

THE ANTI-MASONIC STAR AND REPUBLICAN BANNER.

signs, summons, &c. are taken; witness thinks that in this clause—“Furthermore do I promise and swear, that a master mason's secrets, given to me in charge as such, and I knowing them to be such, shall remain as secure and inviolable in my breast as in his own, when communicated to me, murder and treason excepted, and they left to my own election,” the word “worthy” was inserted before the words “in my breast;” witness don't remember the clause read about going on a master mason's errand, “barefoot and bareheaded;” thinks there is an obligation to aid and assist “all poor indigent master masons, their wives and orphans,” &c.; if any part of the obligation is omitted, candidate swears that he will hold himself “amenable thereto whenever informed;” Hiram Abiff is represented as being killed and buried; search is made for him, he is found; a sprig of cassia by his head; brethren attempt to raise him; the first grip is tried, it does not raise him; on trying the second flesh slips off; the third (the lion's grip) is then tried and raises him; in mark master's degree, a mark is pretended to be put on candidate; mallet and chisel produced; a bowl also, stained in imitation of blood; chisel applied to or near naked breast, and blow given with mallet; in one of degrees, master resigns his place to candidate; other offices also become vacant; lodge is thrown into great confusion, members are noisy, and ridicule candidate, to show him he ought not assume a station for which he is not qualified—the penalty in the master mason's degree is—“to have my body severed in two in the midst, and divided to the north and south, my bowels burnt to ashes, and the ashes scattered to the four winds of heaven,” &c. In the Royal Arch degree, witness testified to the correctness of nearly all the clauses of the oath; witness has taken this obligation in the chapter—“Furthermore, do I promise and swear, that I will not give the Grand Omnific Royal Arch word, which I shall hereafter receive, neither in the chapter nor out of it except there be present two companion Royal Arch masons, who, with myself make three, and then by three times three, under a living arch, not above my breath;” he has taken this—“Furthermore, do I promise and swear, that I will not reveal the ineffable characters belonging to this degree, or retain the key to them in my possession, but destroy it, whenever it comes to my sight;” thinks he has taken this, or part of it;—“Furthermore, do I promise and swear that I will not wrong this chapter, nor a companion of this degree, to the value of any thing, knowingly myself, or suffer it to be done by others if in my power to prevent it;” he has taken this obligation—“Furthermore, do I promise and swear, that I will not be at the exaltation of a candidate to this degree, at a clandestine chapter, I knowing it to be such;” he has taken this—“Furthermore, do I promise and swear that I will not assist or be present at the forming or opening of a Royal Arch chapter unless there be present nine regular Royal Arch masons;” he has taken this—“Furthermore, do I promise and swear, that I will not speak evil of a companion Royal Arch mason, neither behind his back nor before his face, but will apprise him of approaching danger if in my power;” he has taken this—“Furthermore, do I promise and swear, that I will not strike a companion Royal Arch mason in anger so as to draw his blood;” he has taken this—“Furthermore do I promise and swear, that I will support the constitution of the General Grand Royal Arch chapters of the United States of America, also the constitution of Grand Royal Arch chapter of the state under which this chapter is held, and conform to all the by laws, rules and regulations of this or any other chapter of which I may hereafter become a member;” he has taken this—“Furthermore, do I promise and swear that I will obey all regular signs, summons, or tokens given, handed, sent or thrown to me, from the hand of a companion Royal Arch mason, or from the body of a just and lawfully constituted chapter of such, provided it be within the length of my cable tow;” he has taken this, but it was explained—“Furthermore, do I promise and swear that I will aid and assist a companion Royal Arch mason, when engaged in any difficulty; and espouse his cause, so far as to extricate him from the same, if in my power, whether he be right or wrong;” the explanation of the foregoing clause witness says was made after the oath was administered, and was this: If he saw a companion engaged in a difficulty, or quarrel, with another person, he was to get him away, out of the difficulty, or quarrel, if he could do so; witness has not taken this obligation, or any one political—“Also, that I will promote a companion Royal Arch mason's political preference in preference to another of equal qualifications;” witness swears, that he has taken the following obligation—“Furthermore, do I promise and swear, that a companion Royal Arch mason's secrets, given me in charge as such, and I knowing them to be such, shall remain as secure and inviolable in my breast as in his own; MURDER AND TREASON NOT EXCEPTED.” witness believes he has taken the obligation to “aid and assist all poor and indigent Royal Arch masons, their widows and orphans,” &c.; witness believes the penalty of this degree, as read, is correct; which penalty follows: “All which I must so-

lemnly and sincerely promise and swear, with a firm and steadfast resolution to perform the same, without any equivocation, mental reservation, or self-evasion of mind in me whatever; binding myself under no less penalty, than that of having my skull smote off, and my brains exposed to the scorching rays of the sun, should I ever knowingly, or willfully, violate or transgress any part of this my solemn oath, or obligation, of a Royal Arch Mason. So help me God, and keep me steadfast in the performance of the same.” In Royal Arch ceremonies, candidates have to go under the “living arch,” formed by two rows of masons joining hands; some one says, in a low tone, “stoop low, brothers; stoop low;” they then lower their hands and candidates are brought down on hands and knees; as they crawl through are told they must pass through rugged ways, and chairs and other obstacles are put before them to climb over; there is a representation of the destruction of Jerusalem, at which a great noise is made; also, of the burning bush; in one part of ceremonies, in reply to question—“Are you a Royal Arch Mason?” the answer is, “I AM THAT I AM!”

Counsel for plaintiffs declined to cross-examine witness.

John Pike, (a justice of the peace,) sworn.—About 14 years ago, witness became a freemason; is a Royal Arch; has taken 15 degrees in masonry.—Witness says part of the master mason's oath (the first part of which was read to him,) is correct, and part not; asked to say what part is not correct, and answers, the substance is substantially the same; knows of no idea in the part read, materially different from the book; some small variations; witness has taken the substance of this obligation—“Furthermore do I promise and swear, that I will not give the grand hailing sign of distress, except I am in real distress, or for the benefit of the craft when at work; and should I ever see that sign given, or the word accompanying it, and the person who gave it, appearing to be in distress, I will fly to his relief at the risk of my life, should, there be a greater probability of saving his life than of losing my own;” witness has sworn not to wrong the lodge or a brother of this degree, to the value of one cent, knowingly; has sworn not to be at the “initiating of a young man in non-age, an atheist, irreligious libertine, idiot or woman;” the words “old man in dotage,” “madman,” and “hermaphrodite,” as in the book in the foregoing clause, witness knows nothing about; there is an obligation to apprise a brother master mason of all approaching danger, &c.; witness has taken this obligation—“Furthermore, do I promise and swear, that a master mason's secrets, given to me in charge as such, and I knowing them to be such, shall remain as secure and inviolable in my breast, as in his own, when communicated to me, murder and treason excepted, and left to my own election;” witness has taken no obligation “to go on a master mason's errand, barefoot and bareheaded,” &c.; there is an obligation in substance, to aid and assist poor indigent master masons, their wives and daughters; witness did not obligate himself to take, afterwards, any part of the oath which might be omitted at the time; penalty is—“to have my body severed in two in the midst, and divided to the north and south, my bowels burnt to ashes, and the ashes scattered to the four winds of heaven;” knows nothing about the clause which follows, relative to a “vile and perjured wretch,” &c. Witness says in the course of ceremonies in the lodge, when the candidate is brought to light, the master exclaims, “And God said, let there be light, and there was light,” at the same time the bandage over the eyes of the candidate is quickly pulled off, and there is a clapping of hands and stamping of feet on the floor; witness is asked—“when you were initiated, was there a rope round your neck?” Answer—“No.” Question—“What then?” Answer—“A small cord.” In the mark master's degree, a mallet and chisel are used, to mark the candidate; a bowl is produced as if to catch the blood; it sometimes has the appearance of being stained with bloody; the chisel is placed near the breast, and a blow upon the head of it given with the mallet. In another degree, there is a representation of killing Hiram Abiff; he is buried; and after considerable search, is found, with a sprig of cassia by his head; is raised from the grave, &c.

On examination of the Royal Arch obligation, witness testified to the most important and exceptional clauses, substantially the same as Gen. Welch. Witness has taken the obligation to “aid and assist a companion Royal Arch mason, when engaged in any difficulty; and espouse his cause, so far as to extricate him from the same, if in my power, whether he be right or wrong;” he says this clause was explained, the moment he took it, same as Gen. Welch has testified; witness never took, or heard administered any political obligation; he swears positively and without qualification, that he has taken the following obligation—“Furthermore, do I promise and swear, that a companion Royal Arch mason's secrets, given me in charge as such and I knowing them to be such, shall remain as secure and inviolable in my breast as in his own. MURDER AND TREASON NOT EXCEPTED.” Witness says the penalty is the same as Gen. Welch has testified; to the question, “in some part of the ceremonies; ‘Are you a Royal Arch mason?’ the answer is, in the language of God to Moses, ‘I AM THAT I AM.’” witness was asked whether, in another part of the ceremonies, the question—“Who comes there?”—was not put three times? Answer—“No.” Question—“Was it put twice?” Answer—“No.” Question—“Was it once?” Answer—“No.” Question—“How many times then?” Answer—

“Seven.” In the Royal Arch degree, the candidates pass under a “living arch,” made of hands, so low that they have to crawl, &c.

Cross-examined. Witness believes he is not compelled, as a witness or juror, by his oath and the charges, together, to favour a brother mason; charges considered to explain the duties of a mason.

Rouse Clark, sworn. Witness is a freemason; don't know how many degrees he has taken; is a Royal Arch, and higher.—[Here the counsel for plaintiffs admitted that Clark would swear to the same obligations as Messrs. Welch and Pike had sworn to, and earnestly entreated counsel for defendant to examine no further. A few questions, however, were asked, and answers to them, drawn from the witness.] Question—“Have you taken this obligation in the master mason's degree?”—Furthermore, do I promise and swear, that a master mason's secrets, given to me in charge as such and I knowing them to be such, shall remain as secure and inviolable in my breast as his own, when communicated to me, murder and treason excepted, and they left to my own election.” Answer—“I have taken one similar to that.” Witness says he has taken the obligation to aid and assist a companion Royal Arch mason, whether he be right or wrong, &c. but says it was explained, as in the testimony of Gen. Welch; says he has taken the following, in substance, in the Royal Arch obligation—“Furthermore, do I promise and swear, that a companion Royal Arch mason's secrets, given me in charge as such, and I knowing them to be such, shall remain as secure and inviolable in my breast as in his own, MURDER AND TREASON NOT EXCEPTED.”

Cross-examined. Witness thinks the charges and lectures are moral.

Another witness was called, but court decided it was unnecessary as testimony given was not controverted by plaintiffs.

After counsel on both sides had concluded, the cause went to the jury about 6 o'clock A. M. on Thursday, who retired, and not being able to agree, were discharged about 9 o'clock—free being in favour of acquitting the defendant, and one for his conviction.

There is a note in Bernard's book relating to this very clause, as follows: “This clause is sometimes made a distinct point in the obligation in the following form, viz: Furthermore do I promise and swear that I will vote for a companion Royal Arch Mason, before any other of equal qualifications; and in some chapters, both are left out of the obligation.” There is positive proof that the political clause is taken in some chapters.

From the Chenango (N. Y.) Telegraph.

All who are not freemasons, and many who are, will read the report of the NEW-BERLIN TRIAL with unfeigned astonishment, surprise and wonder. The people will now understand, beyond the possibility of any mistake, the nature, the awful nature of the masonic obligations as judicially established in the county of Chenango. The shock which this development has already made upon the public mind, so far as the facts have become known, is powerful beyond all parallel. A sensation has been created in this community, too deep ever to be forgotten, too all-pervading ever to be allayed, too strong ever to be resisted.—Much as we have heard and seen of freemasonry; much as we have read of judicial investigations abroad on the same subject, we are, indeed, ourselves struck with amazement at these developments here at home. All doubts will now be dissipated; all ground for cavil and dispute entirely done away.

The cause was ably managed on both sides. The counsel for the defendant, in the course of the trial, went into a full and thorough examination of the oaths, principles and tendency of freemasonry; they entered the very *sanctum sanctorum* of the fraternity, and exposed their secrets in all their naked deformity. It was such an investigation as the society of freemasons in this part of the world will long, long have cause to remember: In the anguish of their souls, and the bitterness of their reflections at their rashness and folly in provoking that investigation, neither we nor anti-masons, in no wise participate. And it is to us a matter of congratulation, that we and our friends have only acted on the defensive in this whole proceeding. Well may we exclaim, in the language of one in former times, “they would have it so.”

But what shall we say of the nature, the alarming nature of the testimony elicited on that trial? We have no language at our command to express the feelings with which we heard a part of that testimony given by the witnesses on the stand. To the fraternity, it was as astounding as would have been a thunderbolt from heaven, from a clear and a cloudless sky; it completely unmanned them, entirely destroyed their self-possession, and they seemed to give up all to despair. Look at the facts! Here we have three citizens—personally reputable and respectable in society—as much so, for aught we know as any others—men of intelligence and influence—one, the sheriff of our county, and another, holding the responsible office of a justice of the peace—all adhering members of the fraternity—Royal Arch Masons—men who have never yet been denounced by the Order as “perjured villains,” and whom no man dare denounce as such—men, also, who are in full political communion with the masonic party—here, we repeat, we find three such men testifying in open court and under the solemnities of an oath, that the uncharitably obligation to keep “a companion royal arch mason's secrets, MURDER AND TREASON NOT EXCEPTED,” has been administered to them within the walls of a lodge room! We speak none of those things for the purpose of aggravating or injuring the feelings of

the witnesses. We cast no reflections upon them, we mean to cast none. It is the soul-debasing and outrageous nature of the Institution that imposes upon its members such awful oaths, to which we ask public attention, and down upon which we call for the execration of every honest and honourable man in the community.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Eight Days Later From Europe. BALTIMORE, May 18.

By the Charlemagne at New York from Liverpool, accounts to the 9th of April have been received. England, says the Standard, was quiet, and Ireland silent upon the subject of the Union. Ministers, it was said, would come into Parliament on the 12th with an accession of strength in favor of Reform. There was not much alteration in the state of affairs on the continent; France and Austria, though assuming warlike attitudes, appeared to understand each other with perfect good nature.

The news of most importance by this arrival, says the Courier, is the rising of Volhynia and Lithuania; and the formation of a provisional Government in Volhynia, with Gen. Weipenhof at its head. In addition to this movement, so decidedly favourable to the success of the Poles, it is rumoured that Persia and Turkey are about to proceed against Russia.—Whether this be true or not, there can be but little doubt, that these powers will avail themselves of the success of the Poles, to retrieve from Russia, their losses in the late wars with that power.

The Ministry of France appear to be little inclined to war, while the events of the day, the spirit of the times, and the feelings of the people, all tend to an immediate rupture with Austria.

The papers contain an account of the dreadful state to which the Russian army had been reduced by the overflowing of the Vistula. It has driven them back to a considerable distance. General Diebitsch had moved his headquarters to Maciejowice, and it was thought that a victory had been obtained by the Poles near Ostrolenka.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The statement of the quarter's revenue appears in the London Times of 7th April—which shows that England is in a prosperous condition—that paper remarking thereon, says “Let the government but persevere in a steady course of economy and of financial improvement, and let them be supported by the intelligence and virtue of a reformed House of Commons, and it may be doubted whether the great advances already made in our national wealth, industry, and trade, may not in future years be far exceeded by a new development of prosperity.”

Parliament adjourned on the 1st of April, to meet again on the 14th, when the question of Reform would be brought forward. The papers were agitating the question of dissolution. The London News says that a new election would give Ministers a majority of one hundred and twenty in favor of the Reform Bill.

From the Morning Herald, of April 7.

We have just received the Paris papers of Tuesday and Wednesday. Their tone is still pacific.—No answer had yet been received to the note addressed to Austria, and the very interesting discussion in the Chamber of Deputies on Monday, tends to confirm the opinion that Ministers feel themselves fortified in maintaining peace. It is said that the note which France addressed to Austria was concerted with the English Minister; and that our government fully coincided with that of France, to the full extent, upon that question. The War Department was still unceasing in its preparations.

City, Thursday, April 8.—A report is in circulation, which is countenanced by the French Journals, that a communication has been opened between the Poles and the Turks, and that Envoys have been mutually sent from Warsaw and Constantinople. If it be true that the Sublime Porte has sent an Envoy to Warsaw, hostilities between Russia and Turkey may be considered as certain. Indeed such a step on the part of the latter Power amounts to a declaration of war. It is, in fact, entering into a friendly negotiation with the revolted subjects of the Emperor of Russia. For our part, we should not be at all surprised if Turkey took advantage of the present state of things, and attempted to get rid of the debt and disgrace inflicted upon her by the Czar.

STILL LATER! Splendid Successes of the Poles! PHILADELPHIA, May 91.

From the Inquirer.

We furnish intelligence from Europe, which, we are confident, will gratify every enlightened and liberal reader. THE POLES HAVE GAINED A COMPLETE AND SIGNAL VICTORY OVER THEIR RUSSIAN ADVERSARIES. The official details, as far as it is possible to give them, will be found in the subsequent columns. “A few days prior to this engagement the Polish commander-in-chief had endeavored to prevent the further effusion of blood; by an attempt at negotiation with Diebitsch, but he required the unconditional submission of all the Poles as a preliminary measure, and the demand was rejected with scorn. In addition, Lithuania is in a state of insurrection. At Wilna, the capital, the overthrow of the Russian authority is complete. The nobility have set free their slaves, and supplied them with money and arms. Diebitsch has cut off from his supplies both of men

and troops. With an enemy in front and rear, harassed by fatigue and famine; of the proud army of Russia, but few probably will remain, to tell the sad tale of how fearful a thing it is, to war against a gallant people, determined to be free.”

The Austrians continue their march along the shores of the Adriatic, and have thus far been victorious. The accounts from France continue pacific, and are favourable to the continuance of the present Ministry in office. “The project of the law regarding the elections, had been adopted, and it was expected that the dissolution of the Chamber of Deputies would shortly take place. An astonishing rise had taken place in the French funds; the five per cents were at 74;—they had risen to 82½; the three per cents were at 45½; they had risen to 53½. No satisfactory cause for this advance is assigned; it is said by some to be nothing more than an affair of the Bourse.”

The late ministerial associates of Polignac who escaped from the storm they assisted to raise in July last, have been tried; their names are D'Haussez, Capelle and Monthlé—they have been declared guilty of high treason, and sentenced to perpetual imprisonment.

M. De Polignac has made an attempt to escape from the fortress of Ham—he was discovered in the apartment of the chimney where he was confined.

The family of Bonaparte have leave to re-enter France.

The trial of a number of young men, principally students, upon charges connected with the riots on the occasion of the trial of Polignac and his associates had commenced in Paris. The general impression was that they would be acquitted.

The state of Belgium remains unchanged. The prince Leopold was still spoken of as the Sovereign of that country.

In England, parliament again assembled on the 12th. The subject of reform was still undecided. Ministers had announced their willingness to submit to some amendments in the details of the Bill introduced by them, but on the principle of it, Lord Grey took occasion to say in the most distinct terms, they were determined to stand or fall.

From the Liverpool Chronicle of 16th April, we copy the following interesting summary of the news for the week preceding that date.

The Polish cause is advancing gloriously, and the hopes of their ultimate and complete success have now a solid basis on which to rest. The spirited and vigorous manner in which the operations against the beaten divisions of Diebitsch's army have been followed up, have completely discomfited that bold and skillful leader's arrangements; and the reported insurrections in the provinces in his rear and on his flanks, of which there seems little reason to doubt, must compel him to a retrograde movement, which he will not be able to execute without extreme difficulty and severe loss. The following are the accounts received of the operations subsequent to the victory of the 31st of March, mentioned in another column:—

It is reported that the Poles have gained a new and important victory over the Russians at Grosno; that the corps of General Geismar has been entirely destroyed, and he himself severely wounded and a prisoner; that Marshal Diebitsch, hard pressed on all sides by the Polish army and the peasantry, was shut up in the marshes, and reduced to a most critical position.—The result of this fresh success is said to be no fewer than 6,000 prisoners and 26 pieces of cannon.

By accounts received from Memel, late yesterday afternoon, to the 3d inst. information of an important nature was obtained. The letters mention that, at Polangen, about four miles from Memel, an engagement had taken place between the insurgents and the Russian troops, in which the latter were defeated. Polangen was in flames.—In Volhynia, there was not less than 18,000 organized insurgents, who had risen in opposition to the Russian power. A British courier, who was on his road to St. Petersburg, had thought it prudent to stop at Polangen. It was said that a Russian courier with dispatches to the army in Poland, had been seized by the insurgents, his dispatches opened, and then he had his head cut off. The regular medium of communication had been suspended, and the rising against the government of Russia throughout Volhynia, Courland, and Lithuania, was expected to become general. The insurgents intercept all communications from Dantzic, from whence the Russian army in Poland received most of their supplies. The contents of the letters from Memel were heard with great satisfaction by persons engaged in the Russian trade.

The following is from the Liverpool Chronicle of the 16th April, to which reference is made in the extract above.

POLAND.

The news from POLAND is in the highest degree exhilarating. Telegraphic accounts were received a great victory over the Russians in an attempt made on a large scale by the latter to pass the Vistula. The particulars had not fully transpired; but just before the Chamber of Deputies broke up, the news was brought to General Sebastiani, who communicated it with joy to those around him. The combat was said to be long and bloody, and the fighting to have lasted for twenty-two hours. Such particulars as have transpired are alluded to in the annexed abstract of the report in the Chamber of deputies.

At the same time we learn that the Russian General Jarnalow, who formerly commanded the Russian army on the Persian