

Is there no Balm in Gilead?

We do not doubt that the anxious inquiries amongst our Democratic contemporaries, as to "what has become of the Whig party?" is serious and significant.

The organization of one party preserves the discipline of the other, whilst an overweening sense of strength, and an entire freedom from any apprehension, is invariably followed by dissolution and very often by defeat.

It is very obvious that the Democratic party adjourned the differences which divided them before the Presidential election of 1852, whilst the Whigs could not succeed in doing so.

The latter party has passed through all the consequences of a radical difference not susceptible of adjustment. They look with composure upon their antagonists now entering upon the same difficulty.

But we tell the National Democrat and the Union that the hope of uniting the extremists, who have threatened the integrity of the Union, in the cordial support of an administration which continues faithful to the inaugural pledges, is vain.

We can tell the Democratic organs that their task of reconciliation is vain; that they can no more reconcile the Fugitive Slave law to the compromise—the Fugitive Slave law included—than they can reconcile a friend of free trade to protection; and the attempt to make the Post or the Argus a docile follower of the Administration is about as feasible as it would be to make a house-cat of a hyena.

But we know there is a powerful party in the United States to which that question is above all other questions, to which office has no inducements, and power no terrors; with whom fanaticism is conscience, and sectional agitation a means of success.

Has not the Union observed how futile have been its attempts to reconcile the Democratic strife in the Legislature of New York? How futile have been its attempts to turn away the wrath of the Buffalo Republic with soft words, or submit in good temper to the thwacks which the Evening Post perpetually bestows?

But are there not symptoms that the insurgents will not await the executive proclamation? Already has an organization been perfected under the name of the "Independent Democracy."

"Since the inauguration of President Pierce, and the distribution of pretty much all the valuable official patronage of the Administration, we hear and read more or less daily of the position and principles of the Independent Democracy."

"The State of Maine" is the title of a large, fine-looking newspaper, which has just been started at Portland, Maine. It promises to be devoted to the interests of the State at large, as its name would indicate.

WASHINGTON GOSSIP.

WASHINGTON, July 29, 1853.

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It will be remembered that a month or two since three of the crew of the Jasper, a slaver, were arrested in Havana on the charge of piracy. There is no question they were the dupes of more culpable parties, having been shipped without being aware of the unlawful nature of their pursuits.

The cabinet had a meeting to-day, but transacted no business of importance. It is understood that Messrs. Marcy and Cushing leave town tomorrow for Berkeley Springs.

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For Georgetown.—Henry Addison, Aquila K. Arnold, Anthony Hyde, Paul Stevens.

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Efforts to secure the undivided service of an engineer of extensive experience and reputation, at the salary allowed by law, can hardly be successful. I doubt whether the Secretary will make another effort.

SALE OF CAPE MAY COTTAGE LOTS.—On Saturday last, thirteen cottage lots, being a portion of the Congress Hall estate at Cape May, were sold at auction, at prices ranging from \$275 up to \$1,325, according to size, the latter being 60 by 100 feet.

DEPARTURE OF MISSISSIPPI.—Rev. Mr. Barker and Mrs. Barker sailed yesterday for Bombay in the ship Arabella, Captain Cobbs, in the expectation of being connected with one of the Mahatma missions of the American Board.

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NEW PARTY ORGANIZATION.

NEWBURYPORT, Sept. 5, 1853.

The following circular appears in several of the northern papers. The New York Journal of Commerce, which received a copy of it through the post office, says it knows nothing in regard to it except what appears on the surface:

INDEPENDENT NATIONAL UNION PARTY ORGANIZATION. A patriotic call of the Union Men of Massachusetts for a State Union Party Convention, at Newburyport, September 5, 1853.

The undersigned, Independent Union Men of Massachusetts and citizens of Newburyport, without distinction of party, believing that the present organization of political parties throughout the country has a tendency to create sectional prejudices, and to endanger the peace, union, liberty, and independence of the American people, if not the permanency of our republican institutions and Government; and that under the present system of conventional misrule and party dictation they are widely misrepresented in their constitutional rights, and in their appreciation of the inestimable value of our National Union, and are made subservient to the interests of sectional and political parties, regardless of the great national interests of our country, unite in recommending an Independent Convention of the Union Men of all Parties, to be held in the City Hall, at Newburyport, on Monday, the fifth of September next, to take into consideration the ways and means, then and there to be presented, for the total abandonment of all existing parties, and the organization, under entire new issues and measures, of an Independent State and National Union Party, upon a broad, deep, and lasting foundation.

A full attendance of the Union Men of Massachusetts from every town, city, and county of the State, is requested at this convention, independent of all existing parties.

This new party will be devoted to the cause of National Union. It will be pledged to uphold the Constitution, the Union, and the Laws, and to be guided by our country's National Government, long after all other parties cease to have an existence.

Under its State organization it will withhold its support in all future State and national elections from every element of disunion, and from all candidates for office not pledged to carry out the principles, policy, and measures of the new party.

We also unite in a call for a National Union Party Convention, in the city of Washington, on the 22d of February next, to be fully represented by the Union men of all parties, and by the American people from every Congressional district, State, and Territory of the American Union.

Invitations to the above-named convention have been extended to the Hon. Millard Fillmore, Thomas H. Benton, Edward Everett, Daniel S. Dickinson, Rufus Choate, Robert Toombs, A. H. Stephens, Abbott Lawrence, Lewis Cass, and other distinguished men of the southern, middle, and western States, many of whom will honor the convention with their presence, and address the Union men of Massachusetts and our country.

NEWBURYPORT, July 4, 1853.

THE IMPROVEMENT OF MR. MATHER.—In relation to the impeachment of Mr. Mather, the Canal Commissioner of the State of New York, the New York Mirror of the 28th instant says:

"The court of impeachment in the case of Mr. Mather met in Albany at eleven o'clock yesterday morning, there being present Lieutenant Governor Church, five judges, and twenty-one Senators. The articles of impeachment were read, and a committee was appointed to prepare rules for the trial of the case in the court. In the afternoon Mr. Faber reported a list of rules which were adopted. The respondent made answer to the articles, denying all the specifications. Mr. Loomis, from the managers, asked for time to prepare testimony. The counsel for respondent opposed it. It was ordered to meet on the 16th inst. Upon motion to meet at Berkeley Springs a private consultation was held, and a motion was finally lost by 9 to 2. The court then adjourned."

DECISION IN A LIQUOR CASE.—Judge Manchester, of Providence, Rhode Island, has given an important decision in a liquor case, in which the witness who swore to the sale testified that he purchased the liquor for the purpose of having the defendant convicted. The judge decided that upon the uncorroborated testimony of a man who would go upon the stand and swear as to the crime he induced the defendant to commit the crime for the purpose of having an opportunity to swear against him, that it took away the safeguard which the law had thrown around the citizen for his protection, and the security of a fair and impartial trial when accused of crime. He judged the defendant not guilty, and ordered him to be discharged.

THE TOBACCO CROP.—The Louisville Journal has a letter from Christian county, Ky., dated July 19, which says:

"I am of the opinion there is not more than two-thirds of the crop standing, and that looks unhealthy and very badly—the weather having been remarkably dry until the 17th of this month, since which time we have had some partial showers in many parts of this and the adjoining counties. There has been little or no rain for two months, and I am of opinion that with the most favorable season there cannot be more than two-thirds of the usual crop raised in the entire Green River country; and in that section of the State west of the Tennessee river, I am informed, there will not be a half crop."

MINNESOTA.—A late number of the St. Paul Pioneer gives glowing accounts of the rapid increase of the Territory in settlement and population, and the multiplication of houses in all the principal points. In the town of St. Paul, according to the Pioneer, "the number of houses completed this season, or in process of erection, is almost incredible." Two new hotels of convenient and commodious description are in progress of building, and it is added that many of the new edifices now going up would be creditable to an eastern city. Emigrants in large numbers were passing up the Minnesota and Upper Missouri rivers, to settle upon the fertile lands bordering thereon, and it is also stated that every steamer arriving at St. Paul from below comes crowded with settlers, mostly farmers.

SMUGGLING OF OPIUM IN SAN FRANCISCO.—The smuggling of opium has become quite a business amongst the Chinese passengers who arrive at San Francisco, and large quantities of the article have been seized by the officers of the customs, who have been on the look-out for the smugglers for some time past. Amongst other contrivances for carrying it ashore, they have adopted that of sewing it in belts, similar to those worn as money-belts. Others have it stitched in the lining of their clothes, in their shoes, and in all imaginable places. A lot of it was found in the bottom of a pork barrel.

WILLIAM B. BANISTER, of Newburyport, who died a week or two since, has left the principal portion of his property, say about \$40,000, to be divided equally between the American Bible Society, the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, the American Education Society, the Massachusetts Home Missionary Society, and the American Colonization Society.

THE RUSSO-TURKISH QUESTION.

From a summary of the Asia news in the New York Times we learn that the Paris Convention confirms a statement that a joint note by France and England is on the way to St. Petersburg, and adds, that the note has likewise been approved by Prussia, and (this is questionable) by Austria. Meanwhile, business on the Exchange is almost suspended, awaiting the result of these final attempts at reconciliation.

Rumor, to which at present we are indebted for all kinds of surmises, says that the French government was quite anxious to hurry matters, and has sent a note, through the ambassador to inquire if England yet saw the necessity of making an energetic demonstration by ordering its fleet to enter the Dardanelles. General Warzoff was the bearer to Paris of Nesselrode's circular, and brought, also, a letter from Nicholas to Napoleon, in which on dit there are sarcastic allusions to the worthlessness of England's alliance.

The joint proposal of France and England is said to be written out in three different forms, of which the Czar may take his choice, and, which he selects, England and France guarantee to have the Sultan sign it. All three notes are drawn up as nearly as possible in middle terms between the ultimatum of Russia and the concessions the Porte would be willing to make. The propositions were forwarded through Austria in her capacity of mediator, and the result is anxiously awaited. The notes were penned before the appearance of Count Nesselrode's second circular, and it is right to say that no very favorable answer is expected from the man who dictated that document. In the event of its being refused by Russia, no one sees what England and France can next do, except order their fleets at once to proceed to the Bosphorus—a step which the Czar is said to have emphatically declared he will regard as a declaration of war.

STRENGTH OF THE MONEY MARKET.—There is evidently a general tightness in the money market just now. Fancy stocks range at a very low figure, and some think the depth has not yet been attained. The New York Journal of Commerce, in its money article of the afternoon of the 28th instant, says:

"There is less excitement in the money market than we noticed yesterday, but capitalists are still backward about making permanent investments, and even for call loans very full prices are paid. Many cautious persons refuse to attend to the arrival of the Asia's mail, and there is generally a want of confidence in monetary circles, which interrupts business."

The writer of the financial articles in the New York Express has the following in relation to the same subject:

"The sudden pinch in the money market within the last day or two is attributed to the preparation making by the banks for the new weekly statements, to commence the first week in August. There have been for some time past apprehensions entertained that the change in this mode of statements would produce some stringency on the money market. To the surprise of the community, it had not occurred by anticipation before now. On the very eve however of this new system, the banks have made up their minds that it was time to call in loans on demand, and perhaps for a few days we may have quite a pressure. The banks are not strong in specie, and there is no special occasion for a sudden call for money, and this very action on the part of the banks proves more than anything else that this check of weekly statements was necessary, to enable the public to keep the banks from running out of their sphere, and then furnish what they have so often done, the seeds of the worst of panics."

SERIOUS ACCIDENT AT PARKERSBURG TUNNEL.—A serious accident occurred on Thursday at the Parkersburg Tunnel, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. As several men were engaged in blasting rocks a premature explosion took place, by which five of them were seriously injured. Their names were McKabe, McKale, Burns, Jennings, and Maloney. They were brought to Cumberland, and left in a special car for Baltimore on the same evening.

THE RAILROADS WEST.—The Parkersburg News of the 23d instant says:

"Messrs. Latrobe and Morris, chief engineers of the Northwestern and the Hillsborough railroads, made speeches in this place yesterday on the subject of the conjunction of those roads in our town, bridging the Ohio river, and such matters."

MORE REFUGEES FROM MADEIRA.—Seventy more Protestant refugees from Madeira have arrived at New York, to join their brethren in Illinois. An appeal in their behalf has been made by the officers of the American and Foreign Christian Union for funds to forward them to their new home.

MONUMENT TO WOOSTER.—The New Haven Journal says that the \$1,500 appropriated by the State of Connecticut, has been increased to \$3,000 by the contributions of the Masonic fraternity, and the monument to General David Wooster is about to be erected at Danbury, where he lies buried.

Some of our western rivers are so low that the pilot walks ahead at night and points out the way with a candle. During the dry season water is so scarce that a painful waded would check the commerce of half a dozen counties. Swimming in these parts must be limited.

THE CATCH OF MACKEREL at the Isles of Shoals this season has been very large, being estimated by good judges on the island as more than 2,000 barrels, generally of good quality. The Portsmouth Chronicle says about 100 barrels were seized around the islands last Sunday.

THE LANTERN OBSERVATORY.—A large Drummond light, sufficient to light up the harbor of New York, and an immense telescope, by which a view may be had down the river for sixty miles, are about to be placed on the top of this observatory in New York city.

TRAVEL TO THE MOUNTAINS.—We learn that on Wednesday last eighty persons ascended to the top of Mount Washington. Of this number twenty-eight went up from the Glen House, on the east side, and fifty-two on the west side.

BANK AT MARLBORO'.—A project is on foot to establish a bank at Marlboro', Maryland. The Gazette says: "A railroad and a bank—and then our county is made!"

JOHN S. TYSON, esq., appointed judge to try the case of Robert Swan, was sworn in as judge, at Hagerstown, on the 25th instant. The case will be taken up on the first Monday of September.

ROSE PARTINGTON says she never cared much about grand spectacles, or other sights; but there are two things she would like to have seen, the Inoculation of Frank Pierce and Corporation of Queen Victoria.

THE STEAMSHIP ARABIA sailed on New York to Liverpool on Thursday, taking out 101 passengers, among whom was Sir Charles Lyell. She also took out specie to the amount of \$675,482.

THE DANISH SLOOP-OF-WAR SAGA, Commander Boche, arrived at Boston on Tuesday afternoon. She is from Reickiauk, in Iceland. She was saluted from the navy yard and the castle.

DESTRUCTIVE CONFLAGRATION.—The steam foundry and machine-shop of Crossgrove & Co., in Westfield, Mass., were destroyed by fire on Thursday morning. Loss \$10,000; uninsured.

There are four men in New Haven county jail charged with murder, three of which murders were committed in this county.

[New Haven (Conn.) Register.]