Political and General News.

A Fire in the Rear by Platoons.

From the National Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, July 3, 1852.

To prevent all mistakes and mis-apprehensions, we, the undersigned, members of Congress, adopt this method of making a joint statement to our constituents, respectively, and to all who may take an interest in the subject, that we cannot support Gen. Scott for the presidency, as he now stands before the American people, for the following amongst other reasons:

He obstinately refused, up to the time of his nomination, to give any public opinion in favor of that series of measures of the last Congress known as the Compromise: the permanent maintenance of which, with us is a question of paramount importance.—Nor has he since his nomination made any declaration of his *approval* of those measures as a final adjustment of the issues in controversy.

It is true the resolutions of the convention that nominated him are as clear and as explicit upon this question as need be; but Gen. Scott, in his letter of acceptance, which contains all that we have had from him on that matter, does not give them the approval of his judgement. This he seems studiously to have avoided. He accepts the nomination, "with the resolutions annexed." That is, he takes the nomination *cum onere*, as an individual takes an estate; with whatever *incumbrances* it may be *loaded* with. (And the only pledge and guarantee he offers for his "adherence to the principles of the resolutions" are "the known incidents of a long public life," &c.

Among these "*known incidents*" of his life there *is not one, so far as we are aware of, in favor of the* principles of the Compromise. In one, at least, of his public letters he has expressed sentiments inimical to the institutions of fifteen States of the Union. Since the passage of the Compromise he has suffered his name to be held up before the people of several of the States as a candidate for the Presidency by the open and avowded enemies of those measures. And in the convention that conferred this nomination upon him he permitted himself to be used by the *free-soilers* in that body to defeat Mr. Fillmore and Mr. Webster because of their advocacy of these measures and their firm adherence to the policy that *sustained them*.

To join such men, and aid them in completing their triumph over and *sacrifice* of the true and *tried* friends of the constitution, and the faithful discharge of all its obligations, is what we can never do. The dictates of duty and patriotism sternly forbid it.

We consider Gen. Scott as the *favorite* candidate of the *free soil* wing of the whig party. That his policy, if he should be elected, would be warped and shaped to conform to their views, and to elevate them to power in the administration of the government, can but be considered as a legitimate and probable result. And believing as we do, that the views of that faction of mischievous men are dangerous not only to the just and constitutional rights of the southern States, (which we represent in part,) but to the peace and quiet of the whole country, and to the permanent union of the States, we regard it as the highest duty of the well-wishers of the country everywhere, whatever else they may do, to at least withhold from *him* their support. This we intend to do.

ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS, of Ga.,
CHARLES JAS. FAULKNER, of Va.,
W. BROOKE, of Miss.,
ALEX. WHITE, of Ala.,
JAMES ABERCROMBIE, of Ala.,
R. TOOMBS, of Ga.,
JAMES JOHNSON, of Ga.

For reason to some extent indicated in speeches and addresses heretofore made by the undersigned, they deem it to be their duty to withhold their support from Gen. Scott as a candidate for the Presidency. If it should seem to be necessary, we will hereafter, in some form, exhibit more fully to our constituents the facts and reasons which have brought us to this determination.

M. P. GENTRY, Tenn.,
C. H. WILLIAMS, Tenn.

POLITICAL ITEMS.—The Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle and Sentinel declares, for the second time, that it will not support General Scott. It is equally unwilling to support General Pierce. Its policy is for "the whig party of Georgia to take no part in the contest." It adds:

"We have no other motive in making this suggestion *inaction* than the preservation of the whig party in the State. We want to avoid a collision and conflict of wing with whig in the canvass, and the only way this can be accomplished is to *let the election go by default*; for it is a well ascertained fact, that General Scott was not an acceptable candidate to *one in one hundred whigs* in the State, however a few may, since the nomination, have expressed a willingness to support him, alone because he is the nominee of the whig party. Hence, while a portion would refuse to support either candidate, another portion would vote for Pierce, thus bringing those who profess the same principles in positions directly antagonastic, without the possibility—much less probability—of accomplishing any good; for no man pretends there is any prospect—not the remotest—of carrying the State for Scott."

The Marietta Union and Athens Whig declare for Pierce.

An effort was made to hold a Scott ratification meeting in Grifin a few days since, which failed, from the opposition made to it by whigs.

Judge Lumpkin, of the superior court, and Hon. Ashbury Hull, of Athens, old whigs have come out for Pierce.

A friend from southwestern Georgia informs us that the whigs in that section are unanimously opposed to General Scott. The Rome Courier (whig) leads us to believe the same is true of the Cherokee country.

THE PRECIOUS METALS—A carefully prepared report published in the New York Journal of commerce shows the total amount of gold deposited in the several mints in this country from the first discovery of the mines up to the first of June, to be $118,000,000, to which add the imports for June, and the amounts that have been brought in the hands of passengers, and it is safe to estimate the amount from the productions of the California mines to this date at $200,000 000. It also shows that over and above the exports there are still left an increase of gold coin in this country of about $50,000,000. The total amount of coinage in the United States and its branches, from the time of their first organization, is $23,898,864 59.

"GREAT I AND LITTLE YOU."—Gen. Scott, in his letter accepting the nomination for President is *I* all over and throughout. No less than fifteen times does he thus display *his egotism*. "*I* have had the honor"—"*I* am made to feel"—"*I* lost not a moment"—"*I* now have the honor"—"*I* accept"—"*I* therefore barely suggest"—"that should *I* be elected"—"*I* shall be ready"—"*I* should"—"*I* should seek to cultivate harmony throughout the *whig party*" (not throughout the great body of the people)—"*I* should be rigorous"—"*I* shall neither countenance nor tolerate"—"*I* shall carry"—"*I* can offer no other pledge"—"*I* have the honor to remain."

Again—"*My unanimous* (!) nomination"—"*My countrymen*"—"*My here!*"—"*My own*"—"*My new position*"—"*My countrymen*"—"*My connection*"—"*My strict adherence*"—"feeling *myself*"—"*My associate*"—"*My obligations*."

This letter was deliberately written; every word was carefully weighed and chosen for the public eye; it was not prepared over "a hasty plate of soup," although the writer might have just taken one.

"*Anticipating a fire in front and rear*," this semi official document is put forth, made up of "*fuss and feathers*" with a view to popularity; popular breath cannot inhale it, but will blow it to the winds.

COLD COMFORT.—The following paragraph from the Lowell American (free-soil) may serve to disabuse the minds of those whigs who think that Gen. Scott will get the free-soil votes.

"Let not our whig friends delude themselves with the idea that we or our party intend to give them the slightest aid and comfort.' As much as we respect open manliness, so in the same proportion do we despise treachery and long-faced pharisaical hypocrisy. *So be it.*"

NEW PRESIDENTIAL TICKET.—The Griffin Union runs up the names of Crittenden for President, and Graham for Vice President. It declares against General Scott; so do the Lagrange Reporter and Washington (Georgia) Gazette—all Union Whig papers. The Gazette goes for Pierce and King.—*Augusta Constitutionalist.*

Collision between the Steamboat America, and the Propeller City of Oswego.

ABOUT FIFTEEN LIVES LOST.

Last night, between eleven and twelve o'clock, the Steamboat *America*, from Cleveland, and the propeller *City of Oswego*, from Oswego, came into collision some three or four miles off Chagrin.—The former was bound for Buffalo; the latter for this city. The force of the collision was so tremendous that the propeller sunk within ten or fifteen minutes, going down head foremost in about six fathoms of water.

The loss of life, as far as ascertained, is as follows:

Mrs. Ann Green, (wife of John Green) of Oswego, aged 22;
Miss Amanda Wise, of Oswego, aged 14;
Mrs. Miles Hotchkiss, and daughter, of Oswego;
Mr. James Pinceney, of Cleveland, aged 45;
Mr. James Callahan, wife, and three children, of Oswego;

The passenger list of the boat being lost, the names are of course not given in full. No one on board the *America* was injured. The boat suffered considerable damage, and will probably be laid up awhile for repairs. She returned with the passengers saved, arriving here about three o'clock this morning. She brought the body of an elderly lady, supposed to be Mrs. Skinner, who took passage on the propeller from Oswego. The remains were made the subject of a coroner's inquest, at nine o'clock this forenoon, at which the following essential evidence relative to the sad calamity was elicited.

Capt. Bartholomew testified that he is captain of the *America*. She left port about twenty minutes of ten—that, at time of collision, second mate was on watch, and that it was a starlight night—that the boat sunk about eighteen minutes after the collision.

Capt. WM. WILLIAMS—Am Captain of the propeller *City of Oswego*; was coming up; run into 13 or 14 miles, I should think, from Cleveland; the lake was smooth and there was starlight. At the time the collision it was the first mate's watch. I heard the bell toll; saw the *America* coming apparently about two or three lengths off; tolled the bell again; hailed her twice; nobody answered; judging from the foam at her bow she was going at the rate of ten or twelve miles an hour; the propeller was moving about three or four miles an hour, as the engine had failed from five o'clock yesterday morning; was in bed at the time; came out and saw collision was inevitable and ran aft. The *America* struck once, rebounded and struck again. I heard Capt. Bartholomew on deck doing what he could to help us. I instantly turned my attention to getting out our boats. I took charge of one, Mr. Perry of the other; picked up some passengers and put them on the America; returned; picked up deceased who was floating on the water; saw no more bodies floating; think there are some in the propeller now; think some fifteen lives were lost, *among them the 1st mate and one fireman*; lost passenger list, papers and money; believe collision could have been avoided by the America keeping to the right as is the custom, or, by stopping her engine; saw no one on deck out the man at the wheel; he did not answer my hail; when we first saw her were going S. W. half W; turned to avoid her.

WM. S. WILCOX, sworn—Am 1st mate of the propeller City of Oswego; was on watch; saw light of the America first four or five miles, perhaps, ahead. We were *heading for each other*. Told steersman to keep out more in one side; when we first made her we were steering S. W. half W.; when we struck we were steering W. by S. She seemed to be constantly coming towards us.—When she was within 10 or 12 rods I rung the bell; Capt. Williams came out; I hallooed "you'll be into us!" heard no answer even when we struck.—The America seemed to be going at full speed. I ran aft in time to escape and when she struck the second time on the rebound, I jumped aboard the America with two others. She struck us on the larboard bow. (The remainder of this testimony corroborated with that of the Captain.)

MILES HODGKISS, sworn—Saw deceased on board; think her name is Mrs. Skinner; had no family with her; don't know where she was going. I had a wife and 3 children on board; my wife and little girl were lost; my two sons were saved; could not tell how long it was after the propeller was struck before she went down.

William Yankee sworn: Was at the wheel of the *America* when the collision took place. Our course was N. E. by E. ½ E. We were about off Chagrin. Heard no voice from the propeller. When I saw the light, I rang bell, and hailed our second mate. Light was off the starboard bow. After I had rung stopping bell, the mate appeared and rang the backing bell. The mate appeared in a minute or two after I had rung the *stopping bell*. Saw the mate five or ten minutes before I called him. When I rung the bell, the propeller was ten or fifteen rods off. I had been at the wheel a quarter of an hour before the collision took place. The light on the propeller was white. (We understood the witness to say that her signal lights were hid by her jib.)

The jury returned a verdict of death by drowning, in consequence of the collision of the two boats.

Of the culpability involved in this sad affair, it is difficult to decide. The evidence drawn out by the coroner's inquest would not warrant us in pronouncing an opinion. It was necessarily hasty, and not sufficiently complete.

We learn from passengers upon the *America* that the officers and others were unremitting in their efforts to save the sufferers. This was the first trip of the *City of Oswego* upon this lake.

The *America* had but few passengers. Her load was made up mainly of sheep and cattle.

THE FIXED PRINCIPLES OF GENERAL SCOTT.—The Hartford *Times*, with praiseworthy zeal and perseverance, has been diligently engaged in endeavoring to counteract the evil effects which the versatility of principles attributed to General SCOTT *has had and is having among* his Whig friends.—This has been done in a spirit of pure philanthropy, for the *Times* is staunchly democratic. However, after a long search, the editor *cannot fix* Gen. Scott's principles, and to show the folly of wasting any time in the matter, he produces the subjoined testimony:

On the 2d of January, 1817, General Scott wrote a letter to Andrew Jackson, saying that he (Scott) would not accept a challenge from General Jackson, being restrained "by a sense of religion," and "by patriotic motives."

On April 6, 1819, De Witt Clinton issued his card, charging General Scott with dishonorable conduct, and with having perverted the truth.

About the year 1820, De Witt Clinton was elected Governor of New York, and was required to swear in his oath of office that he would not be concerned directly or indirectly, in any duel.

As soon as Governor Clinton had bound himself by his oath, *not* to fight any duel, General Scott challenged him to fight a duel! The challenge was given on account of the card here alluded to, issued a year previously. Gen. Scott's "sense of religion" and "patriotic scruples," had vanished. The truth is, General Scott *has no fixed principles*, and being a weak and exceedingly vain man, he places himself in a ridiculous position as often as he attempts to act or act upon any well defined principle.

Governor Clinton could not, of course, accept the challenge, but informed General Scott "that he would hold his challenge under advisement until General Scott should settle an unadjusted difficulty between himself and one A. Jackson."

HYDROPHOBIA CURED.—A son of Mr. Waite, of Cincinnati, as we learn from the *Gazette*, was recently seized with hydrophobia, but by judicious treatment he has entirely recovered, though a running wound is *intended to be kept up where the lad* was bitten, in order to prevent the possibility of a return of the symptoms. The vesicles which formed under the tongue rapidly disappeared under administration of Lachesis, a medicine prepared from the virus of the lance-headed adder, which was given as an antidote to the poison, and the spasms were prevented by the use of belladonna and other remedies.

THE COST OF WHIG RULE.—The fact is fully ascertained from the record, that this whig administration through the first three years of his existence has spent a larger sum of money yearly to carry on the government in time of peace than Mr. Polk's administration spent yearly with the Mexican war on its hands. This is surely a fact which must set the people to thinking whether Whig executive rule does not cost more than it is worth. It must, as we should judge, bring men's minds to the conclusion, that to elect another Whig President will not be good economy.—*Evening Argus.*

Erie Weekly Observer.

ERIE, PA.

SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 17, 1852.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

FOR PRESIDENT,
GEN. FRANKLIN PIERCE,
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT,
WILLIAM R. KING,
OF ALABAMA.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER,
WM. SEARIGHT of Fayette County.

☞ We are indebted to Gen Sam Houston, and Hon. Richard H. Broadhead, of the Senate, and Hon. John L. Dawson and Hon. C. B. Curtis, of the House for valuable congressional favors.

A Proposition.

Having a great regard for our whig friends, we propose to send all who may favor us with their address, the *Observer* for one year, payable at our advance price—$1 50—when Gen Pierce is elected President. This offer, of course, is only open to responsible men. Whig Post Masters, and responsible whigs generally, are authorized to procure names on these terms—*with the understanding*, however, that they will be held responsible for the amount, should the persons to whom the paper is thus sent *fail to pay* within one month from the time it is ascertained that Gen. Pierce is elected President. We append this latter condition, because we took a few subscribers on similar terms last fall, and although it is pretty well ascertained that Bigler is Governor, *we have'nt seen the pay for our papers yet.*

Now gentlemen whigs, send in your names—here is a first rate chance to get a paper a year for nothing, *if you believe your own professions!* If our side should happen to win, as in '44—a thing improbable, *you say*—why you loose nothing, for the paper is certainly worth the price.

O, Such a Fizzle.

"But yesterday, the word of Cæsar might
Have stood against the world; now lies he there,
And none so poor to do him reverence."

The long agony is over—the mountain has labored and brought forth a—Scott ratification meeting in Erie, and if its name was not Mouse, it certainly was—Fizzle! Never did the faithful labor with more zeal to make a demonstration in Erie, than to get up the meeting on Thursday night, and never did their investment in that line pay less. Their call, numerously signed, was extensively circulated; in addition to which, the remnant of the Market House clique, and some of their "illustrious successors," were personally out rallying their forces. The night came, the bell rung, the cannon, purchased expressly for the occasion, boomed out its warning that the time for action had arrived: but the people that were wont to rally en mass at the toll of that same old bell, were not there. The enthusiasm of 1840, '44 and '48, was entirely wanting—

But yesterday the word of Cæsar might
Have stood against the world;

But now,—

"Farewell, a long farewell, to all his greatness."

Candidly we do not believe there were over one hundred all told, whigs, boys and Democrats, present. And as for the enthusiasm, except what was displayed by the man with the big cane thumping one of the unoccupied benches, it did not show itself. The ball was opened, after the organization, by our eloquent friend Elijah. He recounted, in sentences long drawn out, and with actions bold, the history, perils and results of the Baltimore convention, as viewed by himself as delegate from this district. The most important piece of information he treated us to, was the discovery he had made while absent—(our devil thinks he never discovered it at *home*)—that all the *handsome* ladies are whigs, and he was very anxious some of his bachelor friends *should tell the reason*. Here the big cane made a tremendous noise, and the boys whisteled as much as to say—what a whopper! Our amiable friend Walker then, with one eye on Congress and the other on the big cane, launched out into the blood and thunder drum and fife line of argument, or rather declamation. The big cane now redoubled its attack upon the unoffending bench, the orator waxed more eloquent—(in his own estimation)—the boys began to get sleepy and drop off home—the tallow candles began to run down and grow dim, and as we concluded the big cane would soon get tired, and as the fun was about over, we retired too. Soon after we heard the bell tolled, and we presume the mourners were dismissed. And thus lived and died, blazed and went out, the first Scott demonstration in Erie.

☞ We are pleased to see that the Democracy of the Fayette district, in this State, have re-nominated their present able and eloquent member, Gen. Dawson, for Congress. He is one of the most talented and popular members of the present Congress, and it would be a misfortune to Pennsylvania to lose his services, and she will not; he will be re-elected by a decisive majority.

☞ "A Daniel come to judgment! Yea, a Daniel."—*Shakspeare.*

It is not very probable the immortal Bard, quoted above, had our *learned* neighbor of the *Commercial* in view when he penned this line, yet one cannot help exclaiming, upon reading that worthy savan's "helter-skelter, dodge and thrust" attempts at newspaper criticism, "Yea, a second Daniel!" has surely come among us. In proving Gen. Scott is *not* a Catholic,—which impression, it appears, the Editor is afraid will hurt the General's prospects among the faithful in Erie county—our Daniel quotes from, what he calls, Gen Scott's "own testimony," which "testimony" is an extract from his "*native*" letter to Reid in 1811. In the very next article, in the same column, in attempting to relieve Scott of the odium of "Nativism," the Editor tells us "*it is a matter of doubt whether Gen. Scott ever wrote the letter.*" Now to our un-learned, un-disciplined mind, it would appear that a letter which is Gen Scott's "own testimony" to prove him no Catholic, ought to be Gen. Scott's "own testimony" to prove him a *Native American!* Perhaps, however, as our *learned* friend is a Lawyer he has discovered a new rule of evidence, by which a certain letter is the culprit's "own testimony" to prove him one thing, but is a gross forgery when used to prove him another. Verily, is he not a "Daniel, Yea, a second Daniel!"

☞ VERY TRUE.—The *Gazette* says the whig party in Pennsylvania—and especially in Erie county—is a *unit* in support of Scott and Graham! Very true—when the votes come to be counted, they will read thus: Scott and Graham, units, tens—Pierce and King, hundreds, thousands!

☞ We have heard of a family in this County, containing five or six *Democratic* votes, all of which will be cast for Scott and Graham, doubtless many instances of this sort could, with a little attention, be cited.—*Gazette*

The above is pure fiction, we have no doubt; but here is a case that is not. One of the signers of the call for the Scott rally on Thursday night—and a whig, true and staunch—has been offering to bet, and we understand the offer is still open, $10,000 in Bonds of the Erie Canal Company on the election of Pierce. He has also $500 on each state in the Union which he wishes to invest in the same way. He says he is bound to vote for Scott, but that will not prevent him from making a "ten strike" on Frank Pierce, if any of his whig friends are sanguine enough to risk their dimes. We call this backing ones friends—in a horn!

☞ The Washington correspondent of the New York Express, says that Col. Wm. B. Campbell, the present *Governor of Tennessee, who served in the Mexican war* has "telegraphed to the Tennessee members of Congress that he will not support the nomination" of Scott.

☞ The life of Gen. Pierce has been published at Baltimore in German, with a fine portrait, and a song on the nominee to be sung in the original language of the fatherland.

Religious Toleration in Politics.

"O, how full of briers is this working-day world."—*Shakespeare.*

The whig party has certainly fell upon "troublesome times," and its leaders, we doubt not, are ready to exclaim with Shakespeare amended, "O, how full of briers is this Locofoco world." Whichever way they turn trouble meets them in the face—whatever political path they take, it is soon found "full of briers," ready to lacerate their feelings and retard their progress. The nomination of PIERCE was their first trouble, and present appearances indicate that it will be a sore one even to the end. They had prepared for discensions in the Democratic ranks, but they have found unity of action, unity of feeling, and unity of purpose. Where they counted upon shouts of division, as in '48, they have found cheering responses of confidence and hope! But this was not the full length and breadth of the "sea of trouble, before them!! They were troubled to find an open spot to attack the Democratic nominee, his coat of mail being so well put together, and his position so impreguable. But desperate cases require desperate remedies, and the charge soon became hinted abroad that Pierce was inimical to the Catholic portion of the people because he resided in a State, the Constitution of which has an anti-republican "religious test." This was greedily seized upon, and we soon find the whole kennel of party organs, "Tray, Blanche, and Sweetheart," all in full cry, and as fierce as one of Gen. Taylor's blood-hounds upon the track of a Seminole! They became all at once great friends of the Catholics; great champions of Catholic rights, and fierce denunciators of Catholic wrongs—particularly in New Hampshire! They forgot their Philadelphia church burning sympathies!—they forgot their wholesale denunciation of the lamented SHUMK for walking in a Catholic procession in Pittsburgh!—they forgot every thing, but that the Constitution of New Hampshire, adopted before our nominee was born, excluded Catholics from holding office! For this they held him accountable!—for this they denounced the Democracy, and called upon all Catholics to abjure the Democratic faith, and thus allow their "sectarianism" "to become a motive in political action!" The bait, however, didn't take, for it aroused inquiry and inquiry exhibited Gen. Pierce in the Convention called to amend the Constitution, and before the people, eloquently seeking to have the "religious test" stricken out. Inquiry showed more—it exhibited prominent whigs, such as the whig candidate for Governor, opposing Pierce in these efforts! The Catholics were not to be caught with that bait, and hence our whig friends dropped it, to use a homely simile, "like a hot potatoe." Not, however, until they got their fingers burnt, for in the early stage of their zeal to secure the Catholic vote, they more than intimated that Scott was entitled to Catholic sympathy and support because he was about half a Catholic himself, having allowed his daughter to be reared and educated in a convent, and as Commander-in-Chief of the Army in Mexico, had protected Catholic Churches from being despoiled, and compelled his Army to observe Catholic usages and ceremonies on public days. This they thought at the time a capital stroke of policy—a beautiful net in which to catch votes! But lo! a change came over the spirit of their blissful dreams; for, instead of having the desired effect with the denomination it was intended to "draw on," the members of that church could see as plain as their self-constituted tutors that such a course on the part of Scott was nothing more than what prudence and duty, and the orders of his superior, the President commanded: and that its being brought to their notice at this particular juncture was not because these whig Editors respected the Catholics and their religion, but because they loved power and place, and thought by "mixing sectarianism with politics"—making it "a motive in political action"—they might obtain both! It was about the time these new whig opponents of "mixing religion in politics" found the "investment would not pay," that the fact seemed to dawn upon them that, if "*sectarianism*" was to enter into the contest—that if a man's qualifications for official trust were to be measured by his sectarian creed—the Protestant portion of their own party would, in all probability, be found in the field anxiously inquiring, like Daniel Webster, "where are we to go?" and it was then, and not till then, they became fully impressed with the acknowledged truth that "religion should be kept aloof from politics." Having made this discovery after a great deal of trouble, however, it is to be hoped they will now stick to it, and that we shall hear no more of sectarian appeals for votes. It is a truth the Democracy have long taught. It is no new creed with them; it is a fundamental plank in the Democratic faith that "religion should be kept aloof from politics." But is it so with the whigs?—has their past course demonstrated it?—is their present position in consonance with it? These are important queries, and the answer, we apprehend, if given in accordance with the facts and the evidence will be in the negative. If the whig party does not occupy the unenviable position of having endeavored to make sectarianism a "motive in political action," why is it deemed necessary by its organs now to prove Gen. Scott no Catholic! What if he is a Catholic—what if he is a Presbyterian—what if he is a Methodist—will either proposition array a portion of the whig party against him? If it will, by whom have that portion been taught to carry their sectarianism to the ballot-box, if not by their political teachers! Where have they learned to trample under foot one of the fundamental principles of a free government, if not in their party relations! Again, were it surmised that Gen. Scott leaned towards the Methodist or Presbyterian, or, in fact, any church but of the Catholic, would these "teachers in whiggery" be so anxious to prove its untruth! We hardly think they would! Indeed, we are inclined to the belief that so far from it they would eagerly seize upon the fact, and claim it as a merit, rather than give it as a reason why "whigs propose not to vote for him"—Gen Scott! The imperative necessity, therefore, these political teachers find themselves driven to, to prove Gen Scott is not a member of a particular church, sposes a trumpet-tounged in condemnation, and in proof, of their hitherto sectarian teachings.

☞ COMING IN.—Martin Van Buren has written a manly letter endorsing the nomination of Pierce; and we see, in this connection, that the Hon. Robert Rantoul, an eloquent Massachusetts Democrat, who for a few years past, has acted with the Free Soil party, has come to "himself again." There was a grand mass meeting of the Democracy of the 2d congressional district of Massachusetts on the 5th instant, on which occasion Mr. Rantoul made an eloquent and powerful speech, in the course of which he declared his intention to support Gen. Pierce for the Presidency. The speaker was greeted with the most enthusiastic applause.

☞ The Homestead Law of Illinois, which secured the possession of a homestead to every family, of $1000, if they had so much, has just been repealed by a called session of the Legislature of that State. Its operation was such as to call for a general demand for repeal.—Such laws, like precocious children, are generally short lived.

☞ When (in) Mexico, Gen. Scott is represented to have written to the War Department at Washington, "Keep your d——d *Foreigners* at home. I want *Native American* soldiers." This story, we presume, is no less true than that which would fix upon Gen. Pierce the stain of cowardice, which the honorable Whig editors of this city and elsewhere have been striving to fix upon him.

☞ Another Yankee Yacht has been victorious in a British Yacht race at Birkenhead lately. It was the sloop Truant of 3½ tons, taken over for the purpose by Mr. Grinnell, of New York. She beat three model yachts with the greatest ease.

☞ ALL RIGHT.—Hon. Wm. Wright, the Whig candidate for Governor of New Jersey in 1847, has come out in favor of Pierce and King, against Gen Scott.—Mr Wright is a gentleman of much influence in that State, and will prove a serious thorn in the flesh of whiggery there.

☞ The Whig papers seem to be sorely troubled because John Van Buren has not gone somewhere to fight a duel with N. P. Willis. There is another man who did not seem inclined to fight on a certain occasion because of his "religious scruples," but who afterwards forgot these "religious scruples," and challenged Gov. Clinton, yet these papers have not said anything about that.

That "Fire in the Rear" by Platoons.

We publish in another column a communication to the "*National Intelligencer*," from nine whig members of Congress, repudiating the nomination of Scott, and declaring their determination to oppose his election.—This is emphatically a "fire in the rear" by platoons, and it argues any thing but success to "availability" and "military glory." This movement is an important one—important in its influence, and important in its results; and however much certain interested Editors, with Free Soil tendencies, may affect to sneer at it, and attempt to belittle the influence of the signers of this manifesto, the fact is incontestible that it more than insures several heretofore doubtful whig States—states that cast their votes for Taylor in 1848—for Gen Pierce! The *Tribune* and the *Times* say they are glad these malcontents have left the whig ranks—their echoes throughout the country, as in duty bound, re-echo the same gurtification; and we cannot say we are at all sorry. Not so, however, with the New York *Courier and Enquirer*, a paper that has probably more political sagacity than all the *Tribunes* and *Times*, and their echoes, in the land. That paper, although a supporter of Gen. Scott, cannot blind itself to the disaster such a revolt as this is likely to bring upon his cause. Hear it:

"In another column may be found the most important political manifesto that has appeared since the Baltimore Convention. It is a joint declaration of nine whig members of Congress that they will not support Gen. Scott as a candidate for the Presidency. The movement cannot be regarded as a merely local one, inasmuch as those who participate in it are representatives from five different States. It is understood, and we firmly believe correctly so, that certain whig members from three other States, Florida, North Carolina and Kentucky, are about to make public a similar determination, so that in fact an emphatic voice of repudiation of the Baltimore nominee has, or straightway will, come from every slaveholding State having a single whig member in Congress, except Maryland, Louisiana, and Missouri. The demonstration is as important in character as in extent. The parties to it are known to be politicians of much ability, experience, and influence, comprising indeed, so far as these attributes are concerned, the very flower of the whig Southern Delegation of the House of Representatives. Some of them have labored for a whole life time in the whig cause, and to their exertions more than to any other agency has it been owing that the Districts and even the States where they live were not long since given over to the occupancy of the enemy.

Now it is neither wise nor profitable, like one of our neighbors, to blind one's eyes to these developments by thrusting the head in the sand, nor, like another, to speak of them only in the language of taunt and derision. Such a defection in the most exposed wing of the whig party is a misfortune, and one to be plainly understood and seriously considered. We regret its occurrence, and none the less so because it verifies our predictions and realizes our warnings. It is incontestable that the nomination of Daniel Webster would have averted all movement like this and kept the whole whig line unbroken. Again and again did we, with all the ardor that anxiety for the success of whig principles could inspire, urge this as a controlling reason for that nomination. Again and again did we show that the inevitable effect of the selection of Gen Scott would be to produce sectional opposition, an open rupture, and final defeat. But all reasoning upon the matter was vain. The old soldier was nominated, and though he has had the advantage of being furnished with the strongest possible platform to stand upon, the evidences of the inexpediency of the act are every day becoming more painfully manifest."

☞ The editor of the Alb. Knickerbocker, who was a member of the Whig Convention that nominated Gen. Scott for the Presidency, says: "The nomination of Gen. Scott disposes of three things—Fillmore's hopes, Webster's prospects, and Hugh Maxwell's influence.—It takes the back bone out of the Silver Grays, and leaves nothing for them to do but to fret, snarl, and die." Harmoneous Whiggery.

A Backhanded Compliment.

Mr. Webster is evidently not very well pleased with the nomination of Gen. Scott. He don't denounce the "military candidate" it is true, for that would annihilate the "rusty" General's hopes at once—he prefers to hit him slily under the ribs, and thus keep him in suspense until the Democracy finishes him in November. There is a spice of cruelty in "Black Dan's" composition, which he has more than once exhibited in his political controversies, and which he is now indulging at the expense of what he styles "a successful military man"—The other day he went to Boston, and as Boston could not give him the nomination, she determined so give him a grand reception. Well, Boston "done it up brown"—such another procession was never in sight of Faneuil Hall before; it is said to have contained over 30,000 people, and when Mr. Webster responded, among other things, he said:

"And now, gentlemen, I have only to say to you that at my time of life I am not likely to adopt any sudden change. (*Renewed applause.*) *No man can foresee the* future; I prefer to foresee nothing; the future is not ours—the present is all we can claim. I now thank you for the great kindness and regard you have always shown me. I thank you more especially for the civic procession of this day. Many of you are known to me and some of the young are unknown: I ought to express my particular thanks to the military, who made so fine a display.—*You all know gentlemen, that it is not my fortune to be a successful military man* (Great laughter.) I am nothing, (renewed laughter,)—nothing but a hard working, plain taking, drudging civilian, giving my life and health and strength to the maintenance of the Constitution, and the upholding, to the best of my ability, under the providence of God, the liberties of my country."

We call that cool—very cool; and if the Scott whigs did'nt feel a good deal like "caving in about the knees," there is no use in sarcasm!

☞ That remarkable paper, the *Commercial*, will stick to it that "River and Harbor improvements," are "internal improvements," notwithstanding all we and Dr. Wayland can say to the contrary.: Well, we don't blame it for disputing our word, but it is really unkind in our *learned* cotemporary to pronounce what Dr. Wayland says a "milk and water definition." We know the Doctor, although a very respectable professor in one of our best colleges, is no match in point of intellect and learning to this Editor—his sneers at the Doctor are peculiarly unkind, if not ungenerous. Whether the Dr will suppress his widely circulated work hereafter, or whether he will forthwith amend that portion devoted to improvements in accordance with the very lucid views of he of the *Commercial*, are matters which we will not pretend to determine. If he concludes on the latter course, we beg leave to suggest that he secure the services of the Editor of the *Commercial* to point out the exact language in the constitution empowering Congress to "commence and carry on a general system of internal improvements." We have looked over that instrument, and we can't find it—we have asked our cotemporary to find it for us, but as yet he has not put his finger on it—Perhaps he will, however, for the Professor.

But the *Commercial* says we "know the Democratic party has declared, and at various times acted its opposition to 'internal improvements,' even going so far as to pronounce them *unconstitutional*." That is true: the truest thing the *Commercial* ever said; the Democratic party has so declared, and so acted, and we have sustained the party in both, and we mean to again. But, continues the *Commercial*, "He (we) knows, moreover, that the improvements of the harbors on the Lakes, and the repairing of piers, removing snags from rivers, opening their channels, and improving the landings, in a word 'River and Harbor Improvements,' are called and are 'Internal Improvements.' Now, we beg leave to say we know no such thing. The best authors on Political Economy say they are not the same. Gen. Jackson, in his messages says, they are not the same; and more than that he acted as he believed, for while he did not fail to veto "internal improvement" bills, he signed "river and harbor improvement" bills. More than that, there has never been a dollar expended for river and harbor improvements but through the instrumentality of Democratic votes; and moreover, every work that has been commenced of any importance of this character, has been under Democratic administrations. These facts are sufficient answers to all the twattle the *Commercial* can manufacture, or borrow!

☞ H. J. Hastings, who represented Albany in the Whig National Convention, says in his paper—"We cannot see how the friends of freedom and Kossuth can do otherwise than throw their influence in favor of the democrats." Our neighbor of the *Commercial* went it strong for "Kusshout;" what does he say to that!

☞ At a Democratic meeting at Freemont, Sandusky county, Ohio, John L. Green, until now a prominent Whig, was called upon to make a speech, and announced that he should vote for Pierce and King.

☞ The Southern *Star*, an able newspaper published at Jackson, Miss., which has heretofore held a position of neutrality as to national politics, has come out for Pierce and King. The *Atlanta Intelligencer*, a Georgia paper, until now neutral, has run up the flag of Pierce and King, and enlistened zealously for the defeat of the Galphins.

New Advertisements.

ON HAND.

JUST Received at No. 9, Brown's Block State street.
Graham's Magazine for August.
Godey's " " "
Sartain's " " "
And "A Romance of Life in New York, or the Secret order of the Seven" Erie July 17—10 DURLIN & SLOAN

TO PRINTERS.

JUST received at No. 9 Brown's block, by the subscribers, large assortment of Mather's superior

Fine Book, Job, and News Ink.

in 20, 25 and 50 lb kegs, and 1 in cans of 10 lb each—Also, Red, Green and Blue Ink. Those in want cannot find a better price or better article. Erie July 17, 1852 10 DURLIN & SLOAN

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES

Cheap Books and Stationery!!

DURLIN & SLOAN

NO. 9 Brown's Block, State st., Erie, Pa., still continue to sell the most [illegible] assortment of Books on Religious, Moral, Entertaining, History, Biography, Fiction, Poetry, Classical and Juvenile Books, Imperial, Letter, Cap, Letter and Note Papers, Envelopes, Steel Pens. The following are a few of our prices by which the public may judge somewhat of the rest of the stock, viz:

Quarto Bibles, from	$4.	$1.75 to $6.
Pocket " "		50 " 1.
Blank Books, Cap H. B. per qr.		15 " 37
" " F. B. " "		25 " 50
Steel Pens, per gross		62 " 1.00
Envelopes, per 1000		1.25 " 2.25
Playing Cards per doz		75 " 6.00
Cottage Ink, the best in market, per doz.		75

And every thing else in proportion. Call and examine quality and prices, and we are confident we shall be able to satisfy you that No. 9, is the place to buy cheap.

☞ Any quantity of Rags wanted in exchange for Books, at 3 cents per pound.

☞ A liberal reduction from these and corresponding prices made to those who buy to sell again.

N. B. A good canvasser wanted to solicit subscribers for two popular works, at which good wages can be made, as each book sold yields a profit of from 75 cents to $4.

Erie, July 17 1852 10

Notice to the City Collectors and Tax Payers.

THE following Resolution was adopted by the City Councils, Monday evening, July 12, 1852: *Resolved*, By the Select and Common Councils, that the City Collectors be required to collect and pay over to the Treasurer one thousand dollars each in twenty days. Erie July 17—2t10 W. H. SHUNK, Clerk

NOTICE.

Office Erie and North East Railroad Company.
Erie, July 8 1852

NOTICE is hereby given to the Stockholders of this Company that a dividend of three per cent has been declared out of the earnings of the road for the last five months, to the 1st July, payable at the Office in the city on the 15th inst.

By order of the Board of Directors.

July 17—3t—10 J. C. SPENCER, Sec'y

NOTICE WITH A MEANING.

I WISH it now distinctly understood by *all persons interested* that my old business must be closed up without any more delay, and at cost to be avoided on the part of those owing me either by note or account this can only be done by making settlement or giving orders arranging the same before the 1st of next September. I mean in this matter *exactly what I say*.

Erie July 17 1852 10 J. B. CLARK

Settlement! Settlement!!

PERSONS indebted to us will please call and settle before the tenth day of August, next.

Erie July 1852—10 J. B. GUNNISON & CO

PETROLEUM,

"*The Cry is still they Come*"

GREENFIELD, Huron Co. Ohio Jan. 15th 1-51

MR. S. M. KIER—Dear Sir:—Some three weeks ago your agent left me two dozen of your Petroleum. I have sold out—want more—you will please send me four dozen