

The Watchman.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 1856.

HENRY HAYS, EDITOR.

TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

J. M. Wall, you inform me, whether George M. Dallas, our Minister to England, ever was a nominated candidate for the Presidency? Mr. Dallas never was nominated for the Presidency. He was, as is known, a member of the Senate, and made one of the most distinguished members of the Senate ever had. At home, he is regarded with the solid favor due to all great men, and his name is no other Pennsylvania, who has more social or personal friends.

Teacher.—Thomas H. Burr, the editor of the School Journal, was one of the earliest advocates of the great common school system of this State. His efforts, normal schools were established, and teachers for their education. He was Secretary of the Normal School.

Julia.—You seem to have a knowledge of when young ladies and men should come to social dances, and tell me the proper time to go. I am a girl, and feel certain that you will give me the best advice.

Quaker.—Are you certain that their free love society in Baltimore? We are certain only so far as your information extends, and that is reliable. If you take the same trouble to inform yourself, as you did to ask the question, doubtless you will become enlightened.

Book.—We do not assure that there is an inspector of weights and measures in this country. You can remedy the evil of which you complain, by applying to any Justice of the Peace.

Our Milliken friends must excuse the delay of their communication. It was received too late. Anything in relation to their enterprise will be cheerfully inserted in the Watchman.

Connecticut.—The Pennsylvania Railroad pays an annual tax to the State, and by charter, its stock is restricted to a certain amount.

BELLEVILLE, PENNA.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 1856.

THE NEWS.

The Pennsylvania says that the reception of Hon. James Buchanan in Philadelphia, by her merchants and manufacturers, was all that an intelligent and patriotic people could offer without ostentation. It was spontaneous, hearty and appropriate. The lustre of his character required no gorgeous display to give it prominence. The eminence of his statesmanship spoke for itself. But wherever he appeared—in town, village, or city—from New York to Philadelphia, an honorable ovation awaited him. No one could mistake the fact, that all parties consider him the foremost of the Nation. A long life of political integrity in the service of his country, has earned for him the respect and admiration of all classes of the community. An acknowledgment of his merits. It may be truly said, that the lives in the hearts of his countrymen.

No spot in his public career sullied by any stain; but in the constant presence of his people, he has been both beautiful and useful. Well may the citizens of the States through which he passed pay a tribute to his intellectual and moral greatness. Through him has peace been secured to our country, without a single forfeiture of honor. All credit to such a statesman—for he has merited its fullest meed, and will receive its highest honor.

The Know-Nothing Councils of Baltimore have invited Mr. Buchanan to partake of their hospitality. This action of the city of Baltimore is in bright contrast with the indecent meanness of our own Councils. But let the world take notice that the present Councils do not represent Philadelphia. This is a generous, courteous, magnanimous city, and its vote in a few days hence will clearly show that it repudiates and condemns the insulting policy of its present Legislative bodies.—Phila. Argus.

The tornado of last Saturday week, was very destructive. The Pittsburg Union says: "It seems to have started in the north-western part of Ohio and taken an almost easterly course to the seaboard, extending from eighteen to twenty miles in width, and doing immense mischief all over the whole region of country from Alliance to Philadelphia."

Hon. John Caldwell, M. C. from Philadelphia, delivered a speech in the House of Representatives, recently, on the subject of slavery in the Territories, which the Washington Union denominates "one of the ablest constitutional arguments on the slavery question that has been delivered in the House for many years."

Bishop O'Reilly, one of the Roman Catholic prelates of the United States, was, it is thought, among the passengers on board the missing steamship *Deimos*. The list embraces the name of a Mr. O'Reilly, and the New York Freeman's Journal says that it was the Bishop's habit to register his name in that manner.

M. M. Ballou, proprietor of *Ballou's Pictorial*, of Boston, was arrested at the suit of Frank Leslie, the proprietor of *Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* of New York, and appeared before Judge Woodruff, of the Supreme Court, and gave bail in \$3,000 to answer the charge of libel.

The action is based upon the alleged sending of an anonymous note by the defendant to the firm of James T. Derrickson & Co., paper manufacturers, tending to injure the credit of plaintiff with the above firm. Damages laid at \$25,000.

The man who would write an anonymous note of this kind is a scoundrel at heart; he is a double-dyed villain in the whole world, and he should be treated as such.

The Know-Nothing of Missouri have nominated Gen. M. O. Smith for Governor. The friends of Benton have placed his name before the people for the same station.

The whole route of the Northern Central Railroad from Bridgeport to Sunbury has again been placed under contract, with every prospect of a speedy completion.

The Liberator.

J. Lawrence Getz, the accomplished editor of the *Reading Gazette*, delivered a powerful speech, in the House of Representatives, on the 19th of April, on the "Bill to amend the Law of Libel." The speech was marked with ability and close and sound reasoning. A more unjust and pernicious law than the late Pennsylvania-law of libel, never disgraced the statute book of a Republic State, and we are glad to record the fact that, after the long struggle of Mr. Getz, the good sense of the House passed the amending bill by a vote of 45 to 35. All that astonished us is that a solitary vote was recorded against it. Mr. G. and several other members deserve the thanks of the press and the people, for the energy and ability with which they advocated the passage of the bill. The speech we trust, will be extensively read. The following is the bill as it passed both Houses:—

"That from and after the passage of this act, no person shall be liable for libel, or for the truth of the matter charged, as libelous, may be given in evidence, and if the jury in any such case shall find that the same was written or published from good motives, or for justifiable ends, and that the matter so charged was true, it shall operate to the acquittal of the defendant or defendants."

There are a great many people in this world, and particularly those who occupy public positions of trust and honor, who imagine that their actions should be judged, not by the public good, but by the opinion of the masses, and that when a journalist, acting only for the public good, deems it his duty to expose corruption and fraud, he should be made the victim of a legal prosecution, and punished by fine and imprisonment. This was the spirit of the old law—and while it was in operation, a public officer could act dishonestly with impunity because he had a libel law, which prevented an editor from asserting the truth, when he deemed it essential for the public good, because the greater the truth the greater the libel.

Mr. Getz deserves not only the thanks of the people, but he is entitled to the grateful acknowledgments of his contemporaries, for the fearless manner in which he advocates the new libel law—and hereafter those who seek places by honorable means, can be held to their promises by a fair exposition of their conduct, without the threats of legal prosecution, or extortionate fines.

It is more than amusing to witness the spasmodic efforts of the opposition press in this State, to harmonize the ludicrous elements by which they are surrounded. The *Harrisburg Telegraph*, the organ of the administration, is particularly busy in these labors, and is very laconic in its appeals to the desertion from the nomination of Fillmore. One neighbor of the *Telegraph* presents a profound silence, and contents himself with maintaining a neutrality. The journals, all over the State, are wedded to abolitionism, and of course cannot support Donelson. They have cut loose from the old-line Whigs, who now regard them with distrust, and in their dilemma, they are left entirely alone. They have one chance left—and that is, to raise the five love flags, Lucy Stone for President, and the unfortunate Blenheim for Vice President.

A SHARP RANGER.—The *Nashua* (N. H.) *Gazette* administers the following sharp rebuke to the reverend gentlemen of New England:—

"Where do these reverend gentlemen obtain their instructions for pursuing this course? From the Bible! That book teaches no such doctrines. Do Christ's teachings indicate such views? No! He taught a Gospel of peace! If he was now upon earth, would he urge Kansas emigrants to carry out Sharp's rifles, in order to resist the laws of the land to liberty their brethren there, to produce anarchy, violence, bloodshed and death? Did Christ teach his followers to resist the lawfully constituted authorities of the land? Did he teach his followers to resist rulers, or to rebel against them? We have misused the good book if he did any such thing."

Neither the Bible nor the suprema law of the land—the constitution—teach any such doctrines. The territorial legislatures of Kansas, with Gov. Shannon, the territorial judges, and other territorial officers duly appointed, are the lawfully-constituted authorities of Kansas; and citizens of the States have no more right to stand out, armed, men and warlike means to overturn that government and resist its action than they have to send them to Georgia, or South Carolina, or Massachusetts, or New Hampshire."

A MAN WITH NINE WIVES.—We clip the following from the *Hamilton* (Ohio) *Intelligencer*: The notorious Nathan Brown, the most remarkable bigamist ever known in America, was brought by officer Elliott, the other day, from near Jeffersonville, Indiana, under a requisition from Gov. Chase. He is reported to have nine living wives! His practice has been to live with each about three months, get hold of their property, and desert them. He is now safe in Butler county jail, at the instance of his seventh wife, a resident of this city. The old miser is fifty-three years of age, and has married three wives within two years.

WE ARE compelled to go to press this week earlier than usual, in order to get ready for a large amount of job-work. Several important articles have necessarily been omitted. Next week, however, we hope to make amends. Our readers will please be patient, and our amiable and handsome friend, the editor of the *Whig* can afford to give us a few days to prepare to answer his scathing denunciations of the poor editors of the *Watchman*. As his assertions do not reach a thousand miles, we can give him a reply by telegraph.

Gov. Wm. of Virginia, has written a letter to some of Mr. Buchanan's friends in New York, which closes with the following significant paragraph:—

"Pennsylvania has always stood by Virginia, from the days of Simon Snyder and Thomas Jefferson down to this day; she is one of the largest and oldest and best of the old thirteen States, and she claims to give a candidate, and she has a son worthy of a nomination, who is a representative man and name, of his State's Democracy; and if Virginia again prefers him, as she did in 1852, I will go for his nomination with all my might."

Hon. James Buchanan arrived in Lancaster on Saturday last, and honored by a public reception.

ST. LOUIS, MO., APRIL 29.

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Organization.

Democratic Association of Bellefonte.

A large number of the Democracy of Bellefonte, believing that a more thorough organization was necessary for the future success of the party, have formed a Democratic Association, and adopted a reasonable Constitution for their government. The Association meets every Saturday evening, in a room in Buchanan's Row, appropriated especially for that purpose, where every Democrat, and all who desire to become such, will always find a welcome.

The following are the officers of the Association:

John D. Deane, President.

Samuel Harris, Vice President.

Thomas Miller, Secretary.

Wm. J. Kahan, Recording Secretary.

On Saturday evening last, according to a motion made at a former meeting, the following address was read by the Corresponding Secretary, and ordered to be printed:

Fellow Democrats:—According to your own request, I have prepared an address, setting forth the nature and the objects of this society. The Bellefonte Democratic Association was organized for social as well as political purposes, and it is to be hoped, that both will be realized. Some have misjudged partly, the real designs of such an organization, and represented us as entering into a secret cabal, for slish purposes and for individual gain, but this was erroneous. We assemble for the general good. That is, we meet to discuss all measures which are intended for our own benefit—not to arrogate to ourselves the right to control the action of the party in its nominations or its policy. This society claims to be nothing more than a private congregation of men, who deem it their duty to congregate, and who hold themselves, only responsible for their action. We are not bound by an oath, to prescribe any name for a difference of opinion. We erect no standard by which to measure the merits of any Democrat. We resort to no deception to gain converts. We simply resolve ourselves into a Democratic Club, so as to be prepared to second the efforts of the official action of the party, and thus, by organization, ensure our final success.

The Democratic party of Centre county, and indeed of the whole State, needs its ranks to a want of proper discipline. In this county, as you will all admit, a large majority was in favour of Know-Nothingism, and could power on individuals. This has been accomplished by the usual means of the opponents of Democracy—by falsehoods and personal abuse. Men were elevated to office by largess, and would disregard the meanness of the means by which they were elevated, at the time, and which were violated almost before the ballot boxes were closed. The people knew nothing, nor did they suspect the duplicity by which they were to be deceived. In fact, their support of the Know-Nothing party was a result of their interests were betrayed and their confidence abused. The masses were excluded from all conferences, and a few men, claiming to be the leaders of a great party, fed upon the bounty, drew upon its generosity, used its power and corrupted its principles, until it became an easy prey for the horde of cliques by which it was surrounded, and fell like the Roman Hero, at the very base of the pillar erected to commemorate his triumphs. The people were always inclined to act with the Democratic party—and the people of Centre county, to day, are as radically Democratic as ever they were. If, however, their predilections and attachments are suffered to be attracted in a different direction, you may continue to suffer the disgrace under which you now rest, and expect an increase of the taxes which now bow you to the earth. To avoid it, we must organize. To protect ourselves, we must labor in unity—each man feeling his own responsibility, and all acting as if the result depended upon the energy of every individual.

The opposition against which the Democracy of Pennsylvania has contended, for the last thirty years has been peculiar, strange and absurd—and it is a singular coincidence, that the very ideas which animated the enemies of our fathers, are now used by our own foes. The doctrine of Know-Nothingism is not new. The religious test is not original; nor is abolitionism a modern corruption. When the alien and sedition laws of Adams were suggested, then came the first real organized band of men against the overthrow of Democracy—and through a number of years, they maintained a hostile position, under various names. They beset the administration of Madison and Monroe, using every effort in their power to misrepresent the movements of those who were laboring to maintain the national honor and credit. And yet the Democracy succeeded. Indeed, by a providential fatality, every measure ever advocated and acknowledged by the Democratic party, was triumphantly carried, and by its test proven beneficial to the country. The question of a National Bank, broken down and destroyed by the immortal Jackson, elicited the anathemas of merchant princes, but to day, the brightest page in the old Hero's life, is that which records his struggle with, and victory over the moneyed monopoly of his time. Then Democracy almost quailed before the wild rage of her enemies, but that stern old man, calm amid the storm and resolute in his purpose, gloriously sustained the policy of the administration, and besought to the nation, the safety of a sound and reliable currency. The tariff question, another ambitious invention of the enemy, was used to destroy the Democracy—but who among us, now thinks of the tariff—or who hears the wail of misery and distress which were echoed from one end of the Union to the other. The extension of the Union, was the popular hobby of abolitionism, and yet Texas gave us California, and California gave us the golden age, in the shape of the California gold, which brought to the shores of the Union, new States, increased wealth, and augmented power. These were

democratic measures. They were suggested by Democratic statesmen, and carried into successful operation by Democratic Administrations. But the men who then lived, were men of nerve—they were patriots intent on the glory of their country. They were no time servers, but, looking through the vista of years, they devoted their energies as well to those who were to come after, as those who were around them.

These allusions are appropriate, and are made to remind the younger, not the older members of this organization, of what has been done, by the leading men in the Democratic party, whom we so much love to quote. If in the past, we have the prestige of success, why should we not be met with confidence now? The Democratic party is the Union party—the party which acknowledges no section; but the opposition with which we have to contend, is of a character which must not be treated with all the contempt due to desperation and deceit. One of the principal opponents which challenges our attention, and which is now slumbering only to awaken with renewed vigor, is that which we call Know-Nothingism. It is a native weed, of noxious odor—and has spread its baneful influences all over the Union. When the American movement was first started, it originated in fire and fury, with all the other ills of the day, was kindled by the smouldering ruins of slavery erected to the living God. The principles of Know-Nothingism, as set forth in their book of faith, is a hostility to all foreigners—and a deadly hatred to religion. That hatred is shown by its attacks on Catholicism in one section—on Presbyterianism in another—on the Methodist in one place, and so on through the catalogue of sects, they wage a crusade against God, Religion and Man. No man leaves his native land without his Religion, without a piece of sorrow, without moistening the grave of a mother, a father, a wife, son, daughter, or friend, with a tear of regret—and I do hold it as sacred, that the man who forgets his native land, who discharges from his memory all thoughts of the scenes of his childhood—all feelings for home that was and the friends that are, makes the worst adopted citizen that could possibly be manufactured. The man who loves the place of his birth, will love with double ardor the home of his adoption.

The very fact, as set forth by the ablest writers in political economy, that vast extending territory requires increasing population, proves the fallacy of Know-Nothingism, because one of their cardinal principles is to restrict immigration by imposing burdensome and insulting restrictions upon the emigrants. As soon as we attempt, by any legislative restriction, to restrain the legitimate actions of those who seek our shores, it is natural to expect that emigration will cease, and the boundaries of the Republic will be limited so far as civilization extends. But if we invite the hardy peasantry of Europe to our shores, encourage them by a fair participation in the government, the greatness of the nation will daily increase, until it becomes what its founders designed it to be, the dispenser of justice to the world. This principle of numerous alliances, is what Democracy has long to contend. The contention will not be feeble, it will be the struggle of truth and justice on the one side, against treachery and desperation on the other. We have no other foe—Democracy alone is crushed by venal men of all parties, to crush out this faction—and the work, arduous as it may appear, can be easily accomplished if we use the means within our reach. The principles of the Democratic party, guarantee to all men that equal and exact justice which at once makes them the free citizens of the independent Republic. We make no distinctions—we acknowledge no geographical differences. We do not regard as a test the climate whence a man may come, or the altar before which he bows. Our creed is equality, and as long as men act in the full persuasion of the right, they become Democrats from impulse as well as conviction.

The Democratic party, has at the same time, other influences, aside from Know-Nothingism, which are conspiring for its overthrow. A great party, founded for a patriotic purpose, if not properly organized, soon becomes a burden to itself, and by its numbers, scattered over the Union, if not acting in concert, and held together by an acknowledged discipline, falls from its own weight, and loses its power in the confusion of its fall. We acknowledge a Central national organization, but all who admit that there is not that local concentration of power so essential to our success—and that concentration can only be established by the formation of Clubs, where every Democrat can hear of the movements of the party, and where our principles can be frankly discussed. The doctrine of association holds good as well for the preservation of politics as it does for the increase of morality. When men meet as men, pledged only to what is honorable, they feel when called on, that they are expected to act as men. Our association is not a secret one. We do not design, as our enemies have done, to administer an oath of allegiance; but we wish to glitter the Democracy around a common standard, to battle against a common foe. Very few Democrats will slight such an opportunity to unite in harmony and social intercourse to promote the principles which have made and preserved us a nation.

In the name of this society, I would recommend to our Democratic friends in this county, to organize in every town and township, and to organize, that our action will be mutual, and that from the central part of the county, every movement of the party can be understood, and sustained. This can be easily accomplished, with little labor, and with great benefit. If a few men in each township, lead their aid to the suggestion, the work would soon be ended, and the secret efforts of our enemies at once contracted. I will say again, that if we intend to maintain our organization, it is useless to hesitate or flatter. Some one of us, and all of us must take the lead, because the stake is too large, the issue too important to be neglected. Every true De-

mocrat should make the promulgation of his principles part of his daily business—because his daily business depends upon their success for its prosperity. It can be done by the side of the mill, the bench, the counting room, and the road side. It can be done by association and discussion—it can be done in our daily walks, and thus by honorable means we can secure to ourselves the blessings of equitable laws, and transmit to our children a well balanced and happy government.

Organization, then, is what we want, and such organization will be best promoted by the formation of Clubs such as we design the Democratic Association to become. We all know our duty. We all know the men and the measures with which we have to contend—and convinced that Centre county is full of the elements of Democracy, it would be more than disgraceful to allow her longer to remain as she now is, in the possession of those who feed and fatten on her bounty. The change is with the people and the Democracy, and it is our duty to unite henceforth to remedy all that we complain of, and realize all that is our due.

SAD PICTURE OF A ONCE BEAUTIFUL AND HAPPY WIFE.—The following appears in a late number of the *Buffalo Courier*:—

"The Mrs. Howard to whom we alluded in our last was reinterred yesterday morning, only a short time after her discharge from the watch-house. She was found by a policeman in a stable—of course, grossly intoxicated. After being taken before Justice Davis, she was sentenced