



CLEARFIELD, PA., Wednesday, March 14, 1855.

THE NATIONAL DEFENDER, is the title of a new weekly paper recently started in Philadelphia.

ECUADOR AND MEXICO.—We have a rumor that a new expedition is on foot, having for its object the liberation of the great South American Republic of Ecuador.

TO OUR FRIENDS.

We look to our American friends, this spring, for their aid and assistance. Our bold and open course on the American question has called down upon us the maledictions of the Jesuits and their allies.

AN ENVIABLE REPUTATION.

Thom-ss Mahaffy, the great expositor of Know Nothingism, is gaining a most enviable reputation! An old and veteran citizen of our borough says, "if he had kept his mouth shut the people wouldn't have known he was fool!"

PAPAL INTERFERENCE.

In his recent speech in Congress Mr. Chandler declared that "the Pope does not interfere in countries outside of his Kingdom, and will not seek to make or unmake the policies of foreign governments."

CATHOLICISM AND COMMON SCHOOLS.

The following extract from the report of Wm. B. Gillis, Esq., the Superintendent of Common Schools in Elk County, develops a beautiful state of affairs!

Of the two schools reported by that district (that is Benizer township), one is taught by nuns or sisters, as they are called, and is under the direct supervision of the priest.

The simple fact that the law has been openly set at defiance, and a Superintendent prevented from discharging his duties, because he is a Protestant, is enough to startle every American, and cause him to rise in arms against such treason to the State.

A WORD TO THE WISE.

We have heard a number of persons object to some words and phrases occasionally used in our paper, as vulgar, profane, and immodest, although they are the first to seize upon such passages with avidity, and when not subscribers, (which is most frequently the case) take great trouble to borrow the paper for the purpose of reading them.

We despise 'mock modesty.' We go upon the principle that "to the pure, all things are pure," and, therefore, never hesitate to call things by their proper names, and to speak exactly what we think.

BANK EXCITEMENT.

The editor of "a democratic paper," actually succeeded last week in producing an "excitement!" It was discovered by "the faithful," about the time he was "working off his paper," that it contained an article in opposition to the Bank, when some of them called upon him to renege, and inform him that his article "was not the sentiment of the Democratic Party."

A CARD.

The undersigned Democratic citizens of the Borough of Clearfield and vicinity, having read in the editorial columns of the "Republican" of this place, dated March 7, an article in opposition to the granting of a Charter for the Clearfield Bank, do most emphatically differ in opinion, and have no hesitation in signing our names in favor of such Charter, and, moreover, believe that a large majority of our citizens of all parties and vocations, are in favor of it notwithstanding.

- G. D. Goodfellow, James T. Leonard, J. W. Paull, Wm. L. Moore, G. W. Shoff, Wm. Alexander, A. K. Wright, John Boynton, Robert Smith, Jas. H. Larimer, J. F. Weaver, Wm. Powell, Wm. Porter, P. P. Butler, Geo. P. Tate, J. W. Beard, T. J. McCullough, James Hollenback, Wm. S. Bradley, James Wrigley, M. A. Frank, Geo. W. Orr, John W. Shugart, H. W. Park, Wm. R. Hemphill, J. B. McMinnally, Richard Shaw, R. V. Wilson, John Livingston, Thomas Robins, J. H. Jones, David Litz, Patrick Dolan, L. J. Crans, J. O. B. Meryell, R. Wallace, Francis Short, Richard Glennin, David Etzler.

As we presumed, of course, the Editor backed out of his position, when he found that the 'party' would not follow suit. This difficulty has, at least, developed one fact, which we long expected, and that is, that 'a democratic paper' is not the organ of the Democratic Party.

SPECIE.

The Banks of Boston exhibit an increase of \$109,170 in specie and \$741,420 in deposits. The New York banks hold sixty per cent. more specie than they did in the first week in March last year, while the loans and discounts are over two millions less.

The 'fighting editor' says that the signers of the bank Card are not all Democrats—that there are two old line Whigs among them. It won't do Mr. Slob-gobler, you can't get any consolation there. The gentlemen to whom you allude voted for Bigler both times that he ran. D'ye call them Whigs.

THE RECENT CONGRESS.

The late Session of Congress expired on Sabbath, the 4th inst., at noon, in a great deal of confusion and disorder. Among the leading measures matured during the Session, the following may be enumerated:—

The bill for the Reorganization of the Navy, the creation of a Retired List, the Texas Creditors' bill, the bill creating the rank of Lieutenant General, the bill increasing the army, the incorporation of a company to construct a Telegraph from the Mississippi to the Pacific Ocean, the Bounty Land bill, the Diplomatic and Consular bill, the new Postage bill, the bill establishing a Board of Claims, and the Shipwreck bill.

The Bounty Land bill in favor of the Soldiers of the War of 1812, and of all who served in any of the wars of the United States since 1790, provides that each shall be given 160 acres of land, and it extends also to widows of revolutionary soldiers. Those who have already received 40 or 80 acres, will now be entitled, the first to 120, and the last to 80 more. The amendments adopted by the House, after it passed the Senate, materially changed its character. The estimate of the amount of land required by the Senate bill, as committed in an official report of the Commissioner of the Land Office, was over 200,000,000 of acres. That quantity is reduced by the operation of the House amendment to one-tenth, or 20,000,000 acres. It includes only the surviving soldiers of the wars from 1790 to this time, their widows, and children who are now minors. This description embraces a comparatively small number of persons. The vast majority of the soldiers are dead, their widows have followed them, and their children are advanced in life. The bill requires the holders of warrants granted under the act to pay the fee of the Registers for its location, which is about a dollar and a half.

The Diplomatic and Consular bill makes various alterations in our diplomatic system, and while it increases the salaries of our Ministers and Consuls, takes away the outfit, and does not make the cost much larger in the aggregate.

The new Postage bill provides that for letters going less than 3,000 miles the postage shall be three cents, and over that distance it shall be five cents, except where the postal treaties with other countries shall prevent. It further provides that, after the 1st of January, 1856, all the letters shall be pre-paid, and that done with stamps also, that letters containing money can be registered, so as to show that they have been sent, but in no instance to make the Department responsible for them.

The Shipwreck bill is intended to increase the facilities of rescue in case of wreck or danger along the Atlantic coast. This was one of the earliest acts of the session, and is now a law.

An act was also passed establishing a Board passing upon Private Claims against the Government. The French Spoilation and the Collins' line Appropriation bills were vetoed by the President.

THE NEWS.

At the last dates from Sebastopol, all was uncertainty in relation to the assault. The preparations were going on, and the troops were impatient, but the officers were still anxious, nervous and distrustful of success. The Russians continued to make sorties, but were always vigorously repulsed. The weather had improved, and fortunately for the fuel was giving out, and difficulty was experienced in obtaining enough to heat the ovens. There was also a great scarcity of forage, so much so, that for several days, none had been served out, even for the superior officers. In other respects there were comparatively few complaints. One letter states, that the English were still able to parade about 20,000 capable men. The time of assault depended upon two things, the condition of the weather, and the arrival of reinforcements. A correspondent of the London Times says:—

"The French are extremely anxious for the assault. Our army has long been in a condition which induces it to prefer anything to the trenches. It may easily be imagined that General Canrobert is becoming less popular among his soldiers than he was. Gen. Bosquet, who commands the French movement at Inkermann, is rising in favor, as he is known to be in favor of the bayonet."

The same writer says:—"Every day strengthens the correctness of Sir John Burgoyne's homely saying about Sebastopol—'The more you look at it, the less you will like it.' Three months ago that officer declared his opinion to be that the place ought to be assaulted. Now Gen. Niel comes, and we hear that he laughs at the notion of our reducing the place by the fire of artillery. However, we shall have a tremendous fire for them, and a shower of 13-inch shells, each of which weighs about 200 lbs., will be an extremely unpleasant addition to the storm we shall direct upon the Russians."

UNITED STATES SENATOR.—In the State Senate a joint resolution has been submitted for the election of a United States Senator on the second Tuesday of January next.

We learn that Col. Kinney has resigned his situation as Agent of the Central American Company; also, that the Hon. James Cooper has been elected to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of William Cost Johnston, Esq., as President of the Company.

THE POPE'S LAST DECREE.

Pius has issued a long address to his followers, promulgating the new dogma of "the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin." It will be seen, from this extract, that his language is imperative and binding:—

"Let NO MAN interfere with this our declaration and definition, or oppose or contradict it with presumptuous rashness. If any should presume to assail it, let him know that he will incur the indignation of the Omnipotent God and of His blessed Apostles Peter and Paul."

"Given at Rome, at St. Peter's, in the year of the Incarnation of our Lord, 1854, the 6th of the Ides of December, in the ninth year of Our Pontificate. Pius IX., Pope."

Pencil Notes.

Will pass—the Clearfield Bank bill. Dead—Bill Poole, the New York coward. The question—"Are you going down the river?" Baked water—the fighting editor, on the bank question.

Out on a visit—one of the Tyrone boys, last week. Changeable—the weather, and the opinion of the fighting editor. Easily found—our office. Over the sign of the Yellow Boot.

Whiterish—the weather again, and our coal box empty. Good story—the Smuggler's Daughter, on our first page. Read it.

Expected—the arrival of the Pacific, and Clearfield lumbermen at Marietta.

Probable—that the President will call an extra Session of Congress.

Preparing—the watermen, to go down the river. Look out for fifth and sour-knot.

High—grain in St. Louis. Selling at two dollars per bushel.

Some parlous—there is a snow drift in Hill-top, high, and eighteen miles long. Don't come—the Daily News! What's wrong, old fellow? Can't do without you, no how.

Alot Pleasid—the Jefferson Star. What's wrong now, Mac? Off on a bust, or paper run by Gov. Pollock, to go into effect the first of April.

Wanted—bears, pins, cant-books, pike-poles, and all other rafting tackle, on the river bank. Appointed—Gov. Pollock, has appointed Arthur W. Little of Philadelphia, a Commissioner to the World's Fair at Paris.

Down on the Administration—Soule, ex-Minister to Spain. He's as mad as a March hare, or a flea-bitten bull.

Destroyed by fire—the residence of Col. Benton, in Washington City, on the 27th ult., including all his books and papers.

Attention!—Those who wish to procure a copy of the Know Nothing Almanac for 1855, can do so by leaving their names at this office.

Patriotic—Sam has determined to finish the Washington Monument. As he carries out all his undertakings, he'll do it, no mistake.

Conjuring—Saint Patrick's day in the morning! Went the Paddies have a glorious time, next Saturday.

Let her rip, Mac.—The 'Star' is down on the Jefferson County Commissioners like a thousand of bricks.

High living—boiled eggs for breakfast, hot water, and Wrigley's Indian Vegetable Pills for supper!

Getting customary—for stage drivers to carry their loads in their hats. Better put their bricks in the boot for ballast.

The proportion—There were one hundred arrests in Allegheny City during the month of February—77 foreigners and 23 Americans.

Slightly indistinct—the fancy individual that was attempting to find out the difference between curves and triangles in the street the other day.

Wears the unsavannahs.—A French woman in male attire is digging for gold in California. She works dexterously and is amusing the world.

Adjournment—The session has been prorogued until the Senate which provides for the final adjournment of the Legislature on the 20th of April.

Stays improving sin—an avowed Deist writing about "infidelity!" Stop braying and keep your ears hid, and people won't know you're a job-knave.

Know Nothingism—Americans can do their own fighting, and their own fighting, so said Gen. Harrier. Talks as if he had seen Sam, don't he?

Good idea—for the borough officers to make those using the River bank for rafting purposes, pay wharfage.

Wants to be President—George Lay, Guess Georgey can't come in. Sam don't want any market controllers in his service just now.

Proposed improvement—a brick house in Curwensville to be built from the materials carried there in the hat of the driver that left the mails last week.

Pipe of April—Those of our subscribers who change their residence on the first of April, will please give us notice, so that we may change the direction of their papers.

Kind of it—the editor of "a democratic paper" making attacks upon the character of private citizens, who have no opportunity to reply to his slanders. It's characteristic of the man.

Good for Brookville.—In the recent borough election, "Sam" licked the Whig and Loosfoco parties combined. The whole American ticket was successful.

Respects "every hair"—the "fighting editor" says that the writer you are drinking is impregnated with the juice of purifying humanity.

Some punkins—the "one horse express" we ran to Curwensville last week, to carry the mails left behind by the stage driver, because he had too big a load.

Rantabulous—the editor of "a democratic paper" when he found he was not the "democratic party." He'd better join the Know Nothings and get to be "High Priest."

Give us the blues—the hail storm on Tuesday evening, rather than our being calculations into a week's hat. Sorry, for we're longing to get at that sour-knot.

Remembered—that the Brigadier Generalship, will be given to Jefferson Davis, and that he expects it to be the stepping stone to the post of Commander-in-Chief.

In a fix.—The Legislature of Indiana has adjourned sine die, without electing a United States Senator, or any State officers. The latter cannot be filled by the Governor.

Ought not to be allowed—burying grounds within the borough limits. It's not pleasant to think that the water you are drinking is impregnated with the juice of purifying humanity.

Women's Rights in Chili.—In this "paradise of women" no fewer than four ladies have been hung lately for putting their husbands out of their misery with Spanish knives.

Prosperous.—The receipts of the American Colonization Society for the past year have been \$65,000. They have sent nearly six thousand emigrants—chiefly emancipated slaves—to Africa.

Growing brighter—our prospects for a Railroad. The friends of the enterprise should not forget, that they will have it in their power to do an essential service when they go East this Spring.

To be hoped—that the Conference which recently assembled in Baltimore, will reflect that it is morally possible for the people of Clearfield to distinguish between good preachers and bad ones, and not send us those that do other places will have.

Wishy-washy—the letters we have been receiving from our New York Correspondents. If they can't send us anything better, they need not put themselves to the trouble of sending us anything at all.

Sam's won't touch it.—Some of the opposition papers are endeavoring to split the American party on the Slavery question, but it's no go. "Sam" won't have anything to do with it. He has no relationship with 'niggers,' so how.

A practical illustration.—Our devil says when he kissed a girl the other day she asked him in great surprise—how could you do it? He replied, "it will afford me great pleasure to show you,"—and gave her a duplicate. Sharp boy, that.

A conundrum.—Why is a horse the most melancholy animal in existence? Because his thoughts are always on the rack, and his only comfort is "veg." The fellow that perpetrated the above has left for Kansas.

Look out for the first chance.—The down river lumbermen had better keep their eyes skinned this Spring, or they'll get no timber. High prices, and little of it, is the motto. Cost like vengeance to get it out last winter.

Extra copies.—Those of our friends going down the river can have as many copies of the Journal as they desire. Give us the wink, and we'll leave a bundle on board your raft as it glides under the bridge. We've had one hundred and fifty applications already on behalf of Mother Moore.

ITEMARIAN.

Peas and other vegetables are blossoming in the open air in Florida.

Thirty females are at present incarcerated in the Cincinnati jail.

There are three nunneries in the state of Massachusetts.

The U. S. Treasurer's statement made up to the 26th ult., shows \$20,439,500 in the treasury subject to draft.

A bill has passed Congress appropriating \$125,000 for the erection of fortifications at New Orleans.

In New England only one adult out of four hundred is unable to read and write.

There are some things you can learn from fools. Among the number is the value of holding your tongue.

A student in want of funds sold his books, and wrote home, "Father rejoice, for I now derive my support from literature."

It is rumored that Mr. Breckinridge, of Ky., who recently declined the mission to Spain, is to be appointed Governor of Minnesota.

Never be critical upon the ladies. The only way in the world a true gentleman will ever attempt to look at the faults of a pretty woman, is to— shut his eyes.

There are persons with 'malice prepense,' who have dared to assert that the letters M. D. which are placed after physicians' names, signify, "Money Down."

"Why don't you go to work and stop picking your nose?" "It's my nose ain't it?" and it is the Fourth of July, too. I'll pick thunder out of it, if I've a mind to."

A gentleman wishing to teach his horse to do without food starved him to death. "I had a great loss," said he, "for just as he learned to live without eating he died."

A young man on being requested to dance a Scotch reel, with a couple of sour looking old maids, objected on the ground that pickles didn't agree with him.

A Medical student wishes to know in what portion of the animal economy the trombone is found. He says that he has frequently heard of it, but cannot find it in the medical books.

It is said that the Prohibitory Liquor Law passed by the Legislature of Illinois, cannot be found, though it has been signed by the Governor! That is a rum circumstance, truly.

The Chinese are a queer people to go to market. A friend at Canton writes that a neighbor of his had just laid in his winter's provisions—a hind quarter of horse and two barrels of bulldogs.

"Have you 'Blasted' Hopes?" asked a lady of a green hibernian, whose face was much swollen by the toothache. "No, ma'am," replied the youth; "but I've got a blasted toothache."

All the Church property of the Catholic Church in New York, except that in dispute at Buffalo, is vested in the hands of one man—Hughes. The Herald says it amounts to twenty-five millions of dollars in real estate.

Mountains are considerable up and down in Vermont. It is related that a coachman driving up one, was asked if it was steep on the other side. "Steep," he answered, "chain lightning couldn't go down it without breechin' out!"

In the Municipal Court, Boston, on Monday, the Grand Jury returned sixty-eight bills of indictment against sixty-eight prisoners, for committing various crimes in the city, and out of the whole number sixty were foreigners, and mostly Irish.

If there is heaven on earth, it is on a soft couch by your own fire-side with your wife on one side, a smiling baby on the other, a clear conscience, a dozen cigars, a knowledge that you are out of debt, and don't fear the tailor, sheriff, or the devil.

The enormous quantity of forty-seven million gallons of whiskey, rum and brandy, and thirty-five million gallons of strong beer, were made in the United States during the last year, being more than three gallons a piece to every man, woman, child, sucking baby, black and white, in the country.

Checks grew pale when tidings came of the going down of the ill-fated Arctic, and its living freight. Interference will this year slaughter enough to freight a thousand Arctics. And they all, bound as they are to hearts that writhe in agony, 'go down' by authority.

The following oath was administered to a little boy ten years of age, in the Iowa Legislature, chosen to support documents:—"You do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States, and of this State, and to fold papers to the best of your ability, so help you God."

A Mr. Herand, author of "The Descent into Hell," was annoying Douglas Jerrold with importunate questions, at an unwelcome time. Among others he queried—"By the by, Mr. Jerrold, did you ever read my Descent into Hell?" "No, sir," replied the infuriated dramatist, "but I should like to see it!"

An Irish girl in Oregon the other day complained to her mistress that the cow wouldn't eat her mess. She scalded the male an' she salted it—but devil a bit would the old cow touch. On examination it was found that Biddy's male' was nothing but saw-dust. The cow was evidently not used to such fare-board.

Know-Nothingism, as we understand it, is anti-Romanism, anti-Bedinitism, anti-Pope's-toicism, anti-Nunmerism, anti-Wink-pole's-Virginism, anti-Jesuitism, and anti-whole-Sacerdotal-Hierarchyism, with all its humbugging mummies. Know-Nothingism is for light, liberty, education, and absolute freedom of conscience, with a strong dash of devotion to one's native soil.

STRONG LANGUAGE.

JOHN M. STOCKDALE, uses the following language, in a recent article, over his own signature published in the Harrisburg Democratic Union, which we commend to those in this region who make the Pennsylvania their political text book:—

I will turn the attention of the reader to the public position of the Pennsylvania. I will make two charges against its character. The one involving its political and moral honesty, the other is explained in the civil and criminal laws of the Commonwealth. The first is—that the Pennsylvania, while it makes loud professions of democracy, is secretly allied with the opposition, and endeavoring to create disaffection in the party to which it purports to belong. This is a clear, distinct, and serious allegation. I am prepared, at the present time, to prove its truth. I am in possession of the testimony. I know the Pennsylvania may affect to sneer at the charge, and answer it by vituperation and assertions. But I propose to agree upon a committee of three Democrats, and if I do not prove to their entire satisfaction that this charge is well founded, I will acknowledge myself a public defamer of character. I am satisfied that this state of things has not been long in existence, because it could not, without having been exposed to the scorn and contempt of an indignant and outraged public opinion. I assert that, at this moment, the press is owned and controlled by the opponents of the Democratic party, and that its whole tendency is to destroy it, and finally destroy its identity. Whenever, for some time past, an opportunity offered, it has struck at the National Administration at Washington, under the specious pretence of "disinterested duty!"

Immediately after the Democratic caucus met and nominated CHARLES H. BECKENRIDGE, as their candidate for United States Senator, the Pennsylvania attacked the caucus, and was the most violent and disgraceful manner. It charged them with having "betrayed" the party and the interests of the State—with having blackened their own memories, and covered them with eternal infamy. It was even stated that the faces of the "honest" portion of the caucus were suffused with shame and mortification. And then, to endeavor to convince its readers that these charges were correct, it vomited forth a column of declarations of "facts," every line of which contained a base, intentional misrepresentation, a bold, unmitigated lie. The whole scope of the article proved the editor either an arrant knave or stupid fool. He may choose the alternative.

The next thing we see of the Pennsylvania, it commences to abuse, by name, certain members of the Democratic party, and to "puff" the appointees of Gov. POLLOCK. They are all right. It then flatters, and cries "all honor to the Know Nothings," who voted to please its views, notwithstanding it is said less than two months previous that these same men had committed willful and deliberate perjury when they swore fidelity to the Constitution. Miraculous dicta! But no matter, the Pennsylvania will pardon them for the small crime of perjury, and cry "all honor to you, my brothers."

I ask the Pennsylvania not to answer these charges by spitting forth columns of wordy, base, insipid trash, which chagrin and excitement may extort from its perfidious and barren brain, but to be a man. Agree to the appointment of a investigating committee, and I will substantiate all the charges alluded to. But if you refuse, confess to the world the magnitude of your guilt and the treachery of your heart—that for months, your moral crimes have been eating away your conscience and devouring your soul. Such conduct as yours, when held up to the cold and formal gaze of American patriotism and democracy, must subject the culprit to the execrations and maledictions of all. —J. M. STOCKDALE.

IDLE CURIOSITY.

We commend the following extract to the attention of those in this neighborhood who are in the habit of prying into other people's affairs. We hope it will teach them a valuable lesson. Read it carefully:

It is right and proper for the young to be active, inquiring and eager in pursuit of all proper information. But to be idly and impudently curious, to violate propriety, courtesy and honor, by prying into the affairs of other people, in hunting out matters that are intended to be private and confidential, and thus intruding upon rights, and wounding feelings, is not only to be ungentlemanly and discourteous, but also to be mean, sneaking, unmanly and unwise. The consequences, too, are often deplorable. According to the old adage, "listeners never hear any good of themselves; and so in relation to curiosity mongers. In fact, they soon become recognized as nuisances, and are therefore shunned and avoided by all high-toned gentlemen."

It should also be remembered in this connection, that the existence of this fable or vice induces an exclusion of the party possessing it from all confidential or honorable employment. The individual who is so eager to become acquainted with the secrets of his friend or neighbor, his complaint, or his principles, will very apt to betray and disseminate the knowledge thus obtained, for the curious in the manner described are almost invariably restless and impatient, until they have communicated their budget of discoveries to others. Hence the double danger. In the first place, of improperly prying; in the second, of disseminating and magnifying what is known as acquired. In fact, curiosity is the parent of scandal. The one begets the other; and wherever the sense of honor is so far blunted as to induce the practice of idle curiosity, a disposition to vilify and calumniate will surely be found in association.

A ROMISH PRIEST ON REPUBLICANISM.—We learn from the Hickman (Ky.) Times, that a Roman Catholic Priest, living in that county, preached a sermon near Wilburn a few days since, in which he attempted to prove that the Republican Government was wrong in principle, in practice, and in morals; that it was contrary to the laws of God and nature, and to the interests of the true church, (the Roman Catholic,) and that all who were members of that church should do everything in their power to break down and destroy any such government.—American Trumpet, Westminster, Maryland.

This is the sentiment of the whole Roman Church. And those in it act up to the sentiment. Romanism and Republicanism are direct and positive enemies, and can never exist safely and peaceably on our soil. There is nothing which the Pope of Rome more desires, and which all his policy is shaped to obtain, than the downfall of this Republic.—Crusader.

KANSAS.—We find in the Kansas Free State returns of the census of that territory taken by the Governor, as far as heard from. The returns embrace only the First, Fourth, Tenth and Tenth Districts. In those the population amounts to 1576, of which 886 are males and 490 females. The voters number 607. Missouri furnishes a larger proportion of the population than any other State. Of the voters, 126 are from Missouri, 29 from other slave States, 57 from Massachusetts, 37 from Pennsylvania, and 255 from other free States. The other districts will largely increase these figures.