offices of the Anti-Know-Nothing journals were barely saved from destruction at the hands of the armed, infuriated Know-Nothing mob by the most strenuous exertions of the Mayor and other prominent Know-Nothings—the attack on the Cathedral being stimulated by the usual falsehood that the Catholics had arms stored therein—a lie which the Mayor officially contradicted.

—We believe the foregoing embodies every fact essential to a clear understanding of the case. We forbear comment to-day, further than to say that Louisville has been the arena of many excited election contests, in which Irish and German-born citizens freely participated, but we do not remember that they were ever till now charged with exciting riots at these elections. There is doubtless reason for the fact that this was by far the most tragic and bloody election riot ever known in this country. Even the fracas that marked the outbreak of Nativism at Philadelphia in 1844 was less destructive.

When men are banded by a common agreement that a part of our voting population ought not to be entitled to the right of suffrage, it is a very natural presumption that they will endeavor to give force to this conviction.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

A BURNT OFFERING TO RELIGION.—The Louisville Times of the 9th inst., states that about 4 o'clock on the previous evening, a