Erie Observer.

ERIE, PA., MARCH 26, 1864.

ETERNAL VIGILANCE BY THE PEOPLE IS THE PRICE OF AMERICAN LIBERTY.—*Andrew Jackson.*

THE Crawford *Journal* says we "may be certain that the man" it supports for President "will not be a favorite of" ours. The *Journal* need have been at no pains to communicate that piece of information. The "man that we support" for Chief Magistrate will be a firm, devoted friend of the Union and Constitution—one of the Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, Stephen A. Douglas and Wm. A. Marcy stamp;—the "man" that the *Journal* supports, will be one of the new-fangled, pretended "friends of the Union," who in the campaign of 1860, thought the South was a curse to the nation, and were perfectly willing to "let it go;" who thinks the Union is "not worth preserving with slavery in it;" and who are now doing more to retard our cause, and recruit the rebel armies than all the efforts of Jeff. Davis, Lee, Beauregard and Johnson united. We should indeed begin to have fears for our patriotism if ever, in the varied convulsions of the political volcano, we should find the *Journal* supporting the same candidate for President that we did.

We insist upon it, however, that it is not exactly honest for the *Journal* to deny its opposition to Mr. Lincoln, when the fact was palpable to every reader of the paper.

Mr. Dawson's Speech.

The Republican papers in this portion of the State having all, or nearly all, printed the speech of Hon. G. W. Schofield, of our district, we shall next week commence the publication of that of Hon. John L. Dawson, to which Mr. Scofield's purports to be a reply. It is very lengthy, and will run through two issues of the *Observer*, but we trust no one will be deterred thereby from reading it from the beginning to the end. We regard it as by far the ablest, clearest and most statesmanlike political production that has appeared from any member of Congress since the death of Douglas, and feel proud to know that Pennsylvania has a Representative in that body who by his unswerving integrity, noble personal qualities, and admitted talents reflects so much lustre on the commonwealth. The public will have an opportunity of comparing the two speeches side by side, and judging for itself of the *Gazette's* satirical assertion that "G. W. Scofield is as able a man as the Hon. Mr. Dawson, to say the least."

Not Yet.

The mission of the "Republican" party is now said to be accomplished, and a nice thing it is! It has cost the country nearly a million of lives, destroyed its financial and commercial prosperity, severed the union of States and broken their laws, turned vast and fertile districts into deserts and battle fields—subverted the liberties of the people, and now its 'mission is accomplished!" No, not yet. After such a record the people will not allow you to hide your crimes under a name which you profane, shirk the punishment that you deserve, or meanly sneak from the arm of their vengeance, to perpetrate new infamies, and finish the destruction you have so near accomplished. Your "mission" is not yet "accomplished," nor will it be, till you have met the doom of traitors and tyrants, and rest securely buried beneath the execrations and detestation of freemen.

Partizan Recklessness.

Wallace De Witt, Esq., a gentleman of ability and acquirements, and well known in this city, was recently elected Prothonotary of the middle district of the Supreme Court of this State. He was elected by the votes of Justices Woodward, Strong and Thompson, without opposition, and on account of his fitness for the place. Whereupon the abolitionists raised a howl of disappointed rage because Mr. De Witt has the honor of being a Democrat, and because the Supreme Court saw fit to use its own judgment as to its officers, without consulting the Shodyites of Harrisburg. This only exposed their partizan greed and meanness; but this was not enough, and the Hon. M. B. Lowry, a gentleman known in this city, introduced a resolution into the Senate that the committee on the Judiciary be instructed to report upon the expediency of *abolishing the Supreme Court for the middle district of the State*, for the sole purpose of destroying the office of which Mr. De Witt is the incumbent. The interests of the citizens of a large portion of the State were nothing, but the removing of a Democrat from office everything! Certainly reckless and bigoted partizanship could go no further.

The Last Call for Troops.

Many inquiries have been made at the War Department, by members of Congress especially, in relation to the last call of the President for 200,000 men. The answers are that the men are necessary for the purposes of the war, and that, should not the result of this call be satisfactory *another requisition may be anticipated.* The War Department officials are engaged in adjusting the quotas of the various States and presincts, but it will be two weeks before definite conclusions can be arrived at." So says a correspondent of the *World.*

—Gen. Grant formally assumed command of the armies of the United States on the 17th inst. The following is his order on the subject:

GENERAL ORDER—NO. 12.

HEADQUARTERS OF ARMIES OF U. S.,
NASHVILLE, TENN., March 17, 1864.

In pursuance of the following order of the President:—

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON March 10, '64.

Under the authority of the act of Congress to appoint the grade of Lieutenant General in the army, of February 26, 1864, Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant, U. S. Army, is appointed to the command of the armies of the United States.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

I assume command of the armies of the United States. Headquarters will be in the field, and, until further orders, will be with the army of the Potomac. There will be an office headquarters in Washington D. C., to which all official communication will be sent, except those from the army where the headquarters are at the date of their address.

U. S. GRANT, Lieut. Gen.

—In Harrisburg the Democratic ticket was elected by 167 majority.

—In York, the majority given last fall for Woodward, was quadrupled in the recent election.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

In a monarchial or centralized form of government, the dangers against which the people are necessitated to guard, is the usurpation of the government itself, or the mal-administration of it when rightfully obtained by some one of the citizens who by his superior intellect, or the grandeur of his military achievements, is enabled by intrigue or force to assume powers destructive of the laws and liberties of the people, and beneficial only to the projects of his own ambition.

A Democratic people, however, are rarely visited with the usurpation of one man while they still retain unimpaired their republican constitution and their forms of government under it. The foundation on which alone a Republic can long remain firm, is the virtue of the people. So long as that virtue exists, ambitious men are deterred by the fear of popular reprobation from seeking their own agrandizement at the expense of the public welfare. When political virtue has decayed, and then only, do free constitutions cease to avail and become subverted by the power of one mind acting alone, and supported by the bayonets of a paid soldiery. The rise of a powerful faction in a Republic is the first step tending from the light of free institutions to the darkness of despotism, and history teaches that in those nations that have been governed by republican forms, or have attempted to establish democratic institutions, the lawless rule of a powerful minority of the people, has generally preceeded the tyrany and usurpation of a single despot.

It is through this preliminary stage that the government of the United States is now passing, and if not checked by the uprising of the people, our country will reach the goal of so many republics, and become in theory what it is already in practice, a military despotism. Though the founders of the government incorporated into the organic law provisions that they thought sufficient to guard the people against usurpation of any kind, yet the progress of an agressive revolution on the one hand, met by a defensive on the other, has placed the United States under the dominion of a minority of the people. It has been seen that the so-called Republican party was originally but little more than one-third of the people, and that though wielding for three years a power and patronage greater than that of any other government on the globe, it has still been unable to maintain even this factious standard, and has been forced to resort to the most open and licentious corruption, and the most criminal and unbearable interference with the freedom of the ballot. We now inquire whether, at the time that this faction came into power, and assumed to govern the United States, its principles were consistent with the fundamental law of the land, as administered from the beginning of the government, or in harmony with the spirit of democratic institutions, or whether, on the contrary, its very organization and existence was not in itself the beginning of a revolution, and destructive of that equality among the States of the confederaation, and among the people of those States which alone could assure the stability of our form of government.

Our governmental system is founded upon the consent of the people governed. It is based entirely and alone upon the democratic principle, and in considering what that principle is, it is unnecessary to discuss the theory of States Rights, and the delegation of certain powers by the several States to a mere creature of their own establishment, for the benefit and protection of all. True, this view of the question will show that the organization of the so-called Republican party upon its declared platform, was nothing less than an attempted revolution and an act of incipient treason. But Democratic principle rests for its strength on a stronger basis than even the incontrovertible doctrine of State Rights. Assume if you choose that all State lines are obliterated, that the States are but dependent provinces of the central authority, by which are enacted the laws that secure the lives and property of the people, and that the United States are no longer a confederacy of republics, but a consolidated empire, and the principle of democratic government compared with the dogmas of the so-called Republican party, will show it to have been hostile to the very idea of free popular government.

Democracy is the government of a majority of the people, limited first by the fundamental law that they themselves have established, and second by that natural law of justice that alone can be interposed when other means fail to ward off the attacks of a tyranical majority upon the inalienable rights of minorities. Democracy recognizes at all times and under all circumstances the right of a people to reject or assent to laws that immediately affect their interests, or simply, the right to govern themselves. Democracy is equality in political rights of all those engaged in the making of the laws, and all who assent to them, the minority obeying so long as those laws do not convene natural justice and inalienable privileges.

Democracy not only declares the right of a majority to govern, but it also restrains its powers and recognizes and protects the legal and natural rights of minorities. If these principles are correct, and few will dispute their truth apart from the application that may be given them at the present time, in what position do we find the so-called Republican party, at the time that it was enabled to elect its president by the votes of one-third of the people? Did they recognize these principles, or were they not openly and avowedly opposed to them? Did they adhere to the democratic principle that a majority can govern only according to the laws, and must respect in all its acts the legal and natural rights of the minority, or even while they themselves were in an immense minority, did they not assume that a majority were all powerful, and if under constitutional forms, any number of citizens could possess the federal government, they could *rightfully administer it* in a spirit hostile to the interests of one-third of the republic, and in direct violation of the expressed wishes of two-thirds of the people? Nay, more than this, they proclaimed for their rules a 'higher law,' which higher law when interpreted meant their own wills, thus placing themselves above the laws, above the wishes of the majority of the people, and above the most sacred oaths and obligations. These charges cannot be denied—as a party they do not contradict them. The question then is, was this party right, or was their theory as they have shown their practice to be, subversive of constitutional law, destructive of the fundamental democratic principle that underlies our political edifice, and which supported for so long its liberties and its greatness? Clearly the answer is, that that ruling power, be it a crowned tyrant, or an uncontrolled mob, that governs in violation of law and of equal rights among the people, violates the principle of popular self government, of democracy and republicanism, and by whatever name it calls itself cannot escape the charge of being oligarchical or monarchial.

Again in considering the character of this so-called Republican faction, there is yet another view to be taken. Heretofore we have gone upon the supposition that a faction arises having its adherents in every part of the country, and assuming to rule in violation of the rights of those who refused to give their assent to their peculiar dogmas. In the case of the faction now destroying the liberties of the country, there is another attendant circumstance that places it in a position of more direct hostility to democratic government. The so-called Republican party was eminently a sectional party. It was a majority, and only a bare majority of the people of the North arrayed against citizens of the South. No sectional party can obtain possession of the government, the sole object and use of which is the protection of the citizen, with the intention of administering it in a spirit of hostility to or disregard of the legal and natural rights of other sections or States, and for the sole benefit of its own peculiar locality, without violating the democratic or republican principle. It matters not that they may propose to themselves no direct and open violation of law; political juglerly and chicanery are no less criminal, and whether you lose your purse by the knavery of a swindler, or the bludgeon of a highway robber, your loss is the same, and the violation of law and justice none the less flagrant. Nor does it avail to say that in the present instance the institution of slavery was the object of attack. As a free people, having the inalienable natural and constitutional right to make their own laws, and determine for themselves what institutions were most conducive to their benefit, any attempt to take from them that right was an agressive movement, in violation as well of the doctrine of republicanism as of the laws of the land. It matters not what principle of assumed excellence faction adopts for its rule, nor what uncertain and visionary benefits it proposes to confer upon an unwilling people; if in its career it comes in contact with this unalterable principle of Democracy and Republicanism that "all governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed," a real or constitutional majority must yield, that liberty may live; still more should a small minority, professing the most ultra and eccentric creed, bow before the statutes of the land, the will of the people, and the law of God.

In proposing to restrict the legal rights and ouerthrow the equality of the citizens of a part of the Republic against their consent, the so-called Republican party became an anti-democratic, revolutionary, and oligarchial faction, and that from the very moment it began its plottings against one-third of the people of these United States. It so happened that it was enabled by a system of gigantic falsehood, pursued with the perseverence that malice and fanaticism give to their followers, to excite the majority, or at least the controling element of the faction, to a pitch of fanatical fury against the institution of negro slavery. This was a mere matter of chance; had there been no negroes, the enemies of democratic government and the friends of centralized power would not have wanted an excuse to begin a stragetical or forcible movement against popular government and liberty. By basely pretending to be on the side of freedom, they were enabled to blind the people to the despotic principle that was the foundation of their action, and deceive them into the election of their candidate.

To these charges against the so-called Republican party its adherents made various answers, and the faction might have been divided into three classes; the boldly revolutionary fanatics, the timid and conscience smitten followers, and the ignorant and bigoted dupes, each of which is characterized by the answers that they were accustomed to make to the appeals of their fellow citizens who wished to maintain the principles of our government, and the laws of the land. The fanatical leaders had no scruples. They believed slavery wrong; the planter of Georgia had an equal right with Charles Sumner of Massachusetts to believe it right. The fanatic did not hesitate to declare for revolution, war, dissolution of the Union, or any other convulsion, so that he could see the negro without a legal master. This class of men controlled the faction and still control it, while they who were afflicted with only a mild type of lunacy, who prided themselves on their "conservatism" thought these men too violent, and even totally wrong, but still had the weakness to allow themselves to be dragged into the whirlpool of an abolition revolution at the heels of these insane or unprincipled dreamers. The masses of the faction were, however, educated after many years into the most besotted and unreasoning ignorance of the South and its institutions. We say educated to ignorance, and nothing is more easily accomplished. As men grow up to take their stations as citizens in the Republic, their minds are as to political ideas, blank pages, ready to be impressed with the fanaticism of Wendell Phillips and the New York *Tribune*, or the principles of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. The so-called Republican faction substituted the former for the latter, buried them beneath the masses of anti-slavery tracts, "Uncle Tom's Cabins," and "John Brown sayings," with which it flooded the land; Substituted its thinly veiled monstrosoties for the robust beauties of National Conservatism, till a sufficient number were made willing to barter for the pottage of negro freedom, the priceless birthright of liberty for themselves.

This anti-republican faction was successful, and one-third of the American people were enabled to begin the costly experiment of governing the remaining two-thirds, by a standard that had no fixed place even in their own visionary minds, ruling without law, and in violation of every great principle that we had boasted to the world, the flag of our country should represent and protect. It resulted as was predicted, as in this age of progress every attempt to rule a free people, regardless of their wishes and their laws, must inevitably result, in a counter revolution by the people most directly attacked, in civil war and in national ruin. And yet, recruiting its waning masses by every appliance of bribery corruption and force, the people are again called upon to meet this monstrous faction, again clothed in the robes of false patriotism, again masked behind hypocrisy and an impious religion. From the grave yards of its victims, from the wailings of its melancholly procession of widows and orphans, from the people burdened with taxation and subjected to the demands of a power that makes them the tools of its designs,—from all these comes the sad inquiry, How long, how long? Let us hope that in the justice of a good Providence in the returning wisdom of the people, we may soon see the dawning of a happier era, and at length, even from the darkness of factious tyrany, may arrise in brighter glory the star of American liberty and American democracy.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

—Gold closed in New York on the 22d at 64.

—Mrs. Lincoln is said to be earnestly advocating the appointment of Gen. Sickles to succeed Gen. Meade!!

—Gen. Brooks has issued another election order for delegates to a Constitutional (!) Convention, to meet on the 28th of march.

—The one hundred and fifty-fourth Tennessee (Confederate) Reg't has enlisted for *thirty years*, or during the war.

—Forrest is reported to be organizing for a movement into West Tennessee. He has obtained a large number of horses and is mounting his infantry.

—Two Union prisoners, while on their route from Richmond to Americus, Ga., froze to death or died of starvation in the railroad cars, and twelve others had to be left in the hospital at Raleigh.

—Major General Logan has kindly given permission to the people of Tennessee, in his Department to cultivate their own soil with their own slaves, *provided* the masters pay them wages.

—The rebels are in large force at Bull's Gap. They probably number 20,000. The reports of their having sent away most of their artillery and wagons by railroad, and mounted men on all their draught horses are confirmed. There is a general belief that the rebels intend to make a sudden movement into Kentucky.

—Gen. Rosecrans has recinded all orders heretofore issued in the department of Missouri prohibiting the sale and circulation of certain newspapers and other publications.

—At New Bedford, on Wednesday of last week, one McCarthy threw his wife down stairs and jumped upon her. She managed to crawl up stairs again, when her brute of a husband threw her against a stove and then proceeded to beat her to death.

—News from Chattanooga states that the rebels are in large force in front of Gen. Thomas' army. Gen. Hindman has resigned the command of his rebel corps, and Gen. Hood takes command in his place. Gen. Breckenridge takes command of the Department of South-Western Virginia.

—There were many indefinite rumors on Saturday and Sunday of movements of Lee's army and counter movement by Meade, but at this time of writing they lack confirmation. Our correspondent says there is nothing in them. He thinks there are indications of an attempt by the rebels to drive Gen. Butler from the Peninsula.

—Several men were arrested a few days since below Hickman, Ky., for having, with others, organized themselves into companies for the avowed purpose of entering the rebel service. A number of rebel sympathizers have been actively recruiting for the rebel army. Guerrilla bands are being formed by citizens in several towns and counties in Kentucky, for the purpose of interrupting the navigation of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers.

—The House Committee on Foreign Affairs have had under consideration for some time the Mexican question. The committee will, it is understood, shortly report to the House a series of important resolutions, in which they will re-affirm, in the most emphatic manner, the Monroe doctrine. They regard the present operations of Napoleon in Mexico as fraught with evil to this Government, *and are, therefore, in favor of taking positive ground against European encroachments on this Continent.*

—Gen. Peck thus sums up the result of recent operations in North Carolina: "Beside the repulse of Gen. Hicket's army at Newbern, the following have been captured: 6 officers, 281 prisoners and dangerous rebels, 500 contrabands, 250 arms and accouterments, 138 horses and mules, 1 piece of artillery, caisson complete, 11 bales of cotton, 1 flag, many saddles, harnesses and wagons. Much property of the Rebel Government has been destroyed from inability to remove it, as appears by a partial list: 250,000 pounds of pork, 80 barrels of Lard, 75 barrels of meat, 20,000 bushels of corn, 32 barrels of beef, 5 hogsheads of sugar, 5,000 empty sacks, 1 corn mill, 10 wagons, 1 ton of tobacco, 18 mules, 2 warehouses of salt and 2 extensive salt manufactories."

TO RESTORE THE SICK TO HEALTH.

The blood must be purified, and all medicines are useless which do not possess the quality of Stimulating the Blood to discharge their impurities into the bowels. BRANDRETH'S PILLS possess this quality in a high degree, and should be in every family. They are equally useful for children and adults; adapted to both sexes, and are as innocent as bread, yet MOST EFFECTIVE AS A MEDICINE.

The Hon. Jacob Beyers, of Springville, Ind., writes to Dr. Brandreth under date of May 11, 1861:

"I have used your Invaluable Vegetable Universal Pills in my family since 1838; they have always cured, even when other medicines were of no avail. I have been the means of my neighbors using hundreds of dollars worth, and I am satisfied they have received a thousand per cent in blessed health through their use. They are used in this region for Bilious and Liver Diseases, Fever and Ague, and in all Rheumatic cases with the most perfect success. In fact, they are the great reliance in sickness, and I trust your valuable life may be long spared to prepare so excellent a medicine for the use of man. * * * * * Please send me your lowest price by the gross."

Sold by Dr. L. STRONG, Erie, and by all respectable dealers in medicines. mar5-1m.

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A Copy sent to any address, by Mail or Express, as may be desired, on receipt of price. Persons wishing to act as Agents will be supplied on liberal terms. For particulars address ARMER STREETER, Erie, Pa., Box 617.

To-Day's Advertisements.

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ON THURSDAY EVEN'G MARCH 24, at the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad Depot, on the arrival of the 6 o'clock train, a pocketbook containing money. The owner can have it by applying at this office, proving property and paying for this advertisement.

NOTICE.

WHEREAS, my wife, MARY L., has left my bed and board without any just cause or provocation; these are to forbid all persons not to trust her on my account, as I will pay no debts of her contracting after this date.

ABRAM SHELLOW.

Le Boeuf tp., March 24, 1864.—mr26-3t*

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TO AND FROM
Queenstown, Liverpool and Galway,
BY SAILING SHIPS
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STEAMERS.
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Apply to
P. SHEEHAN, 221 WEST STREET, NEW YORK. OR TO
M. A. QUINN,
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House Furnishing Emporium.

The citizens of Erie and vicinity are respectfully informed that I will open at

NO. 4 WRIGHT'S BLOCK, ON APRIL 1ST,

A large and varied Assortment of

HOUSEKEEPING GOODS,

Comprising every Variety.

A Complete Assortment of Silver Plated Ware, Table Cutlery, Fancy Goods, Papier Mache Tables, Planished Tin Ware, French and American Cooking Utensils, Tapestry, Brussels and Wool Rugs,

MANILLA, INDIA RUBBER & ROPE DOOR MATS,

Japanned Chamber Sets, Fancy, Traveling, Work and Market Baskets, Clothes Hampers, a General Assortment of Wood and Willow Ware; Children's Carriages, Perambulators and Propellers, Morocco Goods of every description, Feather Dusters, Clothes and Table Brushes, Scrub, Hoot and Window Brushes, Ivory, Bone and India Rubber Combs, Pins Needles, Thread and Buttons,

A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF

Yankee Notions, Zephyr Worsteds, Crochet and Worsted Needles, Silk, Linen and Worsted Embroidery Braids, Table Linens, Napkins, Toweling and Crash, Table and Stair Oil Cloths, Muslins and Paper Window Shades, Lava and Black Walnut Brackets, Terro Cotta Hanging Baskets, Bird Cages a beautiful selection—Glass Ware, Bronze Statues, Match Safes, Ink Stand,

PERFUMERIES, SOAPS, EXTRACTS, &C.,

Camp and Artists' Chairs, Ladies' Sewing and Easy Chairs, Iron Chairs, Hat, Umbrella and Flower Stands, Paper and Envelopes—all sizes, both ruled or plain—together with an assortment of

PLAIN, FANCY AND USEFUL ARTICLES,

adapted to the

TOILET, PARLOR AND KITCHEN,

Such as has never been offered by one Establishment in this city.

I respectfully ask an examination of my Stock, and pledge myself by strict application to business and the wants of my customers to merit their patronage.

Call at the Emporium, No. 4 Wright's Block.

mr26-1w. J. S. R. YOUNG.

OYSTERS & ALE!

Olsups' Celebrated India,
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ALES!

ALSO,

THE CANANDAIGUA PORTER,

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Also best Brands of

CHERRY ROCK OYSTERS,

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WE NOW DEFY COMPETITION.

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OPPOSITE THE REED HOUSE RUINS.

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1864. 1864.

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SILKS, CLOAKS,

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Oil Cloths and Carpetings.

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mr19—4w.

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Is pronounced both by the World of Science and the World of Fashion, the finest preparation ever invented by art to rectify the short comings of Nature.

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Published for the benefit and as a caution to young men, and others, who suffer from Nervous Debility, Early Decay, and their kindred ailments—supplying the means of self-cure. By one who has cured himself after being a victim of misplaced confidence in medical humbug and quackery. By enclosing a post-paid envelope, single copies may be had of the author, NATHANIEL MATHAIR, Esq., Bedford, Kings County, New York. jan1y.

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TOBACCO,
CANDIES,
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OIL VITROL,
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Dissolution of Partnership.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the firm of McCord & McCreary was dissolved on the 12th inst., by mutual consent of the partners. The notes, books, and accounts of the firm have been transferred to J. C. McCreary for settlement, by whom all liabilities will be liquidated, and to whom all payments must be made.

T. M. McCORD,
Erie, March 12-64 J. C. McCREARY.

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ALL PERSONS KNOWING THEMselves indebted to the late firm of McCord & McCreary, either by note or book account, are requested to call and make immediate settlement of the same.

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Administratrix's Noti

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Greene tp., Feb. 13, '64-6w. Administ

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