Miscellaneous, Foreign and Political News.

The Know Nothings

From the Richmond Examiner

We have received from a subscriber and very intelligent friend in a free State an abstract of the oaths and principles of the mysterious order of Know Nothings, as printed below. We have the greatest confidence in the sincerity and veracity of our correspondent. We have no doubt the publication of these revelations will brew a storm of anger and excitement in the "Councils" hereabout; but, stern in our purpose to furnish the public the whole truth on this question, we give the whole schedule to the winds. We are led to believe that it has never before been dragged before the public gaze. Having no acquaintance with the proceedings of any secert order in the heavens above, or in the earth beneath, or the waters under the earth, we are not prepared to say that the things below depicted are too monstrous for belief, as they would seem to be to the honest patriot. Yet we have good reason to believe that the picture, ugly and hideous as it appears, is faithful and accurate.

The writer in his accompanying letter, says of the new party:

"In ——, (the writer's State,) they are Whigs and Abolitionists, with a sprinkling of bogus Anti Nebraska Democrats. It is undoubtedly intended by the movers and originators of this new party to establish themselves thoroughly in all cities, towns, villages, cross roads and neighborhoods, preparatory to the elections of '56, and carry their brotherhood then into office.

"The present ritual of the order in this State has come into my hands by accident. They adopt as few written formulæ in their Councils as possible, but they use a pamphlet containing their short constitution and by-laws, their method of procedure in initiating members, the duty of officers, *instructions* to the initiated candidates of the 1st, 2d and 3d degrees; in fact all their principles and objects. The oaths, it is supposed, are the same throughout the United States, in Virginia as well as in this State; and to aid you, I copy all and send them to you enclosed. I was never a member of the order; the whole thing having been disclosed to me by one of their *softs*.

"There is a Grand Council for each State.—Councils subordinate may be instituted in any locality in a State by a *charter from* the Grand Council, preceded by a petition for the same from *thirteen* citizens, who are initiated by a traveling agent. They pay $12, receive a charter and seal, and *go to work*. They aim at *all the power*—not at the *balance*, as you have been led to suppose.

"Know Nothingism is opposed to the sentiments which, by the aid of your Jefferson, and all your revolutionary sires, brought these States out of servitude to independence. The ends of Know Nothingism are nothing short of *sectarian* power, which they will carry, if necessary, over the slain bodies of a great, patriotic and true class of American citizens and Democrats. It will never do; and this cannot fail of being immediately apparent on the examination of their oaths and tests. Is it right that Catholics and adopted citizens should be totally proscribed in a republican government, where all our constitutions are most particular in '*proscribing proscription*'?—What can come of it but alienation of brotherly ties, prostration of all fraternal feeling, civil war in all our cities, feuds in our villages, battles in public works, discord, anarchy, overthrow of republicanism, and arrest of progress? I am myself, in favor of the fastest and youngest Democracy and Americanism, and am glad to see and know that the South is equally progressive and thrifty with the North.

"I would mention that Know Nothing *Councils*—that is the name their associations are known by among themselves, as, for instance, "Ethan Allen Council, No 34," or "the Supreme Order of '76;" (*Know Nothing* is for outside barbarians)—make nominations directly, when strong to elect officers, and their system ramifies into every business and relation of life, their members swearing to support *each other* before all others.

ABSTRACT OF THE OATHS AND PRINCIPLES OF THE ORDER OF KNOW NOTHINGS.

The candidate is first proposed, by a member of the Order, to the Council, without his knowledge. Three negative votes *black ball* him. If elected, he is secretly requested to present himself in the ante room of the Council, when an officer appears from within and administers to him the following oath:

"I ——, do solemnly swear upon this sacred volume, (or cross) before Almighty God and these witnesses, that I will not divulge any question proposed to me here, whether I become a member of this Order or not; and that I will never, under any circumstances whatever, *mention the name of any person I may see present during such Order, or the meetings, or that I know such Order to be in existence*; and that I will a true answer make to every question asked of me, so help me God."

Which being seriously taken by the candidate, the officer proceeds to propound the following interrogations, before reporting to the Council his fitness for initiation:

"1. What is your name? 2. What is your age? 3. Where is your residence? 4. In your religious belief are you a Roman Catholic? 5. Where were you born? 6. Where were your parents born? 7. Where were your grand-parents born? 8. Did either of your ancestors take a part in the American Revolution? Are you willing to use all the influence you possess in favor of native-born American citizens for all offices of honor, trust or profit in the gift of the people; and do you promise to vote for them to the exclusion of all aliens and foreigners, and Roman Catholics in particular, for all local, State or Government offices? 10. Who invited you to be present on this occasion?"

If the candidate's answers are satisfactory to these questions, he is taken into the council by two officers, led up to the *President* of the *Council*, who administers the following oath in the *First Degree*.

"I, ——, voluntarily and freely do solemnly promise and swear, before Almighty God and these witnesses around me assembled, that I will not, under any circumstances whatever, divulge or make known to any person or persons, either directly or indirectly; or to any human being other than those I shall know to be good and true members of this Order, the name, secrets, mysteries, or objects of the same, or cause or allow the same to be done by others, if within my power to prevent the same; binding myself under the no less penalty than that of being excommunicated from the Order, as a traitor and perjurer to both my God and country, and as being unworthy to be employed, entrusted, countenanced, or supported in any business transaction whatever, and as a person totally unworthy of the confidence of all good men, and one at whom the finger of scorn shall *ever be pointed*. I furthermore promise that if I should hereafter be expelled from, or voluntarily leave this Order, I will consider this obligation as binding out of it as in it. All of which foregoing I voluntarily and freely subscribe to, so help me God!"

The candidate is then led to an officer called the *Judge Advocate*, who harangues him after this manner. [There is generally half a dozen or more initiated together.]

"MY BROTHERS. The Order which has now received you as members may, with all propriety, be considered a Secret Organization. It is so secret, in fact, that if you were placed before a legal tribunal, and there sworn to tell the trth, the whole truth, and nothing but truth, you could not for yourselves reveal the name of that band of brothers among whom your name now stands enrolled; and further than this, when you retire from this meeting, you will return to your family and friends as ignorant as when you came, as far as the name of this Order is concerned.

"In common with ourselves, you '*Know-Nothing*,' and let it be your stern resolve through life to 'Know-Nothing' that will at all conflict with the high and exalted duties you owe to your God, your country, and yourselves, so far as regards the preservation of American liberty, which can alone be secured to ourselves and our children by the entire and absolute exclusion of all foreign influence in those matters which appertain to our government policy."

After the delivery of this patriotic address, the candidate is referred to the *instructor*, who teaches him the *signs* and *grips* and in what manner to obtain entrance into the Council. He is then Master of the First Degree, and signs his name to the register. If he *behaves well* two weeks, and it is conceded that he will do to become a full-blooded Know-Nothing—abstains from all *blab* outside the Council—his friends propose him for the Second Degree. After election to that Degree, he and others are brought in and take the following oath:—

"I ——, do solemnly promise and swear before Almighty God and these witnesses, that I will not, under any circumstances, divulge or make known the name of this Order or its objects, to any person or persons in the world, unless to those whom I may know to belong to this Order, in good regular standing."

"And I furthermore promise and swear, that I will neither write, print, cut, carve, engrave, emboss, stamp, stain or mark any secrets of this Order on anything moveable or immoable on the earth or sea, whereby said secrets or any part thereof, the name of the Order, its operations, the names of its officers, or the names of its members or its place of meeting may become known to those who have not received the first and second Degrees of this Order in due form; nor will I cause or permit the same to be done, if within my power to prevent the same."

"And I furthermore promise and swear that I *will always conform to the will of the majority of the members of this Order, in the selection of candidates to fill every office of honor, profit or trust, within the gift of the people*; provided such candidates shall have been *born of American parents, on American soil*, and shall have been educated in *American institutions*, and that I will use all the influence I may possess to elect all such candidates whom I may know to be opposed to all foreign influence, Popery, Jesuitism and Catholicism, without any hesitation on my part whatever. And I furthermore promise and swear that I will strictly conform to, and abide by, the oath I have now taken, and that I will strict obedience pay to the Constitution and Laws, Rules, Ritual and Edicts of the honorable Grand Council of this Order, of the State of ——, and to the Bye-Laws of —— Council, No. —, to which I now belong, or to those of any other Grand or Subordinate Council from which I may hereafter hail, binding myself under the no less penalties than are attached or belong to those who violate the oath of the first degree of this Order. All the foregoing I voluntarily and freely subscribe to of my own free will and accord, so help me God!"

This candidate is also led off to the *Judge Advocate*, and afterwards to the *Instructor*; but their speeches and lectures are not inserted here for want of space.

[illegible]

"I ——, kneeling before God, my maker, my left hand, upraised toward heaven, my right hand grasping the flag of my native land, of my own free will and accord, do solemnly and sincerely promise, declare and swear that I will never communicate any of the secrets of this degree to any person or persons in the world, except within the body of a legally organized Council of this Order, or to a known brother of this degree, and not unto them, until I am well assured that they are just and upright brethren, who are legally entitled to receive the same. I also promise and swear that I will due obedience pay in the Constitution, Laws and Edicts of the honorable Grand Council of the State of ——, and to the laws which govern Council No —, so far as they may come to my knowledge.

"I also promise and swear that whenever I may vote at any election, that vote shall in *all cases* be given for *native born American citizens only*, and that I will ever seek the political advancement of those men who are good and true members of this Order.

"I also promise and swear that this and all other obligations which I have previously taken in this Order shall be kept through life sacred and inviolate. I also promise and swear that whenever I may hear the sign and see the signal of distress given by any brother of this Order, I will hasten at once to his immediate relief at the peril of my own life.

"I also promise and swear that I will ever contribute my means in such sums as I can spare without personal inconvenience, to the advancement of our views and to the extension of American principles through the medium of the Grand Council of the State of ——.

"I also promise and swear that I will never permit a spurious or clandestine member of this Order to participate in any of the benefits or advantages thereof, and that I will never encourage, countenance, uphold, recognize or support a spurious or clandestine council of this Order.

"To all these and those I do most sincerely promise, declare and swear, binding myself under no less a penalty than that of *having my grave trampled on by foreigners*, and to have my memory cursed by my children and my children's children, as a traitor to their welfare, to my country and to my God. So help me God and witness my obligation."

The Judge Advocate then adresses the newly initiated brethren in this degree as follows:

"*My Brothers*: The different obligations you have taken of this Order through its different degrees, must convince you that all who claim to be American citizens have certain important duties to perform toward themselves and to society at large, which duties can, in no instance, be set aside or annulled without a palpable violation of the dearest rights and privileges which, as an admirer of republican freedom, each and every member of our organization would wish to enjoy.

"The peculiar formation of our Order is such, and its designs so accord with the wishes of its members, that by a system of concerted action on the part of our brotherhood, we can bring about a *series of practical results* in our Governmental policy that would in any other light be deemed wholly impracticable. Simply and alone it is in vain to contend against the hydra-headed monsters of Jesuitism and Catholiism, but united in one common cause, determined to secure the liberties of our native land at all hazards, or prerish in the attempt, we cannot fail of success. Our cause is a righteous one, the motives which actuate us are of no ordinary character, and we trust that no brother among us will ever be found absent from his post in the hour of danger."

The candidate is then again taken to the instructor, who gives him the signs, passwords, and grips of this degree.

He pays *a dime* to the Secretary at the initiation of each degree, and fifty cents on first entering the ante-room for examination. After the third degree has been thus administered, the Secretary gives him a travelling card, like this:

> RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, August 1, 1854.
> JOHN SMITH is a member in good standing of MOLLY STARK Council, No. 40, of the State of Virginia. JOHN STILES, Sec'y.
>
> Molly Stark Council,
> No. 40, [*] Richmond
> Virginia.

This card is carried in the pocket book, and admits a member into any Council in the State.

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☞ Information is Wanted of the precise time when the Whigs became so terribly frightened at the idea of Roman Catholic usurpations, and the evils created by foreigners, or the *sons* of foreigners, exercising the right of suffrage and holding office. Was it within a year, a year and a half, or two years of the time Gen. Scott heard the "rich Irish brogue," and "sweet German accent;" or was it about the time the Whigs sent a committee to Concord to find out if Gen. Pierce did not vote to disfranchise Catholics for conscience sake? We do not intend to intimate by this that the Whigs ever courted the foreign or Catholic vote, but merely ask for information.—The Lebanon *Courier* and other Know-Nothing prints are permitted to answer, one at a time.—*Lebanon Advertiser*.

Erie Weekly Observer.

ERIE, PA.

SATURDAY MORNING, AUG. 19, 1854

DEMOCRATIC STATE NOMINATIONS.

FOR GOVERNOR
WILLIAM BIGLER,
Of Clearfield County

JUDGE OF SUPREME COURT:
JEREMIAH S. BLACK,
Of Somerset County

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER
HENRY S. MOTT,
Of Pike County.

☞ The *Gazette* says it has placed our approval of the Presidents veto of the River and Harbor Bill on record, so that its "readers may know the why and wherefore" With all due defferance to our cotemporary, we beg to say that he has not put the "why and wherefore" of our approval on record at all He has only put the isolated fact that we approved it "on record" If he will give the "why and the wherefore" we'll be content. The bill vetoed was called a "River and Harbor bill," but was it? A few of the items embraced will answer: For instance, for completing the custom-house at San Francisco, $168,386; for the construction of an appraiser's store on a portion of the custom-house square at San Francisco, $100,000; for surveying the public lands and private land claims in California, $300,000; for running the north-western boundary line between the United States and Great Britain, from Lake of the Woods to the Pacific ocean, and marking the fortieth parallel, $242,190; for continuing the work for supplying the cities of Washington and Georgetown with water, $500,000; for completing the bridge over the Potomac river near Little Falls, $75,000, for altering the streets and repairing in front of the east wing of the Patent Office, $14,250; and $390,000 to the State of California for the expenses of the government of said State from the period of its organization to its admission into the Union Now, does the *Gazette* approve of *such* "River, and Harbor" appropriations as these? If it does, then *it approves* of the "River and Harbor bill" vetoed; if it does not, it approves of the veto! The fact is, this "River and Harbor bill" was a kind of common sewer, into which every claim [illegible] that could not stand upon its own bottom, was thrown, in the hopes that the President would assent to them, in order to secure the really necessary and meritorious appropriations for works, designated by him as "national in their character" But the scheme was frustrated by a veto, and we approve of it! The *Gazette* can make the most of it!

☞ That Gov BIGLER will be re-elected, there is now no question! We confess that for a few weeks after the Philadelhhia election, the chances looked somewhat blue to us; but a reaction has taken place which is becoming more powerful every day There the Nebraska humbug, which our opponents attempted to ride, has been "run into the ground," so that now scarcely a plank is left to stand upon At first the people did not understand the matter, the whigs and Free Soilers made such a clamor over the bill, but the sober second thought has come, and with it a conviction that there can be little honesty in their professions of love for the Missouri Compromise, after having for twenty years denounced it In short, the sober second thought of the people, is ever right, and always efficient as the re-election of BIGLER will most incontestibly prove

☞ The *Gazette* is very much exercised because the second address of the Democratic Committee "fails to make the remotest allusion to the great question which now absorbs a large share of public attention;" meaning, we suppose, the Nebraska question And it "would like to receive from the *Observer* some explanation of this" The *Observer* begs to assure its neighbor, the *Gazette*, that it is very happy to afford it all the information it can, and will do so Some time since the State Central Committee of the Democratic party announced that it would, during the progress of the campaign, discuss *all* the questions at issue before the people; and among them was the Nebraska bill It stood third or fourth upon the list, and consequently could not be noticed in the second Address, the one just issued This was undoubtedly known to the *Gazette*, for, if we mistake not, the announcement was published in that paper But, be that as it may, we have our doubts whether there is any necessity for the Central Committee to discuss that question at all Our reason for this doubt is the *fact*—a *fact* the *Gazette* appears to have lost sight of—that Pollock has himself denied the issue some of the whigs have attempted to make upon this bill The *Gazette*, for instance, has declared positively and pointedly that the Nebraska bill legislates slavery into the territories of Kansas and Nebraska It has made long arguments—not sound ones, it's true—to prove the assertion; and it has called upon all parties to array themselves under the whig banner to repeal the bill because of that supposed fact. But Judge POLLOCK steps in and says the *Gazette* and those who act with it are wrong; he don't exactly say they lie, but he might as well; for he declares that "Slavery can have no *legal existence* in those territories, either by act of Congress, or under the false pretence of popular sovereignty" The meaning of this is, if it means any thing, (and we suppose our neighbor would rather its candidate's language should mean something than nothing) that the bill does not legislate slavery into those territories, or allow its existence there, even if a majority of the people desire it; for, continues the Judge, "if slavery enters those territories it will be there, not only without authority of constitutional law, *but in violation of all law.*" In view of these declarations of the whig candidate for Governor, we cannot see why the *Gazette* should be so anxious about the Democrats defining their position upon this question. There is no dispute about the position of the Democrats or their candidate. The Democratic press, and the Democratic candidate for Governor, are together upon this question. They are a unit. But it is not so with the whigs and their candidate. They are playing upon different strings One is very *base*—not *bass*—but what the other is, the Lord only knows. Suppose the *Gazette* should attempt to enlighten us, and at the same time tell us whether it is wrong and its candidate right, or its candidate wrong and it right. Do now, and relieve those who are anxious in regard to the "great question which now absorbs a large share of public attention!"

☞ GOV. BIGLER has taken the stamp in earnest, but where is POLLOCK? Is he in Nothumberland county, or is'nt he? Does he "Know nothing," or does he "Know something?" If the latter pray let us hear from him! Trot him out!

The Know Nothings Again.

We publish in another column what purports to be an expose of the workings of the secret political society, known to outsiders as "Know Nothings." We do so for these reasons—because we believe the expose to be true in every particular, so far as it goes—because the public have some anxiety to know "of what manner of man" the thing is made—and because it is not now denied that a Lodge, or "Council," as they term it, has recently been instituted in this city, and that, too, under the auspices of a set of politicians known among us as *Shanghais*. This, of itself, should deter every decent man in community, be he a Democrat or Whig, from having any thing to do with it, for it is obvious to every man of reflection that those who pull the wires here in this matter, are not the men who engage in a measure without a purpose, and that purpose stronger than their respect for the Protestant religion, or their love of country But it is not of the *personal* material of which the Know Nothing "Council" of this city is composed that we design now to speak, but to warn Democrats to beware of this cunningly devised trap of the *Shanghais* If the whigs are willing to allow Mayor KING to be sacrificed, through the instrumentality of this secret cabal, because they hope thereby BIGLER may be deprived of a few votes, well and good! It is their own "bread and butter," not ours! But, in regard to the Democratic party, and its candidate for Governor, we believe we have the right to raise a warning voice Men have a right to join whatever secret society they please, but we take it as a fact beyond controversy that when a Democrat joins a "Council" of "Know Nothings" he ceases to be a Democrat, and becomes a plotter against the liberties and rights of his fellow citizens Such cabals are not the natural production of American soil— They are noxious exotics, transplanted from the hot-houses of European despotism, and watered by the turbid stream of European bigotry and sectarianism! Our institutions, the genius of our people, the very atmosphere of our climate, are hostile to their growth, and hence their day of triumph, if it ever comes, must be short-lived and dark Our government knows no established religion—it knows no distinction between the citizen who, by no act of his own, was born in Europe or the one who by the merest chance, was born in America, and it should know none,—it guarantees freedom of opinion, and freedom of [illegible] our liberties, the freedom of the press! We have no government censorship—we have no hired soldiery—no pensioned spies—but through the Press, the Pulpit, the Bar, the Senate, and upon the Hustings, every man may at his pleasure promulgate his sentiments upon any subject, free from restraint or interference! What plea then can be offered for an organization such as is exhibited by the Expose in another column None! What plea can a Democrat, or rather one who ever professed the principles of that great party, have for uniting with such a narrow and Anti-Republican crusade as is avowed by the oaths and lessons of the "Know Nothings?" None! or if any, it must be the plea of the bigot, and not the liberal! As is well said by a cotemporary, such a secret cabal "may do in Europe, rotten with the accumulated corruption of a thousand years, but upon our virgin soil, beneath our genial climate, and under our free laws, we have no need to resort to this desperate expedient of an enslaved people to free their necks from the yoke of a tyrant and a despot Look at those countries in which such leagues are most frequently found Look to Venice She had her Council of Ten; her people were slaves, and her sapless and mouldering hulk lies rotting in the sea, a sad memorial of the corruption of her rulers and the degradation of her people In France these organizations have flourished in their greatest luxuriance, and there, too, they have borne their natural fruit—alternate anarchy and despotism, until now the manacles of a crafty tyrant are riveted upon her limbs. England once had her Star Chamber; and throughout the continent its dreadful Inquisition did its work of death and torture, in dark cells and deep dungeons, upon whose portals a returning footstep never fell But if you examine the histories of the republics of antiquity you will find no trace of any such subterranean engines of political power Indeed, they are incompatible with republican government They are unbecoming the dignity of freemen; for who but a slave would fear to proclaim his political sentiments to the world In some of the old governments of Europe, to deny the Divine Right of Kings, to demand for the governed from their rulers the dignity of thinking beings is treason, and its penalty is death In those countries, we say, they are the only means by which the people can communicate and interchange their sentiments, and there they may be right and proper. Necessity, the tyrant's plea for shedding the blood of the people, becomes then the plea of the people for arming against the tyrant. But here in our own free and thrice happy America, we have no tyrant The people are the rulers, the people make their own laws, and the people, through their servants and constituted agents, execute them The people are the government, and when they join in these concealed associations it is the people plotting against themselves"

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GREELEY'S LAST MOVE.—Greeley, of the *Tribune*, gives unmistakable evidence of lunacy or a softening of the brain. He wants some Congressional District other than St. Louis to elect Col Benton to Congress. He says such things are done in Canada, France and Great Britain; "Model Republics" in his eye He says:

> "We do wish some district would break over this *foolish restriction* and elect Col. Benton to the next Congress."

But the fanatic still goes farther. He wants Fred. Douglass, the negro lecturer, elected to Congress from Gerrit Smith's District. Fred. lives in Rochester, the Monroe District, and he wants him elected from Oswego in the *Oneida* District There is nothing too preposterous for Greeley to advocate He is troubled with the least *common sense* of any *great* man we ever knew

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☞ Our neighbor accuses Gov. BIGLER of preventing the passage of a set of Anti-Nebraska resolutions by the Legislature last winter. Is'nt our neighbor a little too fast? Gov. Bigler is the Executive branch of the Government, not the Legislative, hence he could not be, if he had the inclination, guilty of the matter charged

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☞ Richard Penn Smith, a gentleman of very superior intellectual qualifications, and author of several plays and novels which were very highly esteemed, died on Saturday at his residence, at the Falls of Schuylkill, Philadelphia county.

The St. Louis Riot.

The St. Louis riot is a sad commentary upon the working of the organization called "Know Nothings," for disguise it as they may, the "truth of history" will most assuredly lay the outrages and murders committed in St. Louis at the door of that organization. There is no escape from this conviction. It was commenced by a quarrel at the polls between a native and an adopted citizen, in which the native lost his life. This was the signal—not for the arrest of the murderer—but for an indiscriminate attack upon all adopted citizens, the innocent as well as the guilty, the German as well as the Celt. Now can such a proceeding be justified by any principle of right known outside a Know Nothing Council. We do not know how right and wrong are looked upon inside of one of these cabals, but outside right teaches us that when this murder was committed the murderer should have been handed over to the officers of the law, and a fair and impartial trial granted him. But Know Nothingism, as exemplified by the St Louis riot, usurps the judicial ermine while it at the same time puts on the executioner's mask In doing so, it does not ask who is guilty, and when the guilty are pointed out, seek for proof, and upon that proof convict and execute No, it does not act thus, it's mode of proceeding—of dealing out Know Nothing *justice*—is of quite a different character! All it asks is, was he born in America, and if *no*, down with him is the cry; at least this is Know Nothingism in St. Louis. Houses are sacked, property destroyed, the police defied, and the city kept in a turmoil for three days, and all because a set of loafers, under the cognomen of Know Nothingism, have such a *respect* and *love* for the Protestant *religion*—have such a *respect* and *love* for the *laws*, *institutions* and *honor* of their country, that they cannot bear the thought of those who "are not to the manor born" participating in the direction of public affairs Speaking of the character of those who created this disturbance, the St. Louis *Intelligencer*, of the 12th, says "all persons who *had any pretensions to character, in the name of good citizens, kept out of the disturbances altogether, except in endeavors to quell the riotous* spirits of the more reckless and excitable" We have no doubt this is correct; and there is one other fact equally as worthy of reflection It is this Most of those who lost their lives were valuable citizens, peaceably pursuing their avocations, and in no wise connected with the disturbance. These men were [illegible]—their families and friends robbed of their support, and sent weeping out into the world alone, all because a set of men who had no "*pretension to character, or the name of good citizens*," have seized upon the religious prejudices of the unthinking, to accomplish a political purpose And this is *Know Nothingism!*

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We always thought a Know-Nothing must be a brave man, and now we are convinced of it To say nothing about the idea that it is necessary for twenty-two millions of free-born American Protestants to band themselves together by solemn oaths in order to protect themselves against about *three* millions of adopted citizens, being good evidence of their bravery, there is another instance which decides the question beyond controversy It is this: At a late meeting of the directors of one of the Philadelphia school districts, a Miss M'Cuen, the first assistant teacher in the Reed street grammar school, was dismissed for the openly avowed reason that she was a member of the Catholic church She also had an Irish name They also dismissed a Miss Winslow for the same reason Not the slightest charge is made against them except that. The old directors declare they were excellent young ladies, excellent teachers, and entirely obedient to all the regulations of the directors. Now there is bravery for you Among, perhaps a hundred and fifty female teachers in the schools of that city, probably four or five Catholic young ladies can be found The secret society that boasts its strength, but hides its head, decrees that these young women must be turned out of employment at once Off with their heads, ringlets and all, shout these thousands of brave men, and off they go, and Know-Nothingism is appeased We wonder whether the Know-Nothing candidate for Governor, Judge POLLOCK, was called into Council before this wonderful achievement was determined upon? If he was, he should be presented with the Regalia of the Kitchen forthwith; on the other hand, if he wasn't, he should be ashamed that he ever allowed himself to be inveigled into such a disreputable cabal!

Speaking of this outrage, the *Ledger* indulges in the following well timed and sensible remarks:

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN DANGER.—The common school system of instruction in Pennsylvania has been the pride of the State, as it has also been the main instrument for diffusing the general intelligence which pervades the commonwealth. It was adopted in wise conformity to the spirit of the Constitution, which favors no particular sect, but declares that all have equal privileges, and that no differences of religious belief shall subject those entertaining them to molestation, or to deprivation of the civil and political rights guaranteed to all This genuine American principle, constitutionally secured first in this of all the countries of the world, legitimately springs from the liberty and equality upon which republican institutions rest Any attempt to subvert it is an assault upon the fundamental law of the State.

Yet rumor says, and the facts seem to justify the reports, that an attempt is now being made, and for the first time in the history of our commonwealth openly avowed, to introduce religious tests into our institutions of public instruction. Teachers, who have been declared competent by the proper examiners, and who have proved themselves capable by years of experience in the performance of their duties, have recently had this new and intolerable test applied to them by some of the lately elected Board of Directors; and because they had faith enough in their religion to rest their hopes of future salvation upon it, they have been deprived of their present means of supporting themselves honestly and decently by their profession. Fifteen or sixteen teachers have been turned out of the public schools of the First and Second Wards, because of their religious belief, though worshipping only in a different form the same living God that the Directors do—if the latter worship any.

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LABOR LOST.—The *Gazette* cries out lustily that the whig party is not dead. Now, we are not a political Coroner, and hence cannot *officially* say whether the old Harlot is dead or not, but we can truly say, with the Sandusky *Mirror*, that if it is not dead it appears to be changing its nature! Perhaps it is only playing *possum!* It has abandoned (for the present at least) all its former vital elements—the Tariff—U. S. Bank, and Fillmore's Fugitive Law—and is now endeavoring to convert to its use and benefit the thunder and other renovating elements of our old Liberty party friends. If the whig party is not dead, the mistake has originated by putting confidence in the representations of the Greeley's and Stevens', and if it is not true, there must be "cheating round the board."

Personal and General Observations.

Mass Temperance Meeting.

MR. EDITOR:—Allow me a small space this week to speak of the "wonderful" meeting of temperance men at Girard on the 16th inst. The meeting was well attended by men who feel, and have reason to feel, a deep interest in that reform movement, for the advancement of which they had been ostensibly called *together*. Many in that convention had come with no other motive than to labor for the cause of temperance. But many others, evil spirits, restless, wild, mad men, whom nothing can control, had come there to have their own way and have it they would and did. At the commencement of the meeting a few men were called to the stand who spoke for temperance and temperance men. They were listened to attentively and a good feeling seemed to pervade the meeting.—But it was only a calm before a storm, which we were destined to receive in all its fury.

It seemed that though the convention was called as a Temperance Mass Meeting, the leaders in the affair had another darling plan and object to carry out, which would be best effected by concealing it under the name of a Temperance Convention. But one "Bear," who, not having the shrewdness of the more experienced politicians, and being full of holy wrath against all Democrats, and some Whigs, and being also one of that number who, in the name of Christ, preach politics to the people, let the whole matter out. He would not vote for a man who was not sound on what?—Oh! the *Nebraska question*, &c He would not vote for a temperance man unless that man was a *Free Soiler*. Then came another preacher, (of him who demanded respect for rulers and obedience to law,) but who had outgrown this sentiment of the Master, and said—no man could be "a good temperance man unless he was *Anti Nebraska*." Then came "seven other spirits," more wicked than the first, and then come a general row, some calling for one thing, and *some* for another. The chairman thundered with his cane upon the table, while all over the house the cry was heard, "*I'll not be gagged down.*" "I'm for liberty." "Liberty first, temperance next;" and so the chairman thumped, the Negrophobia raged; honest men thought it was no place for them, and an adjournment was proposed But it was not carried.—No, the main movers had not come there for nothing.—They would not adjourn Then came the discussion of the resolutions and with that came more war. Thus they continued to wrangle and scold, and call each other traitors, and every conceivable hard name, until nearly night, and then adjourned to meet on the 26th for the purpose of making nominations.

Should you, Mr. Editor, or any of your readers have any desire to see the harmonious (?) working of the great centralizing idea of Anti-Nebraska pro-temperance convention, you will do well to attend. Should it equal the previous meeting, it will throw all the amusements of the day into the shade. The bill of performance is attractive and we hope that no lover of cockfighting will fail to be there

TORREY

☞ The Washington *Star* says late returns place the election of Chas. L. Lewis, Esq., Democrat, in the 12th Congressional district of Virginia, beyond all doubt.—Startling as it may sound to our Northern readers, continues the *Star*, Mr. Lewis does not belong to the "first families of Virginia." He is the son of a tailor, and worked in his father's shop until he was eighteen years of age; but having "a soul above buttons," he left the parental roof at that early age, with the determination to educate himself for the profession of the law. We next hear of him as a student in one of the Ohio colleges, working at intervals at his trade in order to supply himself with the necessary pecuniary means to prosecute his studies. In due course of time, he graduated with honor; then studied law—with the goose in one hand and Blackstone in the other—was admitted, and finally returned to his native village, where he "hung out his shingle" Strange to say, he became a prophet in his own country, and was brought out as a candidate for the Legislature Some of the old fogies shook their heads and remonstrated, but Mr. Lewis' reply was characteristic of Young America: "Gentlemen, the hand of destiny is upon me—and there is no resisting *that*. I am bound to go to the Legislature and I am bound to go to Washington. You may as well cave in first as last."—Mr. Lewis was elected to the Legislature, and the result of the late special election shows that his friends *have* "caved in." As Mr. L. is a gentleman of fine talents and great energy of character, we shall watch his political career with more than ordinary interest, for "destiny" may not content herself with keeping him at the *Capitol* end of Pennsylvania avenue.

☞ The man who would thrive in business, can only do so by close attention to it personally and a free use of newspaper advertising. How often do we see envious store-keepers watching a neighbor, whom they see thronged with customers, and wondering why it is that the other does so much and he so little, when his store looks equally well. He considers him a good fellow, but by far too liberal in his advertising, too close and plodding, and too much confined to his business, never once giving a thought to the fact that it is this same advertising and close personal attention which he gives his store, which makes it the favorite with buyers.

☞ The Circassian Slave trade, which was greatly interrupted and almost suppressed by the Russian blockade, has been vigorously renewed since the allies' have taken command of the Black Sea. The Circassians, always accustomed to sell their children, are greatly pressed for money to carry on the war, and eagerly crowd into the market that has been opened to them So says an exchange

☞ Hobensack, the man that makes the medicine "every body" is said to "take," is into us to the tune of $16 He has also "did" the Painesville *Telegraph* to the amount of $20 We don't wish the fellow any harm, but really we should like to have him live until he had eat up all his own medicine!

— The man that "took no note of time" has been unable to collect the debt, and consequently compelled to suspend!

☞ Our neighbor of the *Gazette* "takes to heart" the ravings of the Buffalo papers over the conviction of DENNIS. This is all wrong; the *Express* and *Commercial* are expected to play the blackguard, in regard to Erie, upon every conceivable occasion. Not to do so would surprise us, and every other reader

— "It never rains but it pours." What with the Theatre, the Circus, Uncle Tom, Dan Rice and his comicalities, and divers other things, too numerous to mention, our citizens are likely to have amusements enough for the next three or four weeks. Well, as we said once before, "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," especially after such a long season of dry weather.

— The degree of L. L. D. having been conferred by an Eastern college upon that representative of snobocracy, Abbot Lawrence, the Washington *Star* wickedly proposes to bestow upon the immortal Barnum the degree of F. W. H.—Fellow of the Wolly Horse!

— We had a feast this week of Brook Trout, the first we have seen since our fishing days, long years ago, for which we are indebted to our friend MAY, of the Valley Hotel, on the Waterford Plank Road. In return we can only hope that he and his may never have any thing worse to eat, for better there could not be.

— It will be seen by advertisement in another column that our citizens will have a chance to witness another representation of "Uncle Tom's Cabin." This performance is spoken of in the highest *terms* by our cotemporaries, and we do not doubt it will be well worth visiting.

— We are glad to see that the *rotten* CABLE's who broke loose from the Democratic party of Ohio, and carried the Sandusky *Mirror* on the Free Soil rocks, have withdrawn from that establishment, and are succeeded by a sound reliable Democrat named DIMMOCK. The name sounds Pennsylvaniaish, and the Editor's salutation shows that "fusion" will find in him a firm and consistent opponent!

SPUNKY.—The Editor of the Wheeling *Times* says that his "paper shall be published free from the restraints of office holders' threats, if he has to place a revolver at the case of every compositor, and plant a swivel at the door of his office." Good! and the "office holder" who would wish him to do otherwise, is about as fit to hold office as the devil is for a Parson!

☞ The "*Jersey Shore News Letter*" is the title of a very neatly printed and ably edited Democratic paper, recently started at Jersey Shore, Pa.

☞ The New York *Mirror* says it has "seen school urchins dirty enough to plant potatoes on their faces."—No doubt of it, and "just as the twig is bent the tree's inclined." Proof—the Editors of the Shanghai *Constitution* are as *dirty* as that now!

☞ Numbers of country people were in town yesterday to attend the Circus. They had no fear of the cholera while the attractions of the horse-opera were held out to them, and the streets were alive with rustic lovers and their sweethearts, walking about, hand in hand, like "two wandering boys from Switzerland."

— The Hotel keepers at Niagara Falls have had bad luck this season. The cholera broke out there some time ago, and the visitors all left. The cholera has disappeared, but visitors do not re-appear. And it serves them right, for a more thoroughly knavish set than the Hotel keepers of the Falls, doesn't exist between sunrise and sunset.

Letters from New-York

Correspondence of the E[illegible]

NEW-YORK, Aug [illegible]

The Weather and the Cholera—Reporters [illegible] useful labors—Vagabondism—Our [illegible] Advertising Emperors—The East R[illegible] gration and news Items—Literary.

Of the weather, we report with great pleas[illegible] is a pleasant coolness abroad in the air [illegible] comes from North, South, East or West, the [illegible] mosphere above mentioned, [illegible] cholera-reports preserve the usual average [illegible] the city and county of New York last week [illegible] demic, being 302 The Hospital physicians [illegible] vexed that their patients are brought to them in the last stages of the disease, and often [illegible] adies at the same time, which alone [illegible] The most skillful of the city phys[illegible] every case of cholera might be cured if taken [illegible] ent stages. The common form of chol[illegible] ded by a diarrhea continuing a day or [illegible] cured, but many take no notice of [illegible] the colapse, cholera, when they become [illegible] Oh for the abolition of terrible names! Thou[illegible] sands died of a long word or an unintel[illegible]

A friend of Dr. Graham, the Southerner [illegible] Loring, at the St. Nicholas, complains [illegible] of the city reporters, in publishing every [illegible] stance connected with the tragedy, and [illegible] public judgment prior to the trial. He [illegible] care how he meddles with the city reporters [illegible] stir up a hornet's nest The reporters [illegible] Daily Press are essential to the public [illegible] as its breakfast. Their details of every [illegible] are what the public has been accustomed [illegible] appetite is almost insatiable It is [illegible] the strife for news between our three [illegible] *Times, Tribune* and *Herald*. Each [illegible] small army of reporters on hand, [illegible] of all kinds. One has the collecting [illegible] do and a book to do it with another [illegible] never-ending, of Bulls and Bears, in W[illegible] attends to the markets Then there [illegible] to pick up "horrible tragedies," "ele[illegible] tions," "daring burglaries," "strange [illegible] "interesting occasions," of every [illegible] city and its suburbs. The [illegible] Council, etc., must be kept [illegible] ters And blessed be the paper that [illegible] news advantage over its neighbors [illegible] sounds, night or day, away [illegible] book and pencil, and if the conflagra[illegible] soon relieved by a fresh reporter, an[illegible] raging, half its history is in type, [illegible] an extra! News comes to the P[illegible] en brute has murdered his wife [illegible] inks down the shocking appear[illegible] and attendant circumstan[illegible] Tombs, and procures a private [illegible] er, and worms out such par[illegible] dividual's birth, pedigree and [illegible] willing to have made public [illegible] ges in an elaborate personal description [illegible] Any thing to satisfy the [illegible] appetite. When strongly excited [illegible] sas and Nebraska," copious [illegible] processions, drawn out, [illegible] tered; while people feel uneasy [illegible] nals will give them daily [illegible] pleasing details of individual cases [illegible] can be obtained During [illegible] dinners, plate presentations, [illegible] He eats an epicurean dinner [illegible] day, and receives the obsequious [illegible] ble incipient orators, or seekers after [illegible] who admire the talents [illegible] He generally is In winter, [illegible] a very dissipated life, from [illegible] when men *must* work, who [illegible] ing papers Pass the *Times*, [illegible] at almost any hour of the night and [illegible] silence and darkness of deserted Nassau [illegible] of lighted windows fla[illegible] Ascend innumerable narrow stairways [illegible] a long room or suite of rooms wh[illegible] fierce with moustache and beard [illegible] paper, which are whisked up [illegible] printing room, above or below, [illegible] "copy." Such a life the reporter [illegible] all times, sleeping any time and any [illegible] reporters in the *Tribune* office are mostly [illegible]

New York is the place for literary [illegible] These are the men that write politics [illegible] lads for the Bowery songsters, car[illegible] papers, and terrible penny pamphlets [illegible] is'nt it a somewhat singular thing [illegible] own correspondent from the seat [illegible] New York daily, to be inhabiting [illegible] street, while the eastern dispatches [illegible] regularity of clock-work? [illegible] must be coming together [illegible] Charles Edward Lester, [illegible] tribe in this neighborhood [illegible] the lucrative and influential position [illegible] respondent" to the London *T*[illegible] newspapers His life, [illegible] some very curious episodes [illegible] year or two ago, a large and elegant [illegible] was published in this city entitled "Th[illegible] nasty," and purporting [illegible] Berkely Men." It was a [illegible] members of the Napoleon family [illegible] static eulogy upon Louis, the present [illegible] three," as Nicholas of Russia calls him [illegible] dulges in an extravagance of admira[illegible] of Napoleon the Little, which even surpasses [illegible] intense devotion to the Uncle, in Harper [illegible] tion as an advertiser evinces for his [illegible] comparable wares, an admiration [illegible] point, must have been assisted, if not [illegible] rial aid.' Now it is known to a few [illegible] one, at least, of the "Berkely Men" [illegible] he is very fond of European [illegible] knows that the Emperor Louis has [illegible] lingly spend it to influence the American [illegible] vor. The Russian Czar is known to [illegible] what similar game, through agents [illegible] present time. Somebody might put [illegible] by establishing an agency for the [illegible] opinion.

The inhabitants of the great and [illegible] Brooklyn are in trouble because the [illegible] cient to carry them over the East River [illegible] by the Ferry company an insufficient [illegible] company wants two pennies The [illegible] rise in the price of coal. The company [illegible] patronage, as on the Fulton Ferry [illegible] in three or four minutes, has an average [illegible] on board, every trip in the day [illegible] boats pay abundantly at former [illegible] excellently conducted, and an Englishman [illegible] elled largely, lately expressed [illegible] passed anything of the kind in the [illegible] on the Thames has but one boat, [illegible] which has to turn around after [illegible] Ferry company own six ferries [illegible] Brooklyn. On the Fulton Ferry [illegible] constantly during the day

As I write, a conflagration [illegible] threatens extensive damage [illegible] mill which has been burned [illegible] flames, and the Baptist Church on [illegible] is in great danger. The publication [illegible] ly *Freeman*, temperance and [illegible] been suspended on account [illegible] Tucker, Editor, for murdering [illegible] J. G. Bennet has got into trouble [illegible] ly filled the post of Paris corr[illegible] The man, Revoil, demands [illegible] out, or he will publish some letters [illegible] she would not like to see in print [illegible] It appears from a report of the [illegible] upwards of 3,000 persons, mostly Englishmen [illegible] ded here from ten to forty years without [illegible] their citizenship. There are [illegible] on the jury register. Of these [illegible] from various causes. 116 are exempt [illegible] acteter. 614 as being *uneducated* [illegible] ruins are now being moved away, [illegible] building. The workmen found a large [illegible] fire, which had kept alive since last Februar[illegible]

Yours,

☞ We were in error last week [illegible] application, the "Court *promptly* granted [illegible] C. C. Dennis. We should have [illegible] promptly entertained the motion, and app[illegible] day to hear the argument.

☞ The Painesville *Telegraph* says the *Nashville* recently ran from Columbus to [illegible] Painesville with one tender of wood The [illegible] miles. Probably no other instance [illegible] the record.

☞ Gold has been discovered near [illegible] bula Co. It is pronounced of great [illegible] *Telegraph*.

No doubt of it; so "fine" that none [illegible] will ever see it.