

and I have no doubt they are equally so in respect to my political friends and opponents in the canvass alluded to.

I remain, gentlemen, with great respect,
your ob't serv't.
WINFIELD SCOTT.

Montrose Democrat.

ESTABLISHED CIRCULATION IN NORTHERN PENNA.
E. B. CHASE & J. B. McOLLUM, Editors.
ALVIN DAY, Publisher.

Montrose, Thursday, Mar. 29, 1865.

On our first page will be found the New Postage law. The Post Master desires us to state that hereafter no unpaid letter will be sent from the office.

The News.

The anti-Know-Nothing Ticket was elected in Carbondale on the 18th inst., by a majority of about 200.

A fire occurred at Waverly, N. Y., on the 18th inst., which consumed fourteen buildings, loss \$17,000. Insured \$7,000.

It is rumored that Louis Napoleon intends visiting the Crimea, to be present at the taking of Sevastopol. Are the "allies" warranted in counting upon speedy success, in this hitherto fruitless campaign?

The Emperor Nicholas is dead. We give in another column some incidents of his life with comments upon his career.

The Judiciary committee of the N. Y. Legislative Assembly have reported a Bill for changing the usury laws. The present rate of interest is not proposed to be altered; but if in any case unlawful interest shall be exacted, the person claiming shall recover principal and interest, and the defendant be entitled to costs.

Princeton College was destroyed by fire on the night of the 10th inst.

Extensive fires are prevailing in the woods, in some portions of South Carolina and Georgia. Much damage has been done, the fire in many instances having swept over large plantations, destroying fences, houses and barns in its progress.

A Bill has been introduced in the Legislature extending the time of the Charter of the "Wyalusing Plank Road Company," this country, for the period of five years.

Also, on extending the time given by a previous Act for the N. Y. & E. R. Co. to dispose of their lands in this country.

The K. N.'s were completely routed at the election in Salem, N. J., last week. "Sam's" back is now turned to his foes everywhere.

It is estimated at Washington that there will be 300,000 applications for bounty land under the late act, requiring 32,000,000 acres.

A call has been issued by the State Superintendent of Schools, for the county Superintendents to meet at Harrisburg the 11th of April next, for general consultation.

We are requested to call the attention of our readers to the advertisement, in our columns to-day, of ALEXANDER H. BRUNS of Washington, D. C., who procures Land Warrants on the most reasonable terms. Those who are entitled to Land Warrants will find it to their advantage, to entrust their business with one at the Capitol, who can attend to their business there personally.

Eccl'ism.

Sir WILLIAM BLACKSTONE, the great English Common Law Commentator, made for himself a fame which, till recently, bid fair to be as enduring as time. His commentaries have been accepted as the perfection of human learning in all civilized nations, for more than one hundred years. But it is now evident that he was "an old fogy." He could not write for this age of progress. For instance, — Blackstone defines a Court to be "a place where Justice is judicially administered." — Now we have a new definition, for should have to meet the new order of things. Our Courts have become places where Justice is simply politically administered! A great improvement has this age of Know Nothingism brought about.

New Hampshire Election.

The election in New Hampshire last week resulted in the election of Metcalf, Whig and Know-Nothing for Governor, by a small majority over all other candidates.

The free soil men generally voted with the Know Nothings, and some little, rejoicing has been manifested by them over the result. It should be noted however that Kirtledge and Morrison, both true Anti-Nebraska men, who voted and worked against that Bill in Congress, are defeated for re-election. This shows that the result is nothing more than a mere Know-Nothing, pro-slavery triumph, — or at least that Know Nothingism carried the election independent of freedom, and then only by the aid of free soil men who surrendered their manliness and principles at the bidding of this secret power. Another such a free soil victory will hang free soilism higher than Haman ever hung.

Important Disclosures.

Just before going to press we had placed in our possession documents which established beyond all doubt the connection of Mr. Wilmot with the Order of Know-Nothing. We have the time, place and names of some or all the persons present at the initiation, and the person who administered the oath, and to convince Mr. Wilmot of the truth of what we say, we will mention the time and place, not being at liberty to give the names of the persons at present.

The time was last Fall when attending Court at this place, and the place a certain upper room at Seale's Hotel in this Village.

The evidence has come in our possession through the most respectable, and what we regard the most reliable source. Indeed, we can see no chance for mistake about it. — This is important only because denied by his friends, for whether an actual member or not, he has acted with and encouraged them when the leading free soil persons and men of the Union have been engaged in deadly opposition to this foe to their progress, — and further than this, he was a candidate in the canvass of the Order at Harrisburg for the Senate. But we have now the evidence of his ac-

nal membership, and invite Mr. Wilmot over his own signature to deny it. If he shall do so, we may then give the evidence to the public. We therefore tender Mr. Wilmot the columns of our paper, with the kindest feelings on our part, to explain and contradict this serious charge.

Very Honest.

"Whig or Whiggery" is but a name, and of no consequence, when compared with the principles which it has heretofore represented; Names are nothing — Principles everything. We did not particularly like the name when it was first adopted, and have no such affection for it now, as to retain it, if the great principles with which it has been so gloriously identified, can be better promoted under some other.

We clip the above from that uncompromising Whig paper, the Broom Republican. The paragraph occurs in an article, in which the Editor comments upon the proposition to fuse the Whig party into an organization to be called the Republican party. The honesty of the Editor is refreshing. He, unlike the Whigs of this county, who have already changed their name to Republicans, under the lead of the Know-Nothing organization, speaks the real objects of the party in doing so, with no attempt at dissimulation and fraud. The name may be changed in order to carry out more certainly the great principles of the old Whig party, says the extract, and we wish Democrats who have no affinity with those principles, as few indeed have in this county, to reflect well upon this statement. This Republican party, is no more nor less than an attempt to place the old Whig party in power. It has become odious under the name of Whig, — its principles in that guise have become well understood by the people, and been repudiated in all its open contests. Now, despairing of success, they must adopt a new name, thereby hoping to deceive the people into a support of their principles. This is the trick, fully exposed in the above extract, but which everybody who recollects the history of the Whig party since the days of old John Adams, was prepared to anticipate. This is not the first time such tricks have been resorted to by the leaders of the Whig party, and Democrats should not now be deceived by their pretenses. They should never be trusted, no matter what they pretend. Like Ogilvie's fox, dip their nine times and they will come out Whigs at last. We do not believe that many can be found who will place any confidence in men who are constantly changing to obtain power. Such men have no principle. They work for the spoils.

Truth Fully Spoken.

On the outside of our paper may be found an article headed "Political Clergymen," taken from the Cumberland Presbyterian, with the comments of the Waynesburg Messenger, to which we earnestly invite the attention of our readers, and especially those who are in membership with the Christian Church. — Coming as the article does from a religious paper of character, edited by able and pious men, it should command respect and influence.

We have often thought that Protestant denominations had much to lose by this political war that is being waged against a religious sect; and we have appealed to them to rise and condemn the course which is being pursued by artful politicians, which must eventually bring the sacred character of religion into contempt, by associating it with all the vile chicanery of political abuses. We are glad to see that a portion of the religious press has taken the subject up, and that they take the right view of the question. Nothing can be plainer, than that this whole Know-nothing party is led on by men who care not one fig for Catholicism or any other religion. It is an attempt by unprincipled and un-Godly men, to make political capital by appealing to the religious preferences and prejudices of one class of the Christian world. They care not for the consequences which their mad career may entail upon the Christian Church. They only desire to use the church, and the convictions of its members, to raise themselves on the political ladder. That this is true we have abundant evidence in our own county. Our readers will remember, how these same political leaders in Montrose, and the same press, which now stands at the head of the K. N. thing organization, and who are now endeavoring to inflame the popular mind against the Catholics, only three years ago adopted Hon. John Boyle for their candidate for Judge, for no other reason under Heaven but to secure the Catholic vote to their ticket. Then they were crying out lustily against abuse of the Catholics, and against proscribing men on account of their religion. Then they were ready almost to lay down their lives for the great cause of religious freedom! But a day has come when they think they can make political capital by becoming the persecutors of those same Catholics for whom they professed such disinterested affection three years ago; and in the twinkling of an eye, they have changed and now appear on the stage as the leaders of a cruel and unrelenting persecution against them. This exactly illustrates the character of the men. Political honesty is not found in their dictionary. They would just as soon, and will, turn against any other denomination of Christians when an opportunity may occur to aid their political fortunes thereby.

We have strong evidences that Protestant Churches are waking to the importance of this subject, so vitally concerning their well being and prosperity. They begin to see, that when they permit their religion to be drawn into politics, it will be a sad day for the Church itself, and for the prosperity of true piety in the world. They begin to see that they cannot convert men from error by persecution, and by inflicting civil penalties upon them on account of their religious beliefs. They begin to see that such is not the doctrine of the Scriptures, nor the spirit of the Gospel of Peace. They begin to see that they have the deepest interest in the preservation of those great principles of religion, which were guaranteed to every man, and every sect in the formation of this Republic; for when those principles are

once violated, no one sect has any guarantee against the overpowering influence of one still stronger, or of all others combined. They begin to see that it will not do for Protestants, who have always declaimed most loudly against the persecutions of Rome, to set the first example of persecution in this country themselves. And as the novelty of the K. N. things wears away, and they reflect upon those things more soberly, we are convinced that they will act as well as speak, — that they will say to those unprincipled men as their Master said to one of old, "Get thee behind me Satan." Then shalt not come near to despoil the fair vestments of our holy religion, in your unscrupulous pursuit after political power! When the Church shall say this, she will give the highest evidence of her sincerity, as well as of her divine origin.

Geo. Law and the Presidency.

Among the many curious and amusing things transacted by the mysterious Order of Know-Nothing, is a letter addressed to Geo. Law by the K. N. members of our State Legislature, asking him to accept the nomination of their party, for the Presidency in '56. The letter is signed by Mr. Smoos, Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, in company with a number of Senators, and the leading, influential K. N. members of the body over which Mr. Strong presides. It is not so easy to fathom the motives of these men, in addressing Mr. Law, as it is to see the absurdity of their conduct, their entire disregard of principles and the fatal consequences, that would attend the triumph of this party in the next Presidential campaign. The letter to which we refer is important, as it triumphantly illustrates the truth of the charge made against Know-Nothingism, that its aim is power, and that it would willingly purchase, the desired object at the expense of principles, and the ruin of the country.

It has been a common notion with the American people, and one not entirely destitute of good sense, that the man who aspires to the highest place, within the gift of freedom, should be partially familiar, at least, with the nature and theory of our democratic government, and possessed of some legislative experience. The doors, to the highest office in this country, cannot be opened to men, who are wholly incapacitated by nature and experience to creditably discharge the duties of a mere mortal station, without bringing the government into disrepute, and degrading a fatal blow to its character and standing, in the eyes of surrounding nations. It is not every man who is successful in his business transactions, that can make a respectable figure in the councils of a great nation. Qualifications of a high order are necessary to form the perfect statesman — such qualities as do not exist in the mere speculator. George Law, until quite recently, has been referred to, only as a shrewd and successful business man, — one who has acquired a large property by virtue of his superior tact and known pre-eminence as a speculator. His energies have been principally expended in securing large and profitable government jobs — in managing and directing extravagant schemes of speculation, and we presume that until a late period, he had never dreamed of serving his country in the capacity of chief legislator. The man has been hitherto, happily unconscious of his ability to become a statesman — purely ignorant of his merits, and capacity to direct the affairs of his country in a wise, statesmanlike, and successful manner. But this progressive age with its secret political organization has recognized in Mr. Law the qualifications requisite, for the high position, and henceforth he is to be justified in the crowd of presidential aspirants, who like him have become suddenly, too long unconscious of their claims upon this, too long ungrateful nation. The only move of political importance, which he has ever known Mr. Law to make, is quite recent, and is well calculated to attach him to the Know-Nothings. We refer to his gratuitous offer, to send the Grapeshot in pursuit of the Isabella Jewett with a view to capture Lewis Baker the murderer of Bill Poole. Poole was a member, and one of the "early fathers" of the mysterious, midnight gatherings, so that due respect must be paid to his memory and active efforts made to capture his murderer.

Mr. Law understands how to manage, to secure increased favor from the order, and bind its members to him and his newly awakened ambition more firmly.

We suppose Pennsylvania is committed to Mr. Law, by the edict of Know-Nothingism, and we would be obliged to our K. N. neighbor, over the way, if it will define Mr. Law's position upon the free soil question, in its next issue. If he is to be the candidate of your party, neighbor, you had better define his position at once, as the outsiders in Northern Pennsylvania, feel an interest in the question of freedom.

Death of the Emperor Nicholas.

The steamship Africa arrived at Halifax on the 15th inst., with dates from Liverpool to March 3d. The news, says the Tribune, is important, the chief item of interest being the death of the Emperor of Russia, which took place on the 2d inst., and had been previously announced in the English Parliament, on the sailing of the Africa. Nicholas ascended the throne, on the decease of his brother Alexander, Dec. 1st, 1825, and from that time to March 2d, 1855, a period of 29 years and three months, controlled the destinies of the Empire in a despotic and masterly manner. He was born the 7th of July, 1796 and was consequently in his 59th year at the time of his decease. He was married July, 1817, to Charlotte, eldest daughter of King Frederick William of Prussia, who was then in the 19th year of her age. His son Alexander succeeds to the throne, and is in his 37th year. He is said to have been admitted to the confidence of the deceased Czar at an early age, and by him trained to a knowledge of the duties and responsibilities belonging to the position, in which his father's death has placed him. He comes to the throne fully conscious of the nature and character of his situation, and is represented, as of sufficient ability, to conduct the affairs of the Empire with energy and firmness.

In view of the present European difficulties the death of Nicholas may be regarded as an event of interest and importance. Called into eternity, at a time, when the nations of the civilized world were anxiously watching his every movement, and calculating its probable effect, upon the struggle in which the energies of his Empire were enlisted; occupying in that struggle a position of doubtful propriety and wisdom and known to be of imperious and unyielding character, the effect of his death upon the policy, he had marked out for his Empire, is a matter of anxious inquiry. Had he passed from the stage in a time of peace, his sudden decease, would have produced very little comment, and his successor might have ascended the throne without subjecting his character for ability, tact and energy to public criticism. The world would have paid no tribute of respect to the memory of the man, who sent his barbarous hordes to crush a people, gallantly battling for their rights amid the hills and valleys of oppressed Hungary — humanity and liberty would have rejoiced in the fall of their mightiest enemy and the "tolling millions" of Monarchical Europe breathed free, with the knowledge that the great embodiment of despotism was no more.

But the position of Russia and her present relations to Western Europe command the attention of nations, and the sudden departure of the leading spirit of that vast Empire, to another world, is an event, which may be productive of important results — results proving beneficial to the great cause of humanity, and tending toward the speedy establishment of peace and quiet, upon the continent.

In democratic governments, where the chief magistrate is supposed to represent the opinion of the nation correctly, and to faithfully execute its will, his sudden death is not likely to produce any material change in its policy; but in despotisms, where the will of the monarch is the law of the Empire a like event, is often productive of a complete revolution in the management of national affairs. Nicholas is known to have labored hard, with a view to concentrate as much power as possible in his own hands, to make the Czar, *de facto*, the nation, his will, the supreme law of the land. Reversing the policy of his immediate predecessor, whose aim it was to enlighten the people as a means of making them prosperous and happy, he applied himself to the despotic task of re-establishing that system of military discipline and implicit obedience, required by the early Czar; as the safest foundation of a throne, and the surest method of preparing the nation to wear its chains in quiet submission. If the war in which Russia is at present engaged, had the sympathy of the higher classes, and its flames fed by the zeal of the lower orders, we need apprehend no change in the policy pursued by Nicholas. Such we believe to be the true state of the case, and it is even said that the nobles by whom Nicholas was surrounded were less inclined to the adoption of a pacific policy than he. Alexander III, the successor of Nicholas, was at the head of the Imperial forces in Poland, at the time of his father's decease, and is believed to have been favorable to the views and plans of the Czar, in relation to the war. It has been reported, it is true, that the present Emperor was hostile to his father's war policy, but the reports have never been confirmed, and are in all probability unfounded. What will be the effect of the Emperor's death, upon the war, and of course of Prussia in relation to it, is of course, matter of speculation. The probabilities are, however, that the Prussian King will not desert his nephew, the new Emperor. England and France need not argue the speedy establishment of peace, from the death of Nicholas, for there is no reasonable ground to expect such an event. The war will continue to be prosecuted with vigor on the part of the Emperor, and the allies must exhibit more skill and activity, before indulging even a faint prospect of success.

A Plain Talk.

From every part of the county, we are constantly hearing cheering news, in regard to the prospect of the Democratic party in the future, and words of approval and encouragement with respect to the course of our Paper; especially in unfolding and denouncing the new dogmas and new system of political tactics or engineering, which is now so industriously promulgated throughout the county, with all the zeal of its recent converts, and all the eagerness of its aspiring leaders, under the beautiful and appropriate name of Know-Nothingism. There are a few Democrats, however, who, under the influence of a strange infatuation, seem to think that there is no way to manifest their devotion to Freedom, but by following, with becoming humility, and obeying implicitly the dictates of a man who but seeks to make them his stepping stones to power — a commodity, to be bartered in the market for his own preference and self interest. Such are tremulously sensitive, at the freedom with which we discuss the conduct of Mr. Wilmot. We have been once or twice admonished by those who were Democrats, that we had better let Mr. Wilmot alone; that opposition to him will do a great deal towards making a permanent breach in the party, &c.

Now we claim to advocate Democratic principles, and men for high and influential stations who are the representatives of those principles. Measures not Men, has been a favorite maxim with men in this county; but we adopt that of Measures and Men. Measures which we believe for the good of the nation, and men for official positions, who are qualified and worthy, and who by their acts as well as their professions, prove their attachment to those measures. No settled course of policy can be carried out in the government of this country, without an organization of the men favorable to such policy, to a permanent party, sufficiently strong to carry the elections. By such means, the administration of the General Government has been heretofore mainly controlled and directed into those channels which the Democracy of the country desired. That those measures for which we contended, and which we succeeded in engraving into the legisla-

tion of the country, were wise and judicious, is silently conceded by our opponents even, in ceasing to oppose them; until the want of distinctive issues, was the very thing which was fast destroying the strength of our party. When there was no longer any thing to contend over, but party names and the spoils of office, it became a matter of small consequence to the mass of the people, which succeeded; distractions, jealousies, opposing schemes, and conflicting interests of a selfish and personal nature, added to the just indignation incurred at the North, by this administration in the passage of the Nebraska bill, were undermining its foundation, and scattering in confusion its component elements.

Without some great principle on which to unite, discord and dissension were inevitable. After gathering its mighty energies in the late national canvass, and routing the enemy in almost every State of the Union, the Democratic party was fast sinking by its own weight into the same grave where it had buried its antagonist.

We confess that for a time, our own confidence in a recovery from an overwhelming defeat in Pennsylvania last fall, looked only to a somewhat distant future.

The slavery question is one upon which men in the same party have always differed, and in regard to which the platforms of both the old parties have been essentially the same. A majority of Northern men are opposed to the further extension of slavery over territory now free from its blighting, withering curse, or to its being nationalized by the action of Congress; but there is a great diversity of opinion as to the means to be employed, and the extent to which that opposition should be carried. Some would have the Missouri Compromise restored; others would apply it to all the territories, and admit no more slave States; others, still would leave it to the people themselves when they form State constitutions to decide. That slavery is a great moral wrong and political evil, all good men at the North and many at the South agree. It was deplored as such by those of the framers of our government who were themselves participants in it.

But it already existed then, under the sovereign power of the States; — it exists now, under the same authority. It is essential to the welfare of all, that a Union should be formed, independent of, and without interfering with, this domestic institution then, and it is now essential to the happiness and prosperity of the whole that that Union be preserved unbroken, so long as it can be done without too great a sacrifice and without dishonor.

For ourselves, in common with the great mass of Democrats of the county, we were opposed to the Nebraska bill, and we are now opposed to the further extension of slavery. We shall do what we can to bring the great party to which we belong upon this platform. But a new issue is thrust upon us, a new foe has arisen to oppose our progress — an issue, which in our estimation, overshadows in importance every other which now agitates the public mind; an organization, big with danger, even if its principles were right, from its secret character. On this new doctrine, the Democratic party, which has always been in favor of religious freedom, and opposed to restricting its elective franchise, true to its instincts, its professions, and its past history can be, and is united. Let Democrats reflect upon the consequences of the success of Know-Nothingism in this country, before they desert their old standard and follow Mr. Wilmot into the ranks of the Republican or American party. The Democratic party is now, more than ever before, the hope of the country, for she has taken that side of this question, which Justice, Humanity, Christianity, and Republicanism dictates. To her alone can we look for a successful opposition to the monstrous wrong sought to be inflicted upon a numerous portion of our fellow citizens.

Let no one, then, misunderstand our position. Whoever may think the Free-Soil question every thing and the Know-Nothing issue of no consequence, we think the latter, at this time, when such desperate efforts are being made to fasten so damnable a policy upon the country, more important than any other; and while we shall do all we can for the promotion of Free-Soil principles, we shall oppose Know-Nothingism with all our power. These are our principles, and stand or fall, whoever may hedge up the way, David Wilmot and Simon Cameron, not excepted, we dare and shall maintain them. There is no sympathy and can be no compromise between Democracy and this new-fangled "Americanism." The two principles are as antagonistic as fire and water; and on this question, as we have said, the party is united.

With regard to making a war upon David Wilmot, then, we simply deny the allegation. He is making a war upon the Democratic party and Democratic principles, and in defending them from his attacks, we have spoken freely of him, we have done no more than his apostasy deserves. We are not going to deny that Mr. Wilmot is a Free-Soil man. We are willing to admit, what would seem from some of his speeches he claims, that he is the original patentee, sole inventor, and exclusive proprietor of that doctrine. But what position does he occupy towards the Democratic party, and where does he stand on the Know-Nothing question? Why, if any faith is to be put in his professions and acts, he has already quit in connection with the party, which made him what he is, — and league with the Whigs, has organized a Republican party in opposition to it, — has turned his back upon those who elevated him from the position of an humble and obscure lawyer in Towanda, to that of power an influence which he now fills; and as if suddenly seized with most fearful apprehensions from Catholics and foreigners, he identifies himself with the Know-Nothings or "American party." It is not necessary to prove that he is a member of a Know-Nothing lodge. It is enough that he is working with them, of which there is an abundance of proof. The Republican party itself, of this county, is nothing more nor less than the Know-Nothing organization, in disguise. Our Representative, C. J. Lathrop, stated while here a few days since, that they were one thing in Harrisburg. While Democratic statesmen and the Democratic press, in all parts of the country are loudly denouncing it, he is silent. His organ in his own town is silent or covertly lending its influence to its support. His organ here, the Republican, is openly Know-Nothing. His friends in the Legislature from this and the Bradford district are known members of the Order. He sought a nomination for United States Senator from the caucus of that party. Had we time and space we might point to many reasons, showing his complicity at least, if not his complete identity with them.

Now what are the Democratic party of this county and district to do? Yield passive obedience to the factions and dictatorial course of this man? Consent to remain a mere plaything in his hands, to be set up or trampled upon at his pleasure? Like some peevish, whining school-boy he has been ever pleading for some new favor, or erecting new sacrifices, to keep him quiet. The Lion's share must be ever thrown to him, and a sweet morsel must be kept constantly in his throat to keep him from bawling; until, grown confident with success and indulgence, his overbearing conduct, and insolent language to the party for years, has been, give me this — do that — or I will crush you! and has been a matter of chagrin and mortification to many prominent men of the party — particularly in his own county — where they have known more of him. When threats would not answer he would resort to his power of flattery and cajoling and beseeching. Thus he has gone on, the party bending to his will until it could no longer do so without breaking into pieces and following him into the camp of the enemy and the lodges of the Know Nothings, and now we part company. Who will loose most by the separation, the party or himself, the future will tell.

We have not desired, nor do we now, to make any personal attacks on this gentleman. If in any of the late issues of our paper, we have said some hard things, we have done so in self vindication; and in reply to his gross, vindictive and unjustifiable personal assaults upon us, in his Whig Know-Nothing organ of this place, we have retaliated somewhat, in our own columns, we did no more than was natural and human; how ever Christian meekness and forbearance might dictate a different course.

As a public man we have the right and shall freely use it, to criticize his public acts. When he descends from the dignity of the Bench, to mingle in partisan intrigues and strives, we shall continue to use the same freedom, in commenting upon such conduct, as we have done heretofore, and we would, were he less than he is, an ex-Congressman, a Judge, and an aspirant for the United States Senate. We regret the course Mr. Wilmot has taken on his own account, as well as that of the Judicial District over which he presides. The scales of justice should be held by impartial and dispassionate hands. Her fountains, like Caesar's wife, not only pure but above suspicion. This can hardly be expected, in one who is actively engaged in ambitious projects and rancorous contests for political preferment.

We have had it said to us, by a man who professes to be a warm friend of Mr. Wilmot, that it was very imprudent or foolish in a member of the Bar, to incur his displeasure — that his position was such as to give him great power to benefit or injure us. What a commentary on the impropriety of a Judge becoming a politician!

The Judiciary can only exercise its proper influence over community, when it commands its confidence and respect, — when her ministers are not only unimpeached but unsuspected. Sensible and well-meaning men, no matter what their political opinions, dislike to see their Judges involved in heated political conflicts. They may think and vote as they please, but they should be excused from being leaders of a party. Sad, indeed, is that state of things, when a feeling of distrust and jealousy prevades community in relation to its Courts of Justice. Most sincerely do we hope, that Mr. Wilmot will feel it his duty to abandon one of the characters so incompatible — a politician and a Judge.

Important Declaration.

In a recent speech Gov. Smith of Virginia uttered the following sentiment, which shows conclusively why the South embrace Know-Nothingism:

"I will never interfere with foreigners now in the country — but I know foreigners who approve the policy of arresting the importation of foreigners. The origin of the Know-Nothing is a struggle for bread — a fightful and angry question at the North. At the South it is a political question of high importance. The North has 55 more Representatives than the South already. The natural increase of the South is 1-3 greater than that of the North, because there are greater checks on population there; but the artificial element of foreignism brings 500,000 who settle annually in the free States, with instincts against Slavery, making 50 Representatives in 10 years to swell the opposition to the South. To stop this enormous disproportion what is our policy? What is the frightful prospect before us? The effect of Know-Nothingism is to turn back the tide of immigration, and our highest duty to the South is to discourage immigration. I deprecate it as a great calamity."

In other words, the Know-Nothing movement is the best defense which the Black Power can desire, for it will arrest the growth of the North, and make Freedom as weak as Slavery. Can a slave-driver desire any better reason for regarding the new party with approbation? It turns back the industrious thousands, "with instincts against Slavery," who would otherwise come to increase the population of the free States and render the contrast between their prosperity and the decay of the slave States still more glaring. Such, according to Gov. Smith, is the necessary tendency of the Order, while the affection of its magnates for the patriarchal institution, with its bloodhounds, harems, and women whippings, should shut under their banner every slave-driver and every demagogue of the South. — Tribune.

From Harrisburg.

We have received Mr. BUCKLEW's speech on the proposed Amendments to the Constitution which we shall try to find room for next week.

An attempt has been made in the Senate to pass a Resolution to make another effort to elect U. S. Senator. After some discussion, it was postponed.

In a recent debate in the House, we notice that Speaker Strong left the Chair and gave utterance to some very plain truths. He corroborates what we said of the Legislature last week. We extract the following paragraph from his remarks:

"He recollected this was promised to be a reform Legislature; but he feared it would not be. He had heard in his legislative experience, of other Legislatures having spent their time in creating such excitements; but when the election came round none were left to tell the tale. And it will be so again, unless attention was paid to the public business. Two months of the session had passed, and but one public bill had become a law. The public business had been neglected, while the Legislature were getting up investigations of bribery and speculation, and altering the law of evidence. The people will call the members to an account, if time was not better spent, and less squandered on useless objects."

We ask the people who were deceived into the support of this Know Nothing Administration, to read the above declarations of Speaker Strong. Certainly, he, the embodiment of the Order, and presiding officer of the House would not accuse his own party wrongfully.

The election of which Mr. Strong speaks will come off next October. We believe with him, that there will be few left to tell the tale then. The people have it in their own hands, and we do not believe they will be twice deceived.

Gov. Pollock and the K. N.'s.

The Know Nothings of Franklin county have issued a bull of excommunication against Gov. Pollock. The anathema maranatha has been hurled at him. The organ of the order there — the Chambersburg Transcript — deals largely in denunciations, from which we extract a brief sample:

"Gov. Pollock has entirely lost our respect to say nothing of confidence. It was irregular and anti-American to make appointments concerning which he afterwards was necessitated to enter the plea that he had supposed certain individuals to be in connection with the American Order. It was utterly silly and ridiculous to make another appointment, and argue in its favor the competency of but a single individual, to fill such a place. It is an instance in which a self-confident and selfish disposition has hung millions around the neck of its stupidified victim, sinking him at once into the sea of nothingness and contempt. Honest and true Americans who are beginning to understand the duplicity of Gov. Pollock, are repudiating him by hundreds, thus hurling back the accusation that casts reflection upon the consistency of their party."

We commend the above extracts, from one of the presses of Gov. Pollock's own party, to the consideration of the public. How consoling it must be to those who aimed a death blow at Gov. Bigler, to reflect that they aimed to elect a man in his stead who has even "sunk into the sea of nothingness and contempt" with his own party. Governor Pollock's Administration bids fair to become more odious than old Joe Ritner's. The Lancaster Examiner, a Whig paper, says: —

"It is a situation without precedent, in the history of this State, for the administration to be without an organ that dares to advocate its policy and defend its cause, but such seems to be the case at present."

Who would have thought two months ago when Governor Pollock took the oath of office and proceeded to address the Ghosts of intolerance and "the bloody snows of Valley Forge" in a thing called the inaugural of a statesman, that at this time he would be sunk so low, that not a respectable paper could be found, to advocate the policy of his Administration and defend its course! But so it is.

Mr. Wilmot's Letter.

According to a statement made by Mr. Wilmot in the Whig paper of Susquehanna county of the 1st inst., it appears that the letter which we published in the Eagle two weeks ago, there was an omission of a few words, which the Judge thinks was done intentionally by the editor of the Montrose Democrat. We therefore hasten to make the correction in the columns of the Eagle, not wishing, on our part, to have the omitted words misrepresented in the slightest degree. The "letter" is therefore subjected corrected and revised by Mr. Wilmot himself. The version as first published made the Judge say that he preferred Mr. Cameron over all his rivals, naming them, Buchanan, Dawson, &c., and those rivals named, every man knows belong to "the old line Democrats," as he terms it. We therefore cannot, as those of the Order would have us, make any material importance, or make any other sense or meaning to the letter as originally published. — Toga Eagle.

Hindooism Disowned.

Correspondence of the N. Y. Tribune. MATZSBURY, Toga Co., Dec. 30, 1855. We had a county meeting at this town and, on Saturday evening, we met for the purpose of returning our charter, but instead of so doing, it was carried that the charter, roll, minutes, books, papers, and every thing connected with the Order, should be burned. Accordingly everything was burned, but the funds, which were placed in the hands of trusty persons, for the benefit of the poor — The Order in this town was numerous, and consequently, there were a good many quibblers in politics, whose interests it was to keep the thing moving; but the scales fell from the eyes of the people, and they said it must go down, and down it did go. Freemen will not long be controlled by midnight cabals and conspiracies. Let every council in Pennsylvania carry on the work here commenced, and we will soon have a State of freemen and not bondsmen — for there can be no more bonds for freemen, than those of the Order. I have tried to find something worth of freemen in the organization; but instead, found it was a scheme for the benefit of the most degraded politicians and office seekers.

FOR THE DEMOCRAT.

FRIENDSVILLE, MARCH 20, 1855.

MESSES. CHASE & McOLLUM: — For the especial benefit of our Know-Nothing friends, I wish you to publish the following horrid transaction, which took place on the night of the 15th inst.

It was rumored amongst the knowing ones of the Know-Nothings, that on the night of the 15th inst., (being the night before St. Patrick's Day,) the Catholics were going to rise in mass, and massacre the Protestants. Many of our credulous people passed asleep