THE STAR AND BANNER.

GETTYSBURG.

Friday Evening, Dec. 14, 1855.

I hope we may find some means in future of shielding ourselves from Foreign influence—political, commercial, or in whatever form it may be attempted. I wish there were an impassable Gulf between us and the devil.—*Jefferson.*

WOOD WANTED.

☞We are in want of Wood just now, and have to request such of our patrons as intend to bring us Wood, to furnish it as soon as possible. By so doing, they will confer a favor, which will be duly appreciated &c.

Congressional.

☞Congress had not effected any organization on Saturday. On Friday last, Mr. CASTLEMAN stood highest, but after a number of ballots withdrew his name in a neat acknowledgment of the compliment that had been paid him by his friends. The balloting continued on Saturday, the main strength of the Republicans and Free-soil Americans being concentrated on BANKS, of Massachusetts. The last ballot on Saturday stood:

Richardson, Iowa,	103
Banks, Massachusetts,	100
Fuller,	90
Gamble,	2
Pennington,	2
Stevenson,	14

On Monday, after several ineffectual ballotings, Mr. Thorington, of Iowa, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the House will proceed viva voce to the election of a Speaker, and if after the roll has been called three times, no member shall have received a majority of the whole number of votes, the roll shall again be called, and the gentleman from receiving the largest number of votes, provided it be a majority of a quorum, shall be declared elected speaker.

This it was thought, would be a knockdown, and consequently much excitement. Several members in the same breath moved to lay the resolution on the table, declaring it was the proper place for it.

The Clerk called the House to order—members standing up all over the Hall.

Mr. Giddings, amid the confusion, earnestly appealed to his friend from Iowa to withdraw the resolution, believing that the feeling of the House was beginning more favorable to Mr. Banks.

The yeas and nays were ordered, on laying the resolutions on the table, and the question was stated whether Mr. Thorington could withdraw his resolution.

Finally the resolution was withdrawn by general consent, and the House proceeded to ballot again—Mr. Banks steadily gaining. On the 20th ballot the vote stood thus:

Richardson,	78
Banks,	107
Fuller,	90
Scattering,	15

Mr. Banks lacked 7 votes of an election, 114 being a majority of the votes polled.—Whereupon the House adjourned.

On Tuesday the House renewed its ballotings for Speaker, without any special change in the result. The 45th ballot stood as follows:

Richardson,	74
Banks,	106
Fuller,	77
Zollicoffer,	2
Scattering,	12

Mr. Banks being no choice the House adjourned.

The balloting on Wednesday did not vary materially from that of the preceding day. On the 59th ballot, Richardson had 75, Banks 105, Fuller 83, and 11 scattering. It was generally understood that Banks had gone up as high as he could, but his friends seemed unwilling to give him up. Fuller is supported by the Southern Americans, with Broome, Millard and Edie from this State. There is no telling when the House will organize.

☞It is curious to witness the rejoicings of the slam Democracy over their victory in Massachusetts, when it was obtained mainly by the Democrats, who had to contend against the Federal Democrats in all. They have gained, in numerical strength, a party which has designated such as were to allies of foreigners, and the enemies of their own countrymen, has become the mostodious that can be applied to any man?

But why shold native-born citizens oppose Americanser the American party? The office-holdes and employees of the government do so, because they are required to do it to pay pilfs of being removed from the administration being anti-American to a degree almost surpassing the virulence which the tories themselves manifested towards the Whigs But why should those not dependent on the Federal Government for their bread and butter become the allies of the Foreigners amongst us? Do they suppose tht we intend to do them any injustice. Is they apprehend it is our purpose to deprive any one of them of any privilege enjoyed by us, if, after mature wrongfully so may have obtained it, of the right to use? Surely they cannot suppose this, for they *know* we have no such purpose in view. Our only object is to change the naturalization laws, so that those who come among us hereafter shall not be entitled to exercise the high privilege of voting, before they have had time to become somewhat acquainted with our constitution, laws, customs, manners, &c., and imbibe something of the spirit of freedom. Is this wrong? Does it injure any one? Does it take? from any man any right whatever? By no means. Will any enlightened American say that our country has not suffered great and manifold evils from the facility with which foreigners have been permitted to exercise the rights and privileges o native-born citizens? The fact is too notorious to be denied. But in the face of this fact, with a full knowledge of all the evils attending it, and with a view to perpetuate these evils, we are denounced as Know Nothings because we wish these foreigners to put down and trample upon an *American party*, whose purpose is to arrest those evils, and place the country in the hand of those to whom it of right belongs to govern it. They cannot but bring down upon their heads the odium which falls upon that class of men whose cause, during the Revolution, they are imitating. Of this we give them fair warning. The American feeling has been roused by the events which have transpired within a few months past, to a high state of intensity. Let them beware how they aggravate it. American do not mean any longer to be ruled by foreigns, or those who choose to ally themselves with them against their own countrymet; and the sooner these anti-Americans become convinced of the fact, the more likely they will be to escape a severe reaction which will be sure to fall upon such as persist in their unnatural and unpatriotic course.

WHAT MAKES PAPISTS CRIMINALS.—The notorious Bishop Timon, of Buffalo, has been imitating Lucr X. in his desire to make a Saint of himself and mass to obtain money. A recent pastoral letter thus begs and promises:—"On Sunday next, or on any day more appropriate for that purpose, each pastor shall receive donations, either by a collection in the church or by visitation, as might be considered most proper. And according to the power invested in us, we grantsabolution for forty days to any one who, from the heart, shall pay Catholic piety, and for the embellishment of the house of God and to the honor of the holy St. Joseph, will contribute one shilling or more." Forty days absolution for a shilling! Sheap sinning that!

MORE TROUBLE IN CENTRAL AMERICA.—The National Intelligencer has an article in reference to Nicaraguan affairs, stating that the Costa Rica militia have been called forth, being more than five times stronger in consequence of the excitement produced by the unjust and violent proceedings of Walker and his followers in Nicaragua. The republics of Guatemala, Salvador and Honduras are all in arms, deeming it necessary for their own safety, to go and oppose the invaders, who evidently threaten all the Central American States.

The shortest day in the year is nine hours and four minutes in length. This will occur on the 16th of December, when the length of the day will only vary the fraction of a minute for nine days from that time, increasing a single minute on the 27th of December, when the day is nine hours and five minutes long.

☞The late census returns make the entire population of the State of New York 3,450,118. The population of New York city is 620,840, and the population of Brooklyn 194,225.

Foreigners and their Allies.

☞The Wilmington "Organ" asks, what would it anti-American party do without the aids' their foreign allies? Defeat the foreign vote from those cast in Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohit Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee and Louisana, and where would be the anti-American candidates, some of whom have been elected? So far behind the Americans scarcely to be within sight or hearing. It is therefore to foreigners, two-thirds of whom cannot read or write, and may of whom cannot speak our language, tht the anti-Americans owe their victories, however they have gained any. This is *infernal truly*! We cannot see how one of character and standing, and who bear American hearts in their bosoms, can becontent to become the allies of these foreigners, against a party made up exclusively of their own countrymen. Do theyjust perceive that they are occupying a position quite similar to that occupied during the Revolutionary struggle by those who were denominated "Tories," a name which, as it designated such as were to allies of foreigners, and the enemies of their own countrymen, has become the mostodious that can be applied to any man?

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KANSAS.—In another column we give a detailed account of the true state of the unfortunate difficulties in Kansas. It will be seen that the Free State men—the bona-fide residents of the territory—are on the defensive against the aggressions of the Missouri ruffians, Gov. Shannon having taken ground with the latter.—The President has declined to accede to Shannon's demand for Government troops, until more fully advised as to the real state of affairs. The latest accounts from Kansas represent that the Free State party assembled in Lawrence were willing that the Sheriff should peaceably search that place for the escaped prisoners, and that they would not commence hostilities, but would stand on the defensive. The pro-slavery party were still deficient in numbers for an attack, but as soon as they could rally force from Missouri a fight was looked for.

HEAVY DAMAGES.—The Delaware County (Pa.) Republican states that the trial of Judge Kane for false imprisonment will probably take place in February next. Passmore Williamson claims $50,000 damages. This is at the rate of $11,833 per month, or $3,000 per week.

☞In the Senate of South Carolina, a resolution has been offered for purchasing Statues of Moultrie, Marion, Sumter, Hayne, McDuffie, and Calhoun, for the new State House, and a Sarcophagus for Mr. Calhoun's remains.

☞Hon. JAMES M. MASON has been re-elected U. S. Senator from Virginia for six years from the 4th of March, 1857.

☞Petitions are being extensively signed throughout Kansas territory asking the Presidest to remove Gov. Shannon.

☞GENERAL CASS, it is said, has written a letter to a committee of Philadelphia, which will make its appearance shortly, withdrawing from the field as a candidate for the Presidency.

☞Horace Rathvon, Esq., has been elected Cashier of the Lancaster Bank in place of John G. Potter, Esq., deceased.

☞The South Carolina Senate has passed a bill repealing the laws against usury.

☞"Patrick, when will water stop running down hill?" "When it gets to the bottom, sure, you spalpeen!"

☞A FELON generally appears on the end of the finger and trimmbs."—Buffalo Rep.

☞Sometimes on the end of a rope. [Boston Post.

Off goes his Head.

Our efficient Postmaster, *Wm. T. Wynkoop*, who is, unfortunately, a Protestant in religious belief, and who has never been suspected of being other than a staunch supporter of the present Administration, has been removed to give place to a ROMAN CATHOLIC, in the person of JOHN P. FOLEY, who was republished before the people at the August election. We cannot learn that there was any charge preferred against Mr. Wynkoop. The intimations are that he refused to remove the old incumbent was kept very secret, it not have been known outside the *Sag Nickle* clique, until the deed was done. The