

science of man to fix the tests for political preference.

But how are these strange dogmas to be carried into practical effect? It is proposed to change the Constitution and laws so as to fix a religious test for office? The very first step in such a scheme is a union of Church and State, in which a profession of the established religion will be necessary to political elevation. If one class of professing Christians be proscribed, will not another soon follow, until the infidel spirit of the country will predominate? The scene of the Sixteenth Century, in Europe, so shocking to humanity, should admonish us against the idea of persecution. Our ancestors were refugees from religious oppression. When Roger Williams, Lord Baltimore, and William Penn agreed upon terms of religious tolerance, it was the second advent of "good will to mankind." It was the greatest triumph of Christianity since the days of Constantine.

But let us look at this subject in another aspect. I hold that the Know-Nothing doctrines are illegal and unjust. We fixed the conditions upon which the people of other countries, of every religious denomination, could become citizens equal with ourselves, and their compliance binds our government and people forever. We have allowed them by our boasted declarations, that in this land of liberty each could worship God according to the dictates of his conscience, and that none should molest him or make him afraid; and thus attracted, many came from every country, Protestant and Catholic. Some have tilled the forest and cultivated the soil; others have built our railroads and canals; others have become miners, manufacturers, and mechanics; and a few have devoted themselves to the professions and the arts. In all these relations of life, they have added to the growth and general prosperity of the country. They have contributed to the treasury in peace, and have assisted us to fight in times of war. And now it is proposed to proscribe and degrade them to answer unjust and selfish ends; to disregard the covenants of the constitution. Has it never occurred to the advocates of Know-Nothingism, that we have no moral or legal right to do this? That civil rights are as sacred as the rights of property? That combinations to destroy privileges conferred by the Constitution, are as infamous as combinations to steal away goods and chattels? or that nothing can have a more fatal effect upon the advocates of civil and religious liberty in other countries, than the recognition of intolerant doctrines in this? Such a step would be a triumph of monarchy and intolerance over the world over. Do they not know that the surest way to endanger our republic, is to weaken and demoralize the Constitution, by disregarding its obligations; that it is our best means of defence against the very dangers which they pretend to dread? If they have not considered these things, they are liberal Know-Nothings. What our government has agreed to do, it must perform. If the laws wrong it is our fault, and is good reason for changing them; but as long as they exist, their obligations must be observed. Nor can "natives to the man born" take away, even by law, rights that have been conferred by the Constitution. Measures prospective in their effect, and they only, are legitimate. However much we may differ as to these, they would furnish no just cause of complaint, and involve no bad faith. Let me not be misunderstood. I am the advocate of no class or set of people. The Democratic party never has recognized, and never will sanction the demand of any class or set, as such, for office or honor. We but maintain: for the native and foreign born—the Protestant and Catholic—leaving each individual citizen to depend upon his own merits for office and honor. This is the Democratic doctrine on the subject. Every man can vote as he may please. He is not obliged to vote for a Catholic or foreigner. No man should vote for a bad man of either class. But it is the indiscriminate proscription of these classes by combination of law, to which we object. There are many reminiscences in our past history to render the idea distasteful. In all the past struggles of the country, the foreign-born and native, the Protestant and Catholic, stood or fell together. They did so when the Declaration of Independence was adopted, and when the constitution was made. They did so on every battle-field of the Revolutionary war; in the war of 1812, and in the war with Mexico. The recollection of all these things excites aversion to the proposed proscription. Every page of our past history speaks against it. From the shades of Mount Vernon, where sleep the ashes of Washington, who helped to make these covenants, comes an admonition against their violation. From the heights where Montgomery fell—from the silent resting places of the chivalrous Kosciuszko and De Kalb—is heard a remonstrance against a violation of the faith on which the battles of the Revolution were fought. Indeed, from every source of moral and political truth comes a from—an indignant frown—upon this scheme of treachery and oppression.

The evil tendencies of secret societies for mere partisan ends, are too obvious to require discussion. Washington has aptly described them as the means by which cunning men may usurp the power of the people, and gain unworthy rule. They are inconsistent with the American character. We boast of freedom of speech and liberty of the press. If evils exist, moral and political, which require reform, let us make a day-light business, and not to go about it like a thief in the night. No practice could have a more demoralizing influence upon the character of our people, nor be better calculated to corrupt the ballot box and jury box, and to embitter the channels of social and political intercourse. The whole tendency is vicious, and the institution will speedily meet what it merits—the universal contempt of all honorable and patriotic men.

And now, fellow citizens, in conclusion, I would persuade you that the surest way to perpetuate our republican government, and its inestimable blessings of peace, prosperity, and happiness, is to maintain with unyielding firmness, the letter and spirit of the Constitution; and by cherishing those liberal notions of public society which have uniformly distinguished the career of the Democratic party. And when did a people multiply and advance in the elements of national greatness with such wonderful rapidity? It is not more than the lifetime of a very old man, since the members of our family of sovereign States numbered but thirteen, and the population of the whole fell below that now counted for one of a family of thirty-one.—The end of the present century, in this ratio, will see the States doubled and the population trebled. The constitution gave us a happy union of States, and under the auspices of both the nation has so prospered; and now the obligation devolves upon us, who are actors on the stage, to perpetuate and hand these vast blessings down

to our successors. This is a grave duty, and, in my humble opinion, can only be safely discharged by asserting and maintaining the constitutional rights of the States in their sovereign capacity; by the people of one State forbearing to interfere with the institutions of another; by maintaining those great ideas of civil and religious liberty, found at the very basis of our whole social and political system; by avoiding the creation of geographical parties, so suggestive of separation; and by leaving the people of each State, under the direction of Heaven, and the restraints of the constitution, to select and regulate as they may please, those moral law institutions under which they choose to live, and for the good or evil of which they, and they only, must account. These principles and practices settled by the people of all sections of the country, and I should be confident in the belief that the future of our republic is to cover many centuries of brilliant prosperity and progress.

THE BEDFORD GAZETTE.

Bedford, May 9, 1856.

G. W. Bowman, Editor and Proprietor.

FOR PRESIDENT,
HON. JAMES BUCHANAN.

Resigned.

DAVID C. LONG, Esq., resigned the office of County Commissioner on Wednesday last, when the remaining Commissioners and the Associate Judges appointed HENRY J. BRUNER, Esq., of Cumberland Valley, to fill the vacancy. Mr. Bruner is one of our most competent citizens, and one of the best and most reliable DEMOCRATS in the county.—The vote stood—Messrs. JOHN G. HARTLEY, JOSEPH B. NOBLE, and JOHN CONRAD, for Mr. Bruner; and Wm. WHEATSTONE for GEORGE W. HOUTSHOLDEN. Mr. LONG retires with the best wishes of the people. He was an honest, capable, and conscientious man.

THE LOST CHILDREN.

\$100 REWARD.

We are authorized to state, that one hundred dollars will be paid for the recovery of the lost children of Wm. Cox, of Union Township, Bedford county, if living—and fifty dollars for any portion of their remains by which they can be identified. Up to this time, nothing has been heard of them. Hon. Wm. P. SENNED will pay the money to the finder as above stated.

Senator Bigler's Speech.
According to promise, we publish to-day the great speech made by Senator BIGLER in Connecticut a short time since, and ask for it an attentive perusal. This speech addresses itself to the reason of the people, and their good common sense will not fail to appreciate it. The truths he presents are so forcible and logical that they cannot fail to carry conviction to the minds of all who read them. We are sure the freemen of Bedford County will peruse the speech with deep interest.

LARCENY OF THE STATE ARMS.

The case of the Commonwealth vs. DRANE and COBURN, charged with the larceny of certain State arms, was tried in the Court of Dauphin County last week. There were two indictments—one for "larceny," and the other for "conspiracy to defraud the Commonwealth." The Court ruled that the first indictment was not larceny, but simply a breach of the parties were acquitted, but sentenced to pay the costs. Drane plead "guilty" to the first indictment, and "not guilty" to the second. His testimony implicated Coburn strongly. He stated to the Court and Jury, on his oath, as he had stated to his counsel, when first arrested, that he had no authority whatever from the Adjutant General to make sale of anything in the Arsenal. When Coburn was arraigned before the Mayor of Philadelphia, after the arrest and imprisonment of Drane, he acknowledged that he had bought the arms from Drane—said that he supposed he was authorized to sell—but solemnly and deliberately asserted that he had never had any conversation with the Adjutant General on the subject.—"that he did not know that Bowman was Adjutant General." The Mayor took down this testimony in his own hand, and forwarded a copy to Gov. POLLOCK. Mr. CLARK, one of the Chief of Police, was also present at the examination before the Mayor, and stated upon his oath that he had heard Coburn make these voluntary statements. This was before he had time to manufacture a platform, as the sequel proves.—For, on the trial, to the surprise of every body, he brought two men from Philadelphia to swear that he (Coburn) had met Gen. Bowman in Philadelphia last fall, on the public streets, soon after breakfast, and remarked, "General I got those arms," to which the Adjutant General replied "it is all right." He then asked the Adjutant General to take a drink, which he declined. After which the parties passed on to "Guy's," and one of these witnesses asked "what General was that?" to which Coburn replied, "General Bowman." This testimony was not only in violation of the shadow of truth, but in utter contradiction to the voluntary statement deliberately made by Coburn before the Mayor, and which, we have no doubt, was the cause of his conviction morally, by compelling him to pay the costs!

Up to the time Coburn was arrested, we had no personal knowledge of the man whatever—had never seen him to know him—had never had any conversation or correspondence with him—and, when we went to Harrisburg last winter for the purpose of attending to the prosecution of the case, we could not have pointed him out in the House, of which he was a member, if he had been offered the town of Harrisburg and all its possessions for doing so.

Gentlemen of the highest character in Harrisburg (among which was Mr. FISHER, Mr. LAUBERTON, Mr. FLEMING, District Attorney, Judge DOCK, and one of the Associate Judges on the Bench), were called upon the stand to testify to the character of Drane, and all stated that, up to the time of this transaction, he was considered as honest and upright man as there was in Harrisburg; which fully justified and sustained the present Adjutant General in appointing him to the keepership of the Arsenal. He was recommended by the best citizens in that place.

Messrs. FISHER and LAUBERTON for COBURN; Col. McALLISTER for DRANE—and Messrs. FLEMING and CASEY for Commonwealth. Judge PEARSON, the President Judge, charged the Jury with great force and clearness, in which he fully maintained the high reputation he has always enjoyed as a Lawyer of distinguished capacity, and a gentleman of peculiar dignity and courtesy. The Counsel on both sides made able and eloquent addresses, both to the Court and Jury. Mr. CASEY, who had the conclusion, certainly made one of the ablest speeches we ever heard in a Court House. He justly ranks with the first Lawyers in the State.—Mr. FLEMING, too, discharged his duty to the Commonwealth, ably, faithfully, and eloquently. The Harrisburg Court and Bar are an honor to the Judiciary of Pennsylvania.

Democratic Meeting.

Agreeably to public notice a very large and enthusiastic meeting of the Democracy of Bedford county assembled at the Court-House on last Monday evening, and organized by appointing Dr. WM. BLAIR President—John C. Black, Wm. Keyser, Maj. James Patton, Maj. Moses McIlwaine, Jesse Dicken, and Daniel Hellzell, Esqrs. Vice Presidents—and Col. F. D. Beagle, H. G. Spang, Wm. Leary, and Jacob Reed, Esquires, Secretaries.

The meeting was organized, on motion, H. G. SPANG, Esq., addressed the assemblage in a speech of great eloquence and power, occupying more than an hour in its delivery. He reasoned with that peculiar force and style which never fails to attract the serious attention of the hearer—and the cordial manner with which he was applauded, left no doubt as to the high appreciation of his argument. We know of no speaker that ever made a more favorable impression upon the people of Bedford county, and we hope to see him take the stump at many meetings between this and the next election. Mr. S. was followed by JOHN S. ROBINSON, Esq., of Fulton, Geo. W. BOWMAN, and JOHN P. REED, Esq., who concluded by submitting the following Report from the county committee, which was unanimously adopted, and which is worthy the particular attention of our friends in the country, and it is earnestly hoped the plan adopted will be fully carried out, as it cannot fail to result in the best of consequences:—

Rules adopted by the Democratic Party of Bedford County for its Government hereafter, at the Mass Meeting held in March, 1856.

1. The Democrats of each Township shall annually, upon written notice given, on the 3d Saturday of June, proceed to elect two delegates to represent the township in county Convention; also a committee of vigilance for each township of three persons to serve until others are elected, whose duty it shall be to hold all elections and perform such other duties as pertain to the office. Returns of elections to be made to the county committee.
2. The Delegates so elected shall meet in the Court-House in Bedford on Tuesday following the 3d Saturday of June of each year, and put in nomination a county ticket. They shall also elect Representative and Senatorial conferees to meet similar conferees from the proper Districts; also seven persons to compose a county committee for the ensuing year. To make REPORT of their nominations and elections to the county committee in office forthwith.
3. The county committee so elected shall organize by choosing a President, Secretary and Treasurer, and shall keep a regular record of their proceedings. It shall be their duty to call and notify meetings; to correspond and exercise advisory powers and a general supervision over the organization of the party; keep a record of the returns made by the county convention; to publish these returns in suitable form to the Township committees, and see that said committees act and notify and hold their elections.
4. There shall be two mass meetings held annually, one upon the Monday of August Court, and the other on Monday of the February Court. The meeting in August to ratify the work of the county Convention, and fill any vacancies that may occur in the county Ticket, as may be necessary, and the meeting in February shall, by a committee appointed by them, select all delegates or conferees then necessary to be appointed.

ISAAC MENGEL,
Chairman County Mass Meeting.

Attest: John P. Reed, Secretary.

The following Letter was then read, and highly applauded, after which the meeting adjourned:—

CHAMBERSBURG, April 21, 1856.

DEAR SIR:—FOR THE ABILITY AND COURAGE which among them, the generous support given me by them when a candidate for a seat in Congress, and their continued confidence and respect as manifested in the instructions to their conferees to urge my nomination again as the democratic candidate of this district for the same honorable position, I owe them a debt of gratitude which a lifetime devoted to their service would not discharge. Any request of such friends would be complied with by me if within the range of possibility; and any reasonable sacrifice would cheerfully be made by me to gratify the wishes of those who are my co-laborers in the great effort to secure permanency to our free institutions.—It always affords me great pleasure to mingle my voice, feeble as it is, with those who worship at the same political shrine at which I delight to bow.—And yet, my dear sir, I am compelled to forego the pleasure of meeting my democratic brethren of Bedford at their mass meeting on the 5th of May next. I know that they are reasonable men and will not expect me to perform impossibilities. The Supreme Court has fixed the 5th day of May as the return day of the writs of error and appeals from this county. I am concerned in six cases to be argued there, and have all my paper books to make out yet, one of which will occupy at least twenty pages of printed matter, and others nearly as many. My friends of Bedford, I am certain, would consider me unworthy of their support if I would neglect the interests of my clients at such a time. They well know that the Supreme Court will not postpone the argument of my cases to permit me to attend a political meeting, especially when it would interfere with their arrangements for other counties. I really regret this, and the more so, because I was deprived the pleasure of meeting with my Bedford friends in January last, and if an opportunity shall not be afforded me at some future day to speak to them when assembled in county meeting, I shall consider it one of the greatest political misfortunes of my life, not because I should be able to instruct them, or say any thing which they have not already heard, or which others cannot say much better than I can, but of my anxiety to encourage them, as much as in me lies, to a steady, firm, and unyielding devotion to the great principles which, in due time, if we are faithful to our trust, will conquer all opposition, and seal a thrill of joy to the heart of every son and daughter of Adam. If life and health are spared me I will address the Democrats of Bedford at their mass meeting in September next. I may at a much earlier day address them in township meetings if they desire it. If nominated I will spend as much of my time in canvassing the district as I possibly can. Will you be kind enough to read this letter to your meeting, and if any further apology for my absence is necessary, please make it for me. Accept my acknowledgments for your uniform kindness, and the interest you have always manifested for one so humble as myself.

Very respectfully,
WILSON REILY.

PICTORIAL BIBLE.

Mr. DANIEL R. ANDERSON having been appointed agent for Bedford County, for the sale of "Sears' Large Type Quarto Bible," illustrated with about one thousand engravings, notifies the public, that he is now prepared to deliver them to subscribers, and all others who desire to purchase. He has commenced travelling the County, to wait upon the people personally, so that all in want of this great work will have an opportunity to get it. And who does not want it?

BRILLIANT VICTORY!

Philadelphia Redeemed!

Dem. maj. 4,700!

Know Nothingism Defunct in Pennsylvania!
We have glorious intelligence for the Democracy of Bedford county. An election for Mayor, and all the other officers of the great city of Philadelphia, took place on last Tuesday and the result is announced in the following despatch to Hon. JOHN CESSNA, dated Chambersburg, May 7:—

"Philadelphia Election.—VAUX and whole Democratic Ticket elected by over forty-seven Hundred Majority. Clean sweep. Hurrah."

The Know Nothings carried the city two years ago by from eight to thirteen Thousand Majority! This is the last grunt of the Fillmore "American!" Know Nothings, as admitted by their great organ, the Philadelphia News, in the following emphatic paragraph:—

The Moral Effect of Victory.

Too much importance cannot be attached to the moral effect of a glorious American triumph in this City, on Tuesday. The larger Mr. Moore's majority, the more influence will that result exercise upon the fall election in the State. Which ever party carries Philadelphia now will carry the State next fall. It was two years ago, and will be so again. The Loco Focos feel the truth of this, and hence the immense exertions they are making now. Defeat now is death to their hopes. Let this fact inure our friends to renewed action. Victory is within their grasp. Let them make sure of it.—Philadelphia News, May 4.

May we not now hope that every Democrat who joined the Know Nothings will leave them at once? They are most affectionately invited to "COME HOME." And all old-line Whigs are likewise cordially invited to rally under the unsullied Flag of Democracy. We will meet you on a common platform as BROTHERS—with one provision only, which is that you meet the question without concealment. No Democrat that joined the order, can ever be recognized until he gives satisfactory assurance that he has abandoned it. Every Democrat will be expected to talk and ACT as he becomes the profession he makes, and none should be either ashamed or afraid to acknowledge his mistake. We are all liable to commit error. Some Democrats were voted for by the K. N.'s who never belonged to the organization. Of this we are now satisfied. They were taken on trust!

MISERABLE MEANNESS.

The city of Philadelphia has been disgraced by the action of her Councils in refusing the use of Independence Hall for the public reception given by our citizens to James Buchanan. The Councils, on all occasions heretofore for some years back, have never hesitated to allow the Hall to be used for receiving any eminent citizen of any political persuasion whatever.—The Hall, with their consent, has even been appropriated to the purpose of publicly receiving mere private Associations. Even Black Hawk, fresh from war upon the women and children of our frontiers, was treated to the public courtesies of the Hall. The only exception was in the case of President Jackson. That was the result of a very high party and local feeling, and is regretted by all true Whigs that now cherish that name.

James Buchanan, whatever may be his opinions of public affairs, and whatever may be his political predilections, is a gentleman in character, standing and private life—eminently, and always a gentleman—a courteous and high-toned and amiable gentleman. He is an able, and distinguished Pennsylvania. He has represented our State in both Houses of Congress and was there a peer of our first statesmen.—He has filled the chief seat in the National Cabinet, and has represented our country at two of the greatest Courts in Europe. He has just returned from an embassy, which he left amid the universal respect of Great Britain and of Europe. He has maintained with equal prudence and boldness all the interests and all the honor of the United States. At London he rendered the great metropolitan city of London tendered him her formal hospitality. On reaching this country, the great city of New York hastened to tender him her public courtesies. He comes straight home to his native Pennsylvania. But the metropolis of that Commonwealth of which James Buchanan is a most distinguished son and ornament, the Pennsylvania city of Philadelphia flatly refuses to his friends the use of Independence Hall for his public reception!

Shame, shame! Not upon the city, however, whose people without distinction of party are eager to welcome James Buchanan, whose first citizens of all shades of opinion and association have formally greeted him, and whose big heart, from river to river, swells with shame and indignation at the unparalleled meanness of her Councils. Shame upon the Know-Nothing tomits and mice who have crawled upon the top of the municipal body politic, and there vex the City with their petty but annoying mischiefs. We are heartily sorry that the name of Mr. Waterman, of whom we would have expected better things, should figure in such indecent companionship, with such sycophants—Cornwall, Welsh, Perkins, Henry and Ridgway.—That obsolete antiquity, Charles B. Penrose, of course took occasion to air his fossil remains.—He would refuse the Hall to Mr. Buchanan because of Mr. Buchanan's political opinions on the tariff, &c. We suppose that the gentleman always goes for giving the Hall to our firemen friends, because they are good at leaping and running. Would he have voted for Black Hawk, before he ascertained the Indian's opinion of buck-shot?

These Councils will soon find out that they have not only committed a mean trick but a very silly one. The magnanimous citizens of Philadelphia will soon have an opportunity of avenging this insult to them, and they will avail themselves of the opportunity by a majority of thousands.—Philadelphia Argus.

MANTISSBURG, Blair Co. May 5, 1856.

To the Editor of the Bedford Gazette.
Sir—I deem it a duty to state that I was a member of the Know Nothing party, of Martinsburg, Blair county, and have been engaged in circulating, as a colporteur, Know Nothing Books, which I am now convinced are in violation of the principles of a TRUE American. I am truly sorry that I ever allowed myself to engage in such a business, because I know it was wrong. In view of these facts, and believing Know Nothingism to be a gross violation of our glorious Constitution, I have renounced it forever, and have returned to my democratic principles which I love better than I ever did before.

JOHN A. YOUNT.

Mr. Buchanan's Reception at Home.

Mr. Buchanan was received with strong manifestations of respect on his trip from Philadelphia to Lancaster on Saturday last. Upon arriving at the latter place, which is his home, the enthusiasm was intense. On the arrival of the procession at the Square, he was received by Dr. F. A. Muhlenberg, chairman of the committee of reception, who addressed him as follows:—

MR. BUCHANAN: Representing your friends of the city and county of Lancaster, irrespective of party, I salute you upon your safe return to home and country after an absence of several years, engaged in arduous official duties and anxious cares for your country's interests. We are pleased to see you return with your accustomed vigor unimpaired. Even time has passed gently over your brows, evidently reserving you for future use and higher purposes.

The revolutionary race has years since passed away. How few of the statesmen of the second war—that of 1812—remain! Gen. Jackson and John Quincy Adams, Calhoun and Crawford, Webster and Clay, are gone. The veterans Cass and Benton, and Pennsylvania's two distinguished sons, Buchanan and Dallas, remain to point out the path of duty and honor to impatient Young America. Men of sound principles and pure motives—men of experience, who have been tried at home and abroad—are wanting to advise and counsel, and often to restrain, the eccentric notions of a young, vigorous, and excitable people. You have returned in good season, at an important period of your country's history, when your right judgment and conservative counsels may be required. At the North and South, and even at the far West, dark clouds rest upon the horizon, indicative of storm. From across the broad Atlantic are heard the low murmurs of accumulated power, jealous of the rapid growth of this western republic, this home of the afflicted and oppressed of all nations. Great skill and consummate prudence will be required to conduct the vessel of State through the shoals and dangerous rapids which threaten distractions.

But we trust that Providence, which has heretofore so carefully watched over his favored land of ultimate destiny, will supply the men best adapted to the necessities of the times and circumstances, who, having inscribed upon their pure banner "the constitution and the Union," will, in his name and with this battle-cry alone, march on to glorious victory. May God grant these results! I again bid you heartily welcome home.

Mr. Buchanan replied in a very brief, but feeling and eloquent manner. He referred to the scenes of his boyhood and more mature age as being associated most closely with everything concerning the interest and prosperity of Pennsylvania and her people. He had been honored with the highest trust in his gift; but of all their favors he praised the most that which convinced him that he had never been unfaithful of the obligations which he owed to his State and country.

He spoke of the high estimation in which our people were held abroad as a vigorous and powerful nation, and attributed all this prosperity to the love the people had for that blessed constitution which preserves the union of the independent sovereign States of the confederacy.

In the warmest and most affectionate terms he thanked them for the overwhelming kindness manifested for his safe return to his long-wished-for home.

Mr. Muhlenberg then introduced Benjamin Rush, Esq., to the meeting, as chairman of the committee which had escorted Mr. Buchanan from Philadelphia.

Mr. Rush said: As the organ of the Philadelphia committee, appointed by the people of Philadelphia to escort their distinguished fellow-citizen, Mr. Buchanan, to the region of his own home, and that his old "friends and neighbors," as he had just said with so much eloquence and feeling, he would hardly say how much pleasure it afforded them to appear on such an occasion before so large and enthusiastic assemblage of their fellow-citizens of Lancaster county. We have enjoyed the pleasure of having Mr. Buchanan among us in Philadelphia for one day; and it was a great pleasure. It had already, he said, been his agreeable duty at Parkersburg, on behalf of the Philadelphia committee, in passing over their distinguished fellow-citizen to those who were united to him by a nearer tie—the ties of home—to express the high gratification the people of Philadelphia had derived from his visit; and especially in the opportunity so many of them had had in meeting him face to face, and welcoming him back to his native land after the distinguished service he had rendered his country in the high duties he had so ably and successfully discharged in a foreign land. [Applause.]

The welcome thus extended by the people of Philadelphia to our and your distinguished fellow-citizen was cordial and heartfelt; it was without discrimination: it embraced, as was well said by another, "individuals of all modes of industry, and of varied political opinions; it comprehended all pursuits, all interests." It was a spontaneous expression of sentiment on the part of the people of a great metropolis, who felt that it was no more than an act of simple justice to a faithful public servant, long absent in the foreign service of the country, to greet him on his return with a cordial approval of his public conduct, and extend to him a cordial personal welcome. This it was his duty to say to the large and enthusiastic assemblage he saw before him. [Cheers.]

But it was equally his duty to say that there was one exception to this universal manifestation of feeling. On such an occasion as this he could not pass it over in silence. The majority in the councils of Philadelphia, representing—he ought rather to say mis-representing—for the time being the city government of Philadelphia, with a littleness that was unworthy of them, and for which they are condemned, [loud cheering,] had refused to their constituents the use of the Hall of Independence for the purpose of extending to Mr. Buchanan those courtesies for which that edifice had been used again and again, under circumstances far less entitling it to be so appropriated. It was his duty, in the name of Philadelphia, whom the majority of the councils of Philadelphia did not represent in the unwarrantable act, to denounce, and he did here publicly and emphatically denounce their conduct. [Loud applause.] He was specially charged to denounce it, and he should be recreant in his duty if he did not do so. [Continued applause.] It would recoil upon the councils.—They would be speedily and indignantly rebuked by the great constituency whom they had thus dishonored—who, at the approaching municipal election in May, would hurl them from power. Of this he would assure the people of Lancaster.

[Continued applause.]

What made the conduct of the councils the more remarkable, and the more unpardonable, was the fact that it was scarcely a month since the same hall had been placed at the public disposal to receive an eminent citizen of Massachusetts, Mr. Everett, now, like Mr. Buchanan, in private life; his predecessor in the same mission, his successor in the same great Executive department of the Government; the one, though he accorded all honor to his high public character and services, was certainly not a citizen of Pennsylvania; the other was a most distinguished and cherished son and citizen of our own great Commonwealth [loud cheering] from which he had been absent for several years in the performance of the highest public duties, which he had discharged with signal ability and success. [Great applause.] Once more he would say that the conduct of the Councils deserved the most indignant reprobation, and such he was happy to find was the universal sentiment.

The Press of Philadelphia had already denounced it. The people would very soon administer the withering rebuke of their scornful displeasure. [Continued applause.]

An allusion had been made by the excellent chairman of the meeting (Dr. Muhlenberg) to an ancestor of my own, whose name was associated with that great charter of our liberties, the Declaration of Independence. [Cheers.] He hoped it would not be thought unseemly in him, in connection with the allusion just made by another, to say that the portrait of that ancestor, and those of most of the other signers, as connected with that great event in our history, surrounded the walls of that hall, consecrated in the hearts of the American people. [Cheers.] Could the men who, in 1776, placed their names to that great instrument which made us a free nation suddenly become conscious now that in the year 1856—that is to say, in less than a single century—an attempt would be made, from factions motives, by men in power to close the door of that hall against a pure and upright citizen, who had been forty years in the public service, [great applause,] and whose whole public life had been devoted to the principles of the Declaration of Independence, and in upholding the constitution and the Union, the seeds of which they planted, [cheers] could the signers of the Declaration of Independence suddenly be made aware of this act of the city council, he believed they would almost blush on the canvas. [Continued applause.]

In conclusion, I hope this day will never come when the exhortations of the distinguished statesman whom they had met to welcome home would fail to meet a warm response in the heart of every true American. They should cherish his patriotic counsels; they should imitate the wisdom which looks to friendly and conciliatory disposition towards other nations, and is not blind to good qualities in others while maintaining the national honor unsullied; and never, never should they for an instant forget the high duty he had enjoined of unbroken fidelity to the constitution, with all its solemn guarantees, and undying devotion to the Union of these States. [Loud cheers.]

After this ceremony was over, Mr. Buchanan was conducted to Michael's Hotel, and, with a large number of his personal and political friends, partook of a handsome collation, provided by Mr. Michael, the worthy and estimable proprietor.

Mr. Buchanan may well feel proud of this "welcome home" reception.

Mr. Buchanan was then conducted by the committee to Wheatland, about a mile distant from the city, where he arrived about 7 o'clock in the evening.

Yesterday morning he was found as usual in his well-known pew at church.

Letter of Josephine—The Napoleons.

The following touching letter was addressed by the divorced Josephine to the Emperor Napoleon, congratulating him on the birth of his son by his second wife, Maria Louise. It will be remembered that it was because of Napoleon's desire for offspring that Josephine was divorced; but she continued to cherish for him the tenderest affection. Here is the letter:—

"Sire—Amidst the numerous congratulations which you receive from all parts of Europe, from every town in France, and every regiment in my army, can the feeble voice of woman reach you? And will you condescend to listen to her soft cooings in your sorrows and assuage the pangs of your heart, when she speaks only of the happiness which has just crossed your wishes? Being no longer your wife, dare I offer my congratulations on your becoming a father? Yes, doubtless, Sire! for my soul redoubles the same justice to yours as to mine. I conceive what you now experience as readily as you divine my emotions on this occasion; though separated, we are united by the sympathy which binds affection to affection.

"I should have been glad to learn the birth of the King of Rome from yourself, and not by the Canon of Geneva, or the priest, Cuvier, but I am well aware that your first attentions are due to the members of the corps diplomatique, to your family, and above all, to the happy Princess who has just realized your dearest hopes. She cannot be more tenderly devoted to you than I am; but she has had it in her power to do more for your happiness by assuring the welfare of France; she has, therefore, a right to your first sentiments, to all your cares, and I, who was your companion in misfortune, can claim but a far inferior place to that of Marie Louise in your affections. You will have watched her every step, and I will be glad before you take up your pen to converse with your best friend. I will wait!

"It is, however, impossible to defer telling you that more than any one on earth, I share in your joy. You will not doubt in my sincerity when I say that I have longed for this occasion, and I have been ready to the repose of all. I rejoice that it has been made, now that I suffer alone. Sire, do I say? No, since you are contented, my only regret is, that I have not yet done sufficient to prove how dear you were to me."

NAPOLEON III.

Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, the present Emperor of the French, was born on the 31st of April, 1818, at the Tuilleries. His father was Louis Bonaparte, the brother of Napoleon. His mother was Hortense, the daughter of Josephine, by her first marriage. The marriage of Hortense and Louis was most unfortunate; they did nothing but quarrel, and in September, 1807, they finally separated at Antwerp, and Hortense married another man in Paris, and gave birth to her son, the present Emperor, Louis Napoleon Bonaparte.

There is a circumstance well worthy of consideration, as illustrating the dealings of Providence.—"Napoleon the Great set aside his own heir to the throne of France; he married a Princess of Austria, and by her he had a son, the present Emperor, Louis Napoleon Bonaparte. There is a circumstance well worthy of consideration, as illustrating the dealings of Providence.—"Napoleon the Great set aside his own heir to the throne of France; he married a Princess of Austria, and by her he had a son, the present Emperor, Louis Napoleon Bonaparte. There is a circumstance well worthy of consideration, as illustrating the dealings of Providence.—"Napoleon the Great set aside his own heir to the throne of France; he married a Princess of Austria, and by her he had a son, the present Emperor, Louis Napoleon Bonaparte. 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