AMERICAN VOLUNTEER.

JOHN B. BRATTON, Editor & Proprietor,

CARLISLE, PA., SEPT. 27, 1855.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER,
ARNOLD PLUMER,
OF VENANGO COUNTY.

DEMOCRATIC COUNTY TICKET.

Assembly,
WILLIAM HARPER, of Dickinson,
JAMES ANDERSON, of Silver Spring.
Sheriff,
JACOB BOWMAN, of Silver Spring.
Treasurer,
ADAM SENSEMAN, of Carlisle.
Director of the Poor,
WILLIAM CORNMAN, of North Middleton.
Auditor,
ISAAC RINGWALT, of Carlisle.
Coroner,
JOHN WONDERLICH, of North Middleton.

Burnt District Again on Fire!

Democratic Rally.

The Democrats of Dickinson and adjoining townships, will hold a meeting at the Burnt District, on Saturday afternoon, September 29th. Col. A. G. Ege, and other able speakers will be present. All those who are opposed to intolerant and proscriptive Know-Nothingism, are cordially invited to attend.

Silver Spring Wake Up.

A Democratic Meeting will be held at the public house George Duey, in Hougestown at early candle light on Tuesday evening, Oct. 2nd. The Democrats of Silver Spring and adjoining townships, and all opposed to Know-Nothingism and corruption are invited to attend. Turn out Democrats.

MANY.

Sept. 27, 1855.

Democratic Rally.

A Democratic meeting will be held at Costamagna's Hotel, at Boiling Springs, South Middleton tp., on THURSDAY EVENING, September 27th, at early candle light. All opposed to Know-Nothingism and the corrupt legislature of last winter, are cordially invited to attend. Thos. M. Biddle, Esq., and other able speakers will be present. Come one, come all!

MANY.

Dickinson Awake!

A Democratic meeting will be held at the Stone Tavern, on Saturday, the 6th of Oct. at 1 o'clock, P. M., and will be addressed by several able speakers.

THE ADDRESS.—We publish this morning the address of the State Central Committe. It is an important document, containing some wholesome political truths clearly and fully set forth, and should receive, as we have no doubt it will, the careful perusal of every man who rejoices in the name of Democrat.

☞ We are authorized by Maj. ROBT. McCARTNEY, to state that he declines being a candidate for the office of sheriff.

DEATH OF MR. GLEIM.—After our edition had been worked off last week, we received intelligence of the death of Mr. GEORGE GLEIM, of Hampden township, the Democratic nominee for County Commissioner. He had been sick for some three weeks, and died on Tuesday night, the 18th inst. Mr. GLEIM was a highly respectable man, and universally esteemed by those who knew him. Peace to his ashes.

THE COUNTY CONVENTION RE-ASSEMBLED.—The Democratic County Convention of this county re-assembled in the Court-house, in Carlisle, on Tuesday last, to take action in regard to the vacancy in the Democratic ticket, occasioned by the death of Mr. GLEIM. The Convention was small, only 22 delegates being in attendance, and, as will be seen by their proceedings, in another column, a resolution was adopted by a vote of 15 to 7, declaring it inexpedient to nominate a candidate for County Commissioner. The only condidates before the people, therefore, for the office of County Commissioner, are WILLIAM M. HENDERSON, Whig, and CHRISTIAN EBERLY, Know-Nothing.

☞ The Democratic meeting at Sholl's hotel, in this borough, on Saturday evening, was well attended, and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed. THOS. M. BIDDLE, Esq., and Col. A. G. EGE delivered eloquent speeches, and both took occasion to allude, in feeling terms, to the late J. ELLIS BONHAM, whose musical voice had been heard in that same room, that night one year ago. We noticed the tear to glisten in many eyes during this reference to the lamented and beloved deceased.

☞ Ex-Gov. Bigler is expected to speak at a Democratic meeting, to be held at Bloomfield, Perry co., on the 4th of October. The Governor is a native of that county.

WATCHES AND JEWELRY.—Our friend CONLYN, on West Main street, has just returned from the city, with a very extensive and beautiful assortment of watches, jewelry, &c., which he is prepared sell at reduced prices. Give him an early call.

PREMIUM FOR CORN.—We are authorized to say that the Cumberland County Agricultural Society will pay a premium of *three dollars* for the three best ears of Corn, of Cumberland county growth, which shall be exhibited at their Annual Exhibition on the 17th of October.

Democrats of Cumberland!

Never were the prospects more encouraging for the Democracy of Pennsylvania, than they are at this time. And the Democracy of Cumberland seem to have taken courage from this and are working in good earnest for the success of our ticket. The ticket presented by the Democracy for the suffrage of the people is a good one, and, judging from the spirit and enthusiasm which prevails everywhere, we feel confident it will be elected by a triumphant majority. Sound the word along the line, that there is no such word as fail, if we all do our duty. Then continue the work in good earnest until the polls are closed and our ticket will have received that consideration at the hands of the people, it so richly deserves. Work! Work!! Work!!! is the watchword.

PENNSYLVANIA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.—The trustees of the State Agricultural Society met at Harrisburg last week, and fixed upon Gen. James Irvin's farm, in Centre county, as the location for the State Agricultural College, it having been given as a donation for the purpose, together with a bonus of $10,000 offered by the citizens of Centre county.

THE DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

The Democratic ticket for this county, we are rejoiced to say, gives universal satisfaction in all parts of the county. How could it be otherwise? The ticket is composed of men whose characters, moral and political, are without spot or blemish. When compared with the Know-Nothing ticket, every fair man will acknowledge it far superior in every essential particular.

For Assembly, we have that old and honest Democrat, WILLIAM HARPER of Dickinson, and the efficient and trust-worthy ANDERSON of Silver Spring. These gentlemen are Democrats from principle, and were among the earliest opponents of Know-Nothingism in our county.—Should they be elected, they will use their best efforts to repeal the NODDER LAW of last session, by which the members of Assembly nearly doubled their own pay! This was one of the greatest outrages ever perpetrated by a Pennsylvania Legislature, and Messrs. HARPER and ANDERSON are pledged to urge its repeal, and thus save to the tax payers of the State many thousands of dollars.

For Sheriff the Convention selected Major JACOB BOWMAN of Silver Spring, a gentleman every way qualified for a faithful discharge of the duties of the office, and who is warmly esteemed by all who know him. He is a hard-working and industrious mechanic, and, unlike his competitor, has never held office of any kind. Even now, his nomination is not of his asking; it was confered upon him by the voluntary action of his party, without solicitation on his part. The office seeks him, not him the office, and this can be said of every man on the Democratic ticket. We think that such a man, with a reputation entirely unspotted, cannot fail to command a majority of the votes of Cumberland county.

The candidate for Treasurer, ADAM SENSEMAN, of Carlisle, is an upright, intelligent and capable man, and will make a most efficient officer. Affable and courteous in his demeanor, he has always been highly popular with the people, especially with those who know him best. In his private relations, he is unexceptionable in character, and has always been a consistent Democrat.

For Director of the Poor, we have WILLIAM CORNMAN of North Middleton township, a gentleman of unimpeachable character, and a firm and unyielding Democrat. The interests of our county and its unfortunate poor will find in him a faithful guardian of their rights.

For the offices of Auditor and Coroner, ISAAC RINGWALT of Carlisle, and JOHN WONDERLICH of North Middleton township, are the candidates. Mr. RINGWALT, it is well known, is one of the best accountants in our county, a true Democrat and honest man, and is peculiarly qualified for this office, and will bring to his aid considerable experience. Mr. WONDERLICH, the candidate for Coroner, is well calculated to discharge its important duties, and, should any accident occur to the Sheriff, would fill the post with honor to himself and advantage to the best interests of the people.

Now, Democrats and freemen of Cumberland county, you who love open, fair, and manly dealing, is not this Ticket worthy your serious, active and generous exertion? Let every man go to work as if he felt that the responsibility rested upon himself alone, and the result cannot be doubtful. Hundreds of good honest Democrats as well as good honest Whigs, who were last year led either to join or vote with the dangerous Order of Know-Nothings, from mistaken notions, will go with them no longer—and we most sincerely trust that every man who desires to stand before the world as a FREEMAN, will exhibit the fact by fearlessly voting the Democratic Ticket as presented above.

☞ The attempts of the *American* to make it appear that when a member of a Know-Nothing lodge pleases to sever his connection with it, the adhering members can then attack, and expose, and villify him, is not only bad logic, but supremely ridiculous and absurd.—Ask your State Council at Philadelphia. Mr. *American*, and you will be told that you preach false doctrine and have been speaking "without the book." Because a member pleases to leave the lodge, he is no longer a "brother," eh? Then do you admit, sapient *American*, that that "brother" is absolved from the oaths he had taken, and is at liberty to divulge all the secrets of the lodge? If you are at liberty to expose him, and publish his name to the world as a recreant Know-Nothing, certainly you must admit that he too, is no longer restrained by his obligations, and is at full liberty to divulge all he knows concerning the doings of the midnight order. If you are absolved, so is he—the rule must work both ways—both parties are bound by their oaths, or neither. The *American*, therefore, in publishing the names of recreant members and exposing other secrets transacted in the Council, violated the principal oath of the order, and is evidence to our mind that the editor considers the obligation a mere rope of sand, and of no bending force—and this is the fact. The oaths administered in Know-Nothing lodges are illegal, unlawful, unconstitutional, blasphemous and wicked, and leading members of that despicable faction regard them such, and violate them whenever it suits their convenience.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION.

At the call of the Standing Committee the former county convention met at the Court house, on the 25th day of Sept., for the purpose of nominating a county Commissioner to fill the place of Geo. Gleim, dec'd. The following members were present:

Carlisle—E. W.—M. Holcomb, I. Ringwalt.
Carlisle—W. W.—W. Foulk. Sam'l. Crop.
Dickinson—S. Woodburn, J. Redsecker.
Hopewell—Christian R. Peslee, Joshua W. Vanderbelt.
Hampden—N. H. Eckles, John Zeamer.
Mechanicsburg—S. M, Eminger Wm. Eckels.
Mifflin—John B. Perry.
Monroe—Moses Bricker, D. Voglesong.
Newville—D. S. Dunlap.
Newton—T. McCullouch, D. J. McKee.
N. Middleton—E. Light.
S. Middleton—S. Gleim, T. Bradley,
U. Allen—Thos. Gould, A. Floyd.

The following resolutions were offered, and agreed to:

Resolved, That, as the day of the election is now close at hand, we deem it inexpedient to nominate a candidate for County Commissioner, to supply the vacancy on the Democratic ticket occasioned by the death of Mr. Gleim.

Resolved, That the Democrats of the different townships, wards and boroughs be earnestly requested to turn out to a man on the 2d Tuesday of October, and vote the Democratic ticket. Our triumph is certain if we all perform our duty.

Resolved, That these proceedings be signed by the officers, and published in the *Volunteer* and *Democrat*.

SAM'L. WOODBURN, *Pres.*

I. Ringwalt, N. H. Eckels. } *Secretaries.*

DEMOCRATS ORGANIZE!—Will not the Democrats of each Township take speedy action, so as to have a *full* and *thorough* organization?—This is all important.

THE KNOW-NOTHING TICKET.

When we see men of different politics banded together, by oaths and obligations, the better to enable them to procure office for themselves, we may take it for granted they are unworthy the confidence of either Democrats or Whigs. The men composing the Know-Nothing ticket of this county are all things to all men, in the hope that they may win thereby, and feather their own nests. Let a Whig ask JOHN WILLIAMS, the K. N. candidate for Treasurer, if *he* is still a Whig and admirer of Whig principles, and he will answer "certainly I am a Whig still, and opposed to the vile Loco-focos as much as ever!" Then let a Democrat and a friend of the National administration ask WM. REILY, the K. N. candidate for Sheriff, if he is yet a Democrat, and he will respond "of course I am, and I hate the Federalists (as he always called the Whigs) as much to-day as I ever did!" And yet we find WILLIAMS and REILY on the same ticket—both are willing to sacrifice their professed principles, provided they can secure office for themselves. But let us examine this Know-Nothing ticket a little more in detail. Who are the men who compose it?—With their private characters of course we have nothing to do, but of their fitness for office and the manner they obtained their nomination, we have a right to speak, and we shall do so boldly, and without the fear of Know-Nothingism before our eyes.

The Know-Nothing ticket is *headed* with a recreant Democrat, and *tailed* with "another of the same sort." VALENTINE FEEMAN, the first man on the ticket, has long had a desire to occupy a cushioned seat in the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, and was a standing candidate before the Democratic Conventions for many years past.—But, some how or other the Democrats never could discover his merits—in plain English they considered him utterly disqualified for this position, and obstinately refused to nominate him. After many ineffectual efforts to procure a nomination from the Democrats, he at length became "disgusted" with his party, and joined the K. N's. in the hope of better luck. He has won, so far as nomination is concerned, but the people have yet to speak, and, if we are not much mistaken, they will tell VALENTINE to remain at home in the quiet enjoyment of private life.

The other nominee for Assembly is JACOB BOMBARGER, of Shippensburg, an ex-editor, and a man of some talent. When Gen. SCOTT was a candidate for President, Mr. B. was a great admirer of the "Irish brogue," and "sweet German accent," and *then* thought that every *true* American was in duty bound to vote against Gen. PIERCE, *because* the Constitution of his (Pierce's) State contained a clause making Catholics ineligible to office!—These were Mr. BOMBARGER'S views in 1852, but *now* he is on the other side of the question, and we find him in mid-night lodges, concocting schemes to deprive Catholics and naturalized foreigners of their rights as citizens! How easy it is for a man without principles to change his views, if by so doing he can serve himself. He is a very suitable colleague for FEEMAN. What a pair of *disinterested* worthies they are!

Next on the ticket, is our corpulent friend, WM. REILY, about whom we spoke in our last. He has been made fat and sleek by gorging himself on Democratic pap. For nearly eleven successive years he has held office under the Democratic party, during all of which time he was a decided, and even vindictive partizan, and only found out that the party was "in favor of the Pope and the devil," when he was turned out of office! He is *intensely* American in his feelings just now, and, notwithstanding he is the son of an Irishman and a foreigner, he desires the people to consider him a much better American than is his competitor, Maj. BOWMAN, who was born in Cumberland county, and whose father before him was an American by birth, and one of the American army in 1812. Mr. REILY, as we proved in our paper of last week, got his nomination by the basest piece of villainy ever practiced in this or any other county. Let the people pass judgement upon that transaction.

For County Treasurer, the night-owls selected our *amiable* friend, Mr. JOHN WILLIAMS, who is as cold as an icicle and sour as a crab apple. He would just as soon bite a Democrat as look at him; but, as we have had some experience in fighting snappers of his species, we shall attempt to extract his fangs, and make his jaws a mass of toothless gums that can hurt nobody. But, seriously, JOHN WILLIAMS is about the last man in Cumberland county to be elected to *any* office, for a more morose, selfish, bigoted, dogmatical piece of humanity, is not to be found within the limits of our county. In his private relations he may be, and doubtless is, a good enough man, but for a *public* position, he has no qualifications, and would make an exceedingly unpleasant officer.

CHRISTIAN EBERLY is the candidate for County Commissioner, but how he got on the ticket is known to but two or three Know-Nothing demagogues. Certain it is he was never nominated by the Lodges. Mr. E. has heretofore been a Whig—got on the K. N. ticket by a bargain and sale, and will be ingloriously defeated on the second Tuesday of October

JACOB HEMMINGER of Dickinson, is the nominee for Director of the Poor, and JAMES POSTLETHWAITE, of Carlisle, for Coroner. The first is a recreant Democrat, who, like FEEMAN, has been a constant applicant for office. He is, we believe, a respectable man, but has no qualifications for this office. Mr. POSTLETHWAITE has always been a bitter and vindictive Federalist, and would no doubt be happy to hold an inquest over the body of every Democrat in Cumberland county. He affects to hate the Pope, but his hatred of democracy is much more intense.

The tail of the ticket is graced with the name of FRED'K. MENTZER, of Frankford, for Auditor! Should he be elected he will have to employ a clerk to perform the duties for him, for it is notorious that he has no capacity either as a clerk or accountant. What induced the K. N's. to nominate him for this office, we cannot determine. It is an important office, and cannot be filled by an ignorant uneducated man. Every tax-payer desires to have a capable man to audit the heavy accounts of the county, and must see the necessity of supporting ISAAC RINGWALT, who is a good accountant and scholar.

Such, fellow-citizens, is the Know-Nothing ticket. It was nominated at mid-night, by a few political adventurers, and will be defeated in the light of the sun on the second Tuesday of October.

THAT "AMENDE HONORABLE."

Thinking the ostensible editor of the *American* was sincere when he offered to make honorable amends for the calumnies with which his paper had teemed for weeks, upon our convincing him of his error, we met him, by his own appointment, and took the test he desired, and with which he declared himself "satisfied."—After this compliance on our part, and expression of satisfaction on his, we confess we were not a little surprised to discover this "*amende honorable*," about which he has been prating so much of late, in the shape of a miserable attempt at a justification of those very calumnies one whole column in length, which winds up with an indirect imputation that we falsified upon oath. Though this masterpiece of transparent duplicity, introduced with a garbled copy of our affidavit, is really unworthy of notice, we will stop a moment to examine it—but first, a brief recital of a few introductory facts may assist in setting it in its proper light.

It will be remembered by his readers that about the 1st of August, he put forth a most infamous libel against the party named in his "*amende honorable*." On the 29th of the same month he repeated his attack with such aggravation as, in our humble opinion, should have prepared him for anything in reply. The person assailed called upon us and desired us to publish his reply under his own signature. This we refused to do, as we informed Mr. Zinn two weeks ago. He then requested permission to write an editorial in answer, inasmuch as he was charged with having already assisted us. To this we assented, but when shown the article, declined it, as almost as exceptionable as his first. We, however, having commenced an editorial in reply, told him to furnish some facts for our guidance. This he did, and we told Mr. Zinn so before the Justice, as he himself admits in his last issue. We would have shown him the manuscript had he desired it. What sense then was exhibited by his parading before his readers as a great *discovery*, the manuscript containing those facts, we cannot perceive; though we can perceive something worse than *non*-sense in disclosing thereby the clandestine manner in which possession of that manuscript was acquired. He says it was "picked up" by a friend and taken to him. We were taught it was dishonorable to open another's letter, and criminal to carry from his door without perusision what did not belong to us. But this teaching, whether right or wrong, does not apply to this case. The manuscript in question was purloined from our sanctum, together with a number of post-office envelopes, and a large quantity of our own manuscript, some of which had appeared in our issue of the preceeding week. The balance was intended for the week following. It is hardly necessary to add that the use made of the former manuscript was in faultless harmony with the manner of its acquisition.

Wm. J. Shearer had never concerned himself about Mr. Zinn or any of his friends, and why the whole pack has been howling at his heels with more than bloodhound ferocity, we leave to an impartial community to gather from this "amende honorable." It will be seen that the writer labors through three-fourths of that column to vindicate himself from the charge of malicious defamation. He first relies upon "certain circumstances within his own knowledge, and information derived from others," without daring to disclose either those circumstances, or that information. Perceiving on review the utter insufficiency of those vague generalities to secure credence, or reminded by his friends of their glaring falsity with the merit which attaches to the candor of necessity he abandons them all, and informs his readers that he "*will be glad to exhibit this manuscript as* THE grounds of his action." No doubt he would be *glad* to do so; but has he so poor an opinion of his friends as to suppose they will receive as such, a manuscript that was not even written, much less in *his* possession when the last attack appeared in the "American." He can't transpose dates: he can't even confound them. It was folly in him to attempt it. The transaction is too recent; but, were it even remote, he would find himself in the same awkward predicament; would fail, at any length of time of justifying an attack by producing as the ground of that attack the retaliation it provoked. In view of the above facts which he has labored so fruitlessly to suppress, his profound argument drawn from the words "our former style of speaking"—made our own by adoption in *another's* defence—by which he claims the credit of having convinced himself that we did not write the former editorials in *our own* defence, is in our opinion, to say the least of it, as choice a specimen of unweaned puerility as was ever displayed within the 'creeping ground' of a wet-nursery. But, as he acknowledges that honesty is so expensive—truth so fatal to his cause, as to drive him to such pitiable expedients, we will in kindness drop the subject; and only add that though we have no desire to deprive him of that "precious" scrap, with which he appears to have fallen so desperately in love, we would be obliged to his "street-picking" friend for a return of our own manuscript and those post-office envelopes, if in his possession. As a further inducement, we offer the "Lodger's" terms in similar cases:—"A liberal reward and no questions asked."

For the weakness of having attempted to convince men against their will, we respectfully beg pardon of our readers. That we shall never be guilty of again suspecting a Know-Nothing editor of sincerity, we here pledge our word. If a man deceives us once, it is our misfortune—if twice, our fault. The preventive of a repetition is in our own hands; we will be responsible if it is abused.

An Immense Meeting,

The celebratian of the 68th anniversary of the adoption of the Federal Constitution, in Philadelphia, on the evening of the 17th inst., was a monster assemblage of the Democracy. Independence Square was filled to overflowing, and the Pennsylvanian estimates the number of persons present at 30,000! The meeting was presided over by that veteran Democrat, FRED'K. STEVEN, who was assisted by a large number of Vice Presidents and Secretaries. Strong resolutions were adopted, and patriotic letters read from Gen, Lewis Cass, of Michigan, Hon. G. M, Dallas, ex-Governor Bigler, Gov. Henry A. Wise, of Virginia, Hon. John Slidell, of Louisana, Hon. John R. Thompson, of N. J., and Hon. Daniel E. Sickles, of New York.—Speeches were made by Hon. W. A. Richardson, Col. John W. Forney, Hon. Barclay Martin, Hon. A. O. P. Nicholson, H. Sewell, G. F. Staid, Hon. H. B. Wright, Hon. T. B. Florence, Hon. W. H. Whitte, Hon. D. E. Sickles, O. W. Carrigan, and others.

PLATFORM BEFUIVE.—The agent for this county, Mr. WM. GREELE, is now engaged in disposing of this important invention, to our citizens. The hive is so constructed as to protect the bees from their different enemies, and combines many other desirable improvements.

ADDRESS
OF
The Democratic State Central Committee.

To the People of Pennsylvania:

FELLOW CITIZENS:—In the performance of our duty, we lately addressed you on the subject of Know-Nothingism. We warned you against the insidious appeals of a party, one principle of which establishes a religious test for office, a thing expressly prohibited by the Constitution of the United States, and by that of Pennsylvania. A party which seeks to practically disfranchise one class of American citizens, because of their religious creed; another class, because of the place of their birth, and to proscribe a still more numerous class, because they will not deny to others the rights which they claim for themselves. We reminded you that these States had been founded by immigrants who fled hither for self-protection from this same persecuting spirit. That by mutual toleration in matters of religion, and by an equal participation in the common concerns of social life and government, these rights of each were guaranteed by all; that to wrest them from any citizen, however weak or humble, was to substitute might for right, and thus subvert the great principle of political equality, on which alone rests our common security and general welfare.

That to do this in secret, and under mutual pledges and oaths, and above all, to do it under the name of Americanism, was to destroy all confidence in the capability of men for self-government, to confound local prejudice with the virtue of patriotism, to exalt the profession of a creed above the practice of genuine Christianity, to bring Democratic institutions into contempt, and to cover their founders with reproach.

If the rankling hatreds and fierce feuds, the social wrongs and lawless outrages, which have characterized this secret party, had been in like manner occasioned by all others, society itself could not have existed. Brief, therefore, as has been its career, it has convinced every reflecting man that its tendencies are counter to the genius of our governments and opposed to the teaching of their founders. We have, therefore, seen it overthrown by the Democracy in the South, and disorganized and broken—or blended with Abolitionism in the North. Such has been the succession from its ranks by the deceived and erring men who joined it, that notwithstanding its abated pretensions and the attempts made to liberalize its principles, its possession of local offices and the forlorn hope of political places and rewards in 1856, alone keep it from utter annihilation as a National party.

At the present, therefore, there is more occasion to call your attention to another and purely sectional party, which threatens to subvert the Federal Constitution, and to destroy the Union of these States. The Know-Nothing party—miscalled *American*—tends to occasion civil discord among neighbors, and between citizens of the same State, but this self-styled Republican party, tends to add to this the horrors of a negro insurrection in the States of the South, and a civil war between the several States of this Union.

We do not say that this is the design of all or even the majority of its members, but we do charge that to be the only avowed design of some, and those not a few of its leaders; and we further charge that such is the clear tendency, and would be the inevitable result, of its success. It is in vain for its partizans to say that they intend no ill; the question is not one of intention, it is one of practical conduct; and the principles of American government and of Constitutional law are the sole tests by which it must be tried. We have already seen the Legislature of one State openly and designedly pass an act in defiance of the Constitution of the United States and the laws made in pursuance thereof, and when the Governor of that State—and a partizan of this very party—vetoed, and attempted to arrest the course of that Legislature, we saw them defy him also, and repass this act. We have seen the same State openly remove an upright and learned Judge because he dared to keep his oath and support the Constitution of the United States. In our own State, we have since heard a deliberative body of the same party, vehemently applaud a motion to mob and beat a Judge: and still later in this State, and in the Convention of this whole party, a Reverend member of it publicly advocated the destruction of a public Prison, and the rescue of a prisoner, because they had considered and adjudged him to be wrongfully imprisoned. If these things are now done and advocated, and by such men and in such places, both under color of law and in avowed defiance of it, who will or can assure the public that they would stop there? or that other—and the most fatal—violations of the law would not be committed by other men and mobs, and in other places? When men thus disregard the Constitution and laws of their country, and seek to organize together one section of the Union, that they may the more successfully overawe or subdue the other, they reduce the whole question to one between force and law, Union or disunion, domestic tranquility or civil war.

If is absurd for men to prate about liberty, while at the very same time they are encouraging resistance to law. There can be no liberty without law, and there is not and cannot be any law of this land higher than the Constitution of the United States. Whatever, therefore, may be the pretences put forward by the abolitionists, or whatever more deceptive name they may choose to assume, and array themselves under, the real and sole issue will be the same; it will be that party—a violated Constitution and disunion on the one side, and the Democratic party and the Constitution and Union as they are on the other side: choose ye between them! Even if you would, yet you cannot now but choose between these two.—While the Whig party existed, whatever may have been its follies or its faults, yet neither Clay nor Webster, nor its other great leaders, nor the true men of its rank and file, would have tolerated a sentiment hostile to the Constitution or the Union. But these great men and true patriots have passed away, and the old Whig party no longer exists. The weak, the venal and the selfish in its ranks have gone into a secret and sectarian organization, or have gone over and arrayed themselves with Abolitionists, infidels and fanatics, against their brethren of the South. One party alone remains firm and defiant. Over every foot of the soil of this Union, and wherever its Constitution extends, there too extends the all protecting arm of the Democracy, bearing aloft the broad flag of Civil and Religious Liberty, the Constitution, and the Union.

Fellow Citizens, our duty in the premises is plain. However much party leaders may hesitate or hang back, fearful of losing their own position, or of yielding to an old political opponent, there is but one course left, and that is a general rally of all patriotic citizens upon the platform of the Democratic party. There is no mistaking the tone of the Democracy in this crisis. It unhesitatingly accepts the issue tendered to it by the adversaries of the Federal Constitution, and proclaims its high purpose to sink or swim, survive or perish, with the American Union. Refusing to make terms with traitors of any shade, it has not only without regret but with undissembled joy, seen them desert its ranks for those of an unprincipled coalition. Purified and relieved from their baleful influences, and enabled to act unfettered in its high duty, it invites to its standard every patriotic Pennsylvanian. It has no concealment of its principles, or secresy in its organization, but shielded, helmed and weaponed with the truth, it advances against the combined fanaticisms. It accepts the whole responsibility of opposing those who oppose the Constitution. It fully enters into the contest against the Abolitionists and their allies. In such a cause, even defeat would be honorable, but victory is certain to crown our efforts if *only those who are conscious that we are right, will act up to their honest convictions.*

We are no alarmists. It is not our purpose to exaggerate the dangerous tendencies of the political action of our opponents. You can see for yourselves not alone the obliteration of a great party, but the bold and flagrant declarations of those who have taken the its place.—There is indeed no alternative left us but opposition, as there is manifestly no party left to make that opposition but the Democratic party.

The inconceivable evils of a dissolution of our beloved Union, do not deter the arrogant factions which now make headway against the rights of the States. The guilt is not greater on the part of such fanatics as garrison and Philips, than on that of the demagogues here and elsewhere, who support them. They are all working to the same end, some of them with the consciousness,—and others thoughtless or reckless—of the misery their success would entail upon the country.

But how is it with you, people of Pennsylvania? Are you willing to yield to the mandates of these men? Has the Union lost its sacred and inestimable value in your eyes?—Are you ready to regard your countrymen of the South as so many alien enemies? We disdain appealing to your interests, we invoke your patriotism; we appeal to the glorious memories of the past and to the unparalleled blessings ever present; and we point in proof of the peril that besets the near future, not merely to the overthrown Whig organization, nor to the fanaticisms springing from its ruins and coalescing in our midst, but to the alarm and dismay that have spread over the South like a funeral pall, in view of the aggressive purposes of Northern Abolitionists.

And mark the miserable delusion with which Abolitionism tries to abuse the patriotic sentiment of the North. It affects indignation, because the Missouri restriction, never approved, and for thirty-five years disregarded by the Abolitionists, and spit upon and reviled by them with every epithet of scorn and indignation, has been repealed! It denounces the doctrine of self-government in the territories, the very principle upon which the American colonies were peopled, governed, and protected!—It denounces the Nebraska act which declares "It being the true intent and meaning of this act NOT to legislate slavery into any State or Territory, nor to exclude it therefrom, but to leave the people thereof perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, subject only to the Constitution of the United States." These fanatics *refuse*, therefore, to allow the people to regulate their domestic institutions; yet as early as October, 1774, these United Colonies assembled in Congress, solemnly Resolved, "That the foundation of English liberty, and of ALL *free government, is a right in the people* to participate in their legislative Council, * * * * that the colonists are entitled to the free and *exclusive* power of legislation in their several provincial legislatures, where their right of representation can alone be preserved, in *all cases* of taxation and *internal polity!*"—and at the same time they further declared that these rights existed "*by the immutable laws of nature*, the principles of the English Constitution, and the several charters and compacts." The Declaration of Independence charged it as an act of usurpation by the King of Great Britain, that "he refused to pass laws for the accommodation of large districts of people unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the Legislature, * * * * a right inestimable to them, and formidable to tyrants only."

Nor was our own State behind her sister States in asserting this right; for by the third article of the declaration of rights, made in July, 1776, it was declared "that the people of this State have the *sole, exclusive and inherent* right of governing and regulating the internal policy of the same;" and when the Deputies of the people of Pennsylvania assembled in full Provincial Conference, to suppress all authority of the King of Great Britain and for establishing a government upon the authority of the people only, they declared their willingness to concur in a vote declaring the United Colonies free and independent States, "*Provided*, the forming the government and the regulating the *internal* policy of this Colony be always reserved to the people of the Colony."

And yet, against these self-evident and immutable principles of American liberty and of all free governments, men have the audacity to array themselves under the name of *Republicans!* maintaining, too, that their fellow countrymen, who inhabit the territories, must act otherwise than of their own free choice, and that Congress should compel them to elect between dictated submission and threatened punishment!

But, fellow citizens, even while indulging in these expressions, this party is scarcely attempting to conceal the fearful ultimatum of disunion which it is now seeking to precipitate by means of an exclusive sectional Northern organization—the first organization of the kind ever known in this republic, and the success of which is certain to end in the perpetual alienation of the South from the North.

And by political agitation, what good can they even pretend to accomplish? What man, in the free States of this Union, would be benefitted by the success of the Abolitionists? Not one; nor could they give freedom to a single slave; they would but more firmly rivet their fetters. As early as 1828, the late Rev. Wm. E. Channing, of Boston, said: "My fear in regard to our efforts against slavery is, that we shall make the case worse by rousing *sectional* pride and passion for its support, and that we shall only break the country into two great parties, *which may shake the foundation of government.*"

So late as 1850, Mr. Webster said in the Senate:

"Then, Sir, there are the Abolition Societies, of which I am unwilling to speak, but in regard to which I have very clear notions and opinions. I do not think them useful. I think their operations for the last twenty years have produced nothing good or valuable. * * *

"I do not mean to impute gross motives even to the leaders of these Societies, but I am not blind to the consequence of their proceedings. I cannot but see what mischief their interference with the South has produced. And is it not plain to every man? They attempted to arouse, and did arouse, a very strong feeling: in other words, they created great agitation in the North against Southern slavery. Well, what was the result? The bonds of the slaves were bound more firmly than beford; their rivets were more strongly fastened.

"Public opinion, which in Virginia had begun to be exhibited against slavery, and was opening out for the discussion of the question, drew back and shut itself up in its castle. * * We all know the fact, and we all know the cause; and everything that these agitating people have done, has been, not to enlarge, but to restrain; not to set free, but to bind faster the slave population of the South."

The whole effort of these agitators seems to be to make a sectional issue in every Congressional district of the thirty-one States of the Union, and to turn the halls of Congress into an arena in which the delegates from the North may denounce the domestic institutions of the South.

Not only does all reason forbid us to discountenance sectional parties, but we have the solemnly recorded opinion of Jefferson, who on this very question said:

"But this momentous question, like a fire-bell in the night, awakened and filled me with terror. I considered it at once as the knell of the Union. It is hushed, indeed, for the moment. But this is a reprieve only, not a final sentence. A geographical line coinciding with a marked principle, moral and political, once conceived and held up to the angry passions of men, will never be obliterated, and every new irritation will mark it deeper and deeper."

Let the true Whigs who have not ceased to treasure up the counsels of their great statesmen, now apply the memorable warning of Henry Clay:

"The Abolitionists, let me suppose, succeed in the present aim of uniting the inhabitants of the free States as one man against the inhabitants of the slave States, union on the one side will beget union on the other. And this process of reciprocal consolidation will be attended with all the violent prejudices, embittered passions and implacable animosities which even degraded or deformed human nature. One section will stand in menacing and hostile array against the other. The collision of opinion will quickly be followed by the clash of arms. I will not attempt to describe scenes which now happily lie concealed from our view."

Let them weigh well the following words of the conservative Webster:

"If we might regard our country as personated in the spirit of Washington; if we might consider him as representing her in her past renown, in her present prosperity and in her future career, and as in that character demanding of us all to account for our conduct as political men or as private citizens, how should he answer him who has ventured to talk of disunion or dismemberment? or how should he answer him who dwells perpetually on local interests, and fans every kindling flame of local prejudice? How should he answer him who would array State against State, interest against interest, and party against party, careless of the continuance of that unity of Government which constitutes us one people."

And finally, let all men within the bounds of this State, and no matter to what party they belong, lay to their hearts the farewell advice of Washington:

"The unity of Government, which constitutes you one people, is also now dear to you. It is justly so; for it is a main pillar in the edifice of your real independence—the support of your tranquility at home; your peace abroad; of your safety; of your prosperity; of that very liberty which you so highly prize. But as it is easy to foresee that, from different causes and from different quarters, much pains will be taken, many artifices employed, to weaken in your minds, the conviction of this truth; as this is the point in your political fortress against which the batteries of internal and external enemies will be most constantly and actively—though often covertly and insidiously—directed, it is of infinite moment that you should properly estimate the immense value of your National Union to your collective and individual happiness; that you should cherish a cordial, habitual and immovable attachment to it; accustoming yourselves to think and speak of it as of the palladium of your political safety and prosperity; watching for its preservation with jealous anxiety; discountenancing whatever may suggest even a suspicion that it can, in any event, be abandoned; and indignantly frowning upon the first dawning of every attempt to alienate any portion of our country from the rest, or to enfeeble the sacred ties which now link together the various parts.

"For this you have every inducement of sympathy and interest. *Citizens by birth or choice*, of a common country—that country has a right to concentrate your affections. The name of *American* which belongs to you in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of patriotism, more than any appelation derived from local discriminations. With slight shades of difference, you have the same religion, manners, habits, and political principles. You have, in a common cause, fought and triumphed together; the independence and liberty you possess are the work of joint counsel and joint efforts, of common origins, sufferings and successes.

"This Government—the offspring of our own choice, uninfluenced and unawed, adopted upon full investigation and mature deliberation, completely free in its principles, in the distribution of its powers, uniting security with energy, and containing within itself a provision for its own amendment—has a just claim to your confidence and your support. Respect for its authority, compliance with its laws, acquiescence in its measures, are duties enjoined by the fundamental maxims of true liberty. *The basis of our political systems, is the right of the people to make and to alter their Constitutions of Government*: but the Constitution which at any time exists, till changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is sacredly obligatory upon all. The very idea of the power and the right of the people to establish Government, pre-supposes the duty of every individual to obey the established Government."

If, in addition to these words, we need others more directly and solemnly applicable to the present times, they will be found in the following from the same immortal production:

"In contemplating the causes which may disturb our Union, it occurs as a matter of serious concern, that any grounds should have been furnished for characterizing parties by geographical discriminations, Northern and Southern, Atlantic and Western, whence designing men may endeavor to excite a belief that there is a real difference of local interests and views. YOU CANNOT SHIELD YOURSELVES TOO MUCH AGAINST THE JEALOUSIES AND HEARTBURNINGS WHICH SPRING FROM THESE MISREPRESENTATIONS; *they tend to render alien to each other those who ought to be bound together by fraternal affection.*"

Fellow Citizens: We have thus submitted to you the present condition and tendency of political parties, and the issue about to be made between them, in this State and Union. As the best and only safe guide for your conduct, we have reminded you of the counsel and warnings of the wisest and most patriotic of our Statesmen. Your choice must now be made between a sectional party under the black banner of Abolitionism and the National Democracy, bearing aloft the gorgeous ensign of the Republic—with that sentiment dear to every true American heart—Liberty and Union now and forever, one and inseparable."

JAMES F. JOHNSTON, Chairman.

H. A. GILDEA, JACOB ZEIGLER, } Secy's. } Sept. 18, 55.

Governor Shannon—Base Slander Exposed.

Some days since a telegraphic communication was received from St. Louis, stating that Gov. SHANNON, of Kansas, had made a speech at Westport, Missouri, in which he said he was for