WEEKLY STATE SENTINEL,

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THURSDAY MORNING,.....MARCH 15, 1855

Senatorial.

The failure to elect a Senator must be charged on the fusion party. It devolved on this Legislature to determine the *mode* of election, as our law had left that matter open. The Senate proposed a plan, by concurrent vote, which is considered by the first jurists of the country as the only legitimate one.—*Ind. Sentinel.*

Both of our young friends of the State organ will live to be ashamed of the above paragraph, unless they are very unfortunate and die young. Gentlemen as intelligent as they are, must know that there has been no statutory law since the adoption of the new Constitution upon the subject of electing U. S. Senators; that if such a law is necessary the duty devolved clearly upon the General Assembly which elected John Pettit. One of the editors of the *Sentinel* was a member of that Legislature—possibly he has ingenuity sufficient to explain how the election of State officers and a Senator was accomplished during that session, without a statutory law regulating the Same.—*Madison Courier.*

"*Gray hairs should be respected.*" Foibles and sins are *honorable* with *age.*

The editors of the *Sentinel* may "die young"—it were better so, than to "grow stupid with years and ignorant with experience."

No reflections are cast upon our friend of the *Courier.* He is not an *old fogy*—has, as yet, but *few* gray hairs—is neither stupid, nor inexperienced.

The *Courier's* paragraph, whatever effect it may have upon its editor, has failed to send the flush of shame to the cheeks of his "young friends of the State organ." *They* have yet to be convinced that the adoption of the New Constitution [illegible] the previously existing statutory laws—they have yet to be enlightened with the astonishing intelligence that United States Senators have ever been chosen in this State, except in accordance wi[illegible] *laws, in force at the time,* prescribing the *mode* of election.

The Act of February 3d, 1837, providing for the election of United States Senators by *viva voce* vote, was adopted and continued without radical change by the Revision of 1843. The laws of '43, with their subsequent amendments, remained in force until the taking effect of the acts of the General Assembly of 1852—a legislature upon which devolved the duty of conforming the statutory enactments of the State to the provisions of the new Constitution. The Revised Statutes of 1852 could not, and did not go into force until published and distributed, which was not accomplished until the 6th day of May 1853. As a consequence then, the laws of '43, with their amendments, remained in force until that time, which was about two months subsequent to the adjournment of the Session of '53. A reference to the late decision of the Supreme Court, upon the point in question, will substantiate the statement here made, in the matter of the operation and effect of the laws of 1852.

Mr. Pettit was elected United States Senator in January 1853, in accordance with the provisions of the law of '37, already cited, *in force at the time of his election,* and until the 6th day of the May following, at which time the *repealing* clause of the Statutes of '52 swept it from existence.

The members of the General Assembly of 1853, by whom Mr. Pettit was chosen Senator, were furnished with *unbound* copies of the Revised Statutes of 1852, with directions from the Secretary of State not to permit them to pass into other hands, as the laws embodied *had not at that time gone into force.*

With these facts before us, it is clearly evident, to any reasonable mind, that the duty of prescribing the *mode* of electing United States Senators devolved upon the *late* General Assembly. The Constitution of the United States, after declaring that "*the Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the legislature thereof,*" goes on to assert in specific terms, that "*the times, places, and manner of holding elections for senators and representatives* SHALL BE PRESCRIBED IN EACH STATE BY THE LEGISLATURE." The *times, places* and *manner* of holding elections for Senators *shall be prescribed* by the legislature. An appointment by *joint-resolution* of the two Houses, having in itself the force of a statutory enactment, might perhaps be legitimate and proper. An *election,* however, entered into without law, with no *time,* or *place,* or *manner* previously *prescribed* by statutory enactment, would certainly be illegal and inoperative. This conclusion is the more palpable if it is understood that such election shall be held by *joint-convention* of the two Houses. The Constitution of the United States requires the election of a Senator by the *legislature* of the State. The fundamental law of Indiana declares that "THE LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY *of the State shall be vested in the General Assembly, which shall consist of a* SENATE *and a* HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES." It also asserts that "*each House shall have all the powers necessary for a branch if the legislative department of a free and independent State.*" No where, however, does the Constitution recognize a *joint-convention* of the two Houses as a body possessing any legislative authority whatever. The *joint-convention* system of electing officers, at best, and when sanctioned by statutory enactment, is of very doubtful legality, and has nothing but the antiquity of the usage to recommend it. In such a convention the great design, actuating the creation of *two* branches of the legislative department, is lost sight of, and the *independent* action of each is swallowed up in the grand aggregate.

A statutory law might clothe a *joint-convention* with the *semblance* of authority. Without an enactment, however, defining its powers, such an *assemblage* would be nothing more nor less, than a mere *meeting* of the *members,* and its acts would be as inoperative, in a legal point of view, as would the transactions of the same men, if voluntarily convened at any time during the recess of the legislature, and at any place within the limits of the State.

With a blindness only worthy of themselves, however, and of the ephemeral conglomerate which has lately astonished the country with its wisdom, the *fusion* members of the late General Assembly, without any legal authority to sanction their course, repeatedly attempted to throw the legislature into a *joint-convention* for the election of a Senator.

The democratic members, of course, resisted this foolish proceeding. They were not willing, moreover, that a *law* should be enacted—whatever may have been the character of our statutes heretofore—which would deprive either branch of the legislative department of the independent authority vested in it by the Constitution. They were particularly determined that no advantage should be taken of the legitimate power they possessed, to prevent the misrepresentation of the State by the election of a man to the Senate, from one of the *wings* of the fusion party, whose opinions and principles accord with those of a small minority of our people.

The *democracy* passed an act through the higher branch, providing for the election of a Senator in a correct and legal manner. The *fusionists* rejected the act in the House, but persisted in urging an election. The democrats refused to elect without a law whereby the rights of eighty-six thousand voters should be maintained against the claims of a union of factions, none possessing over thirty-thousand votes, and because of this, says the fusion press, the *responsibility* of the failure to elect is upon the democratic party. The responsibility of preserving the integrity of the Senate,—the responsibility of securing to it "all the powers necessary for a branch of the legislative department of a free and independent State,"—the responsibility of *thus* preventing the election of an abolitionist or a know-nothing to the United States Senate,—these responsibilities rest upon the broad shoulders of the democratic party—a party which never shrinks from responsibility when the questions at issue involve the constitutional rights of the States, or the individual rights of the people.

Correspondence.

We are under obligations for the complimentary sentiments expressed in the following communication,—a commendation not the more highly appreciated by reason of its distinguished source, than by the sound and statesman-like views, on matters of general and vital interest to the public, with which it is connected.

We trust that the readers of the *Sentinel,* may be greeted not unfrequently with the welcome productions of our friend *Tippecanoe.*

LAFAYETTE, March 9, 1855.

Messrs. Editors:—You have made an excellent beginning, and I hope you will not grow weary in well doing. Those who have seen your paper, in this section, are of the unanimous opinion that the *Sentinel,* under its new management, exhibits rare industry, tact and talent. It certainly commends itself to public favor by its intrinsic value; and the Democracy will do themselves injustice, if they do not give you that encouraging support which their State Organ should receive.

The *Courier* has taken a stand upon the currency question which is purely democratic and must eventually be the prominent article in the democratic creed. A paper currency is an expediency in political economy, which is inimical to the true interests of the people. When the idea that paper currency is money shall become exploded, and when the popular vision shall perceive that bank notes are but bills of credit, and that the whole banking system, as it now exists, is one of special privileges, benefitting the few at the expense of the many, we then may expect a revolution in legislation which will make gold and silver the common currency of the people. The Banking system has been a greater tax upon the industry of the country than the entire support of its government, national, state and municipal. If we ever hope to arrive at a proximate stability in business affairs, it will only be when we have a currency which cannot be expanded indefinately as the will or the interests of a few may dictate or require. A large proportion of the industrial classes seem wedded to the fallacy of a paper currency—it has a delusive charm about it which the experience of the past appears impossible to dispel. As one bubble explodes, leaving naught but vanity and emptiness, another of similar character rises to inspire a new vague hope and to result in equal disappointment.

This clinging to a system which has always resulted in disaster, is an unaccountable blind infatuation, and can only be accounted for by an unvarying and inherent desire upon the part of mankind to be humbugged. The banking system is an appeal to the credulity which never seem to fail. We do hope for better things on the part of the Democracy, whose theory upon this question is correct, if the practice is not always as good. The philanthropy and benevolence of the age could accomplish no more beneficient act for the good of those who "earn their bread by the sweat of their brow," than to give them a metalic currency. You will do a good work, Messrs. Editors, if you can develop or create, if necessary, upon this question a correct public sentiment. The recent working of our paper money system has made a good many "hard money" converts and a large number are so near persuaded that but a little reasoning will convince them altogether.

A large majority of the people of this county, are favorable to the Temperance Law, passed at the recent session of the Legislature. While many of the features of the law are objectionable, there is a general disposition to yield to this stringent measure, with the hope that it may remove the crying evils of intemperance. Liquor is but seldom a necessity, and its use as a beverage can be prevented under this law, without doing but little, if any personal injury. Our liquor dealers are preparing to close their business, by the 12th of June, and we believe there is a general determination to give the law a fair trial, and ascertain from experiment what will be its practical results. However much a loyal citizen may denounce this despotic act of Legislation, and convince himself of its really Anti-Republican character, he cannot but acquiesce in its truly benevolent intentions, when he looks upon those wrecked in reputation and health by intemperance, who can and will be restored to usefulness, when this law removes temptation from them. If this law is a sacrifice of principle, it is a great relief to feel that it is a sacrifice to benevolence—to the well being of society. If any ill should result from the operation of the law, future legislation can apply the remedy.

You are right upon the "eastern question." The war in Europe is not a contest of principle, but of supremacy. Russia is a barrier to the commercial aggrandizement of England and to the ambition of Louis Napoleon. The ostensible cause of the war, the preservation of the integrity of the Turkish empire, is now of but minor consideration. Every other consideration is swallowed up in the pride, the glory, and the interests of the allied powers. The poor Turks are all but forgotten in the contest. If the ambition of Nicholas needs a check, we do not see but that it will be for the benefit of American interests, that the arrogancy of England and France should be curbed. In this war of the giants, our sympathy appears to be on the side of Russia.

Excuse the length of this communication. I started out to say a few words of commendation, but find I have spun out a long epistle. TIPPECANOE.

Amusing.

A New York paper publishes what purports to be a prayer of the Chaplain of the Indiana Legislature at the opening of one of its sessions. The editor remarks that he is stricken with the conviction that parts of the invocation are as appropriately applicable to *other* meridians as to that of Indianapolis.

Until now we had been in blissful ignorance of the existence of a *Chaplain* to our late legislature, and, of course, had heard nothing of the "*invocation*" in question. The statement to which allusion is made, however, bears the *semblance* of fact—the prayer published is pertinantly correct, and bears, seemingly, the spirit of *prophecy* as well as of supplication. If never uttered, it nevertheless *should* have been, and is therefore worthy of a place in our columns. It is as follows:

"O! Lord, have mercy upon our legislators. Be with them and bless them, even if they know thee not. Spare their lives and teach them to glorify thy name. Hasten them to their homes, where they may direct their attention to good works and general usefulness among their families and their neighbors.—May the people resolve to keep them there, and in future elect men of sound morals and temperate habits, so that good may hereafter result from legislation; save the good people of this State from disgrace, which must follow if the same crowd should again come here to make laws. Hear us, Lord, and grant our prayer. Amen."

☞ The fellow who perpetrated the following, must have been in a good condition to "go up" immediately, if not sooner:

Jenney kissed me when we met,
Jumping from the chair she sat in;
Time, you thief, you love to get
Sweets into your lips, put that in:
Say I'm weary, say I'm sad,
Say that health and wealth have missed me,
Say I'm growing old—but add,
Jenny kissed me!

☞ A Mrs. Cross, living in Marion county, Ky., was burned to death last week by her clothes taking fire.

KNOW-NOTHINGS DEFEATED!

Democratic, Anti-Know Nothing Victory in Jennings?

The first gun from old Jennings has been fired. The election in the town of Vernon, for corporate officers has resulted in the complete triumph of the Democrats.

Anti-Know Nothing Victories.

From the New York *Tribune* we extract some items. The sum-total is that the Know Nothings are well whipped.

CATTARAUGUS Co.—In this County, which went strongly Hindoo at the last election, 13 out of the 31 Supervisors are Anti-Know Nothing. It is a noticeable fact that all the Hindoos are elected by the skin of their teeth while Antis are all chosen by large and respectable majorities. Light is breaking in old Cattarangus.

ONEIDA, Co.—Returns from all the Towns show the Board of Supervisors to stand Whigs 16; Democrats 16.

ALBANY Co.—The Hindoos were routed in the West Troy Village election. The issue was made distinct. Martin Witbeck, Anti-Hindoo, was elected by 150 majority. The Trustees are of the same stripe. A jubilee followed in the evening.

ERIE, Co.—The "chawing up" of the Hindoos was more effectual than at first announced. So far as heard from 19 Anti-Know Nothing Supervisors to three Hindoos, The towns carried by the latter are Collins, Cheektowaga and Hamburg — lone monuments of Barkerism in a county whose entire delegation cast their votes against Gov. Seward's re-election to the United States Senate.

TROY, N. Y.—Besides Mayor, an Anti-Know Nothing Justice, and two Assessors were chosen. Aldermen, 14 Anti-Know Nothing and eight Know Nothings. Four out of the seven Supervisors are Anti-Know Nothings.

MADISON, Co.—Anti-Know Nothing Supervisors chosen in Cazenovia, Fenner and Nelson. Anti-Hindoos as far as heard from.

WYOMING, Co.—According to the old party divisions the Board of Supervisors stand eight Whigs and eight Democrats, or ten daylight Americans and six midnight Hindoos.

MONROE, Co.—The Rochester *Democrat* of the 6th, says, of the result on Supervisors: Whigs 15, Locos 14, Anti-Know Nothings 20. Elected on Know Nothing ticket 9. This result sadly disappointed Hindoos of this city, who boasted that they would sweep the county.

ST. LAWRENCE, Co.—The *Republican* gives a list of the Supervisors elected at the late town-meetings in that county. It foots up precisely as it did last year—15 Democrats and 13 Whigs—all Anti-Know Nothings.

LYONS, N. Y.—Anti-Know Nothing ticket elected.

ADANS, N. Y.—Anti-Know Nothing majority, 30.

WESTFORD, Mass.—Anti-K. N. ticket elected.

Anti-Know Nothing Victory in Massachusetts.

We give the details of these interesting elections from the Boston *Post:*

Know Nothingism has about taken its flight from Action, the last that was seen of it, the president of the lodge was going west, the secretary south, and the remainder of the lodge are about changing their name to Hindoos; only sixty-nine cents worth left. The election resulted in the choice of William D. Tuttle, town clerk; James E. Billings, Elbridge G. Parker and Samuel Jones, selectmen; Samuel Hosmer, Francis C. Dwight and Daniel Tuttle, assessors; John M. Miles, William D. Tuttle, and Luther Conant, Jr., school committee; Luther B. Forbush, constable—citizens' ticket and opposed to secret political societies. For county treasurer, Steilman Buttrick had 145 votes; Amos Stone, K. N., had 69. The town is redeemed from the scourges, and if they were to have a few more speeches from Slack, Bowers and Woodbury, there would not be a solitary know nothing left in town. So says our correspondent, "A friend of equal rights."

In Westford the know nothings made a desperate rally but were defeated at every point, and, what is rather surprising, there are three clergymen in town, neither of whom belong to the secret order, and they were all placed upon the school committee.

In Salem, Joseph Andross, K. N., was chosen mayor by 1049 votes, to 813 for Nathaniel Sillsbee, citizens' candidate. The citizens made a pretty good fight. K. N. Aldermen were also elected.

In Walpole, the K. N.'s were beaten.

In Seekonk, OLIVER CHAFFE, Democrat, was chosen town clerk, over H. G. Stewart, present know nothing member of the House of Representatives. The democratic ticket was chosen throughout by a considerable majority, and with the exception of school committee. "Sam" is repudiated in old Seekonk, and good old fashioned democracy takes his place.

LEXINGTON.—The old battle ground is true to the cause of liberty. Col. Isaac H. Wright was chosen moderator, and the old board of selectmen, supported on a citizens' ticket, was elected over the know nothing ticket. All the other town officers were also elected against the know nothings.

In Foxboro', anti K. N.'s were chosen. In Marblehead a union ticket prevailed over the K. N.'s. In Acton, Citizens' and anti-Maine law ticket chosen. In Stow ditto. In Marshfield Citizens' ticket succeeded, also in Plymouth.

In Amesbury a union ticket was elected over the Know Nothings, by from 75 to 200 majority. J. Nayson, Democrat, was elected moderator; Joseph Merrill, Democrat, town clerk; and Wm. D. Bartlett, Democrat, Josiah Challis, Freesoil, and Alfred Goodwin, Whig, selectmen.

☞ The Know Nothings of New Albany have nominated a full ticket. The nominee for Mayor is J. D. KELSO; Treasurer, M. STREEPEY; Assessor, J. C. JOCKLYN; Attorney, D. C. ANTHONY; City Clerk, R. L. WILLIAMS; Marshal, JAMES NEWBANKS; Engineer H. B. WILSON; Street Commissioner, D. M. HOOPER.

This ticket is somewhat different from the one published by us a few days since. We hope, for the honor of New Albany, that these "heroes of the Brass Knucks" will be defeated.

Kentucky Know Nothings.

The Ohio *Statesman* comments on the fall of Kentucky, in the following strain:

We find in the *Journal* of last evening the following ticket:

The Louisville *Courier,* of yesterday, gives the following as the State ticket of the Kentucky Know Nothings:

For Governor—Wm. M. Loving, of Warren, Whig.

Lieut. Governor—James G. Hardy, of Barren, Democrat.

Treasurer—R. C. Winterworth, of Franklin, Whig.

Auditor—Thomas S. Page, of Franklin, Whig.

President Board of Internal Improvements—R. D. Haggard, of Cumberland, Whig.

Superintendent of Public Instruction—Rev. J. D. Matthews, of Fayette, Democrat.

Register of Land Office—Andrew McKinley, of Jefferson, Democrat.

And has the great old Whig party of Kentucky come to this low estate? The once proud party that rallied under the lead of HENRY CLAY, now so far lost in the whirl of politics that they dare not meet in public to make their nominations! They hide from the face of day, make up a ticket, and even then dare not bring out a full Whig team, but sprinkle it with Democrats to make it palatable and go down with the people. But Democratic salt on such porridge will not sweeten it to the palates of sober thinking people.

SURGICAL OPERATION.—We learn, says the Evansville *Journal,* that our old friend, Mr. CADDINGTON, formerly of the Vincennes *Gazette,* had one of his legs amputated last week. He was under the influence of Chloroform at the time, and the operation was performed successfully and without a particle of pain to himself. He has been for many years suffering horribly with a diseased limb, and resorted to amputation as the last hope. We wish him a speedy recovery.

The Campaign in Virginia.

Much is dependant on the election of HENRY A. WISE. If he succeeds, Know Nothingism will be totaly extinguished in the South; and in the North will soon dwindle into an insignificant clique of grumblers and disappointed politicans. The Richmond *Enquirer* writes cheerfully of the prospect:

The expression of the public feeling throughout the State, corresponds with the significant conduct of the sporting-men in the Know-Nothing party. Confidence is audible in the speech and visible in the eye of the Democracy in every quarter of the State. The traitors in our ranks are distinguished and enumerated, and we have satisfactory assurance that their defection will be more than compensated by the adhesion of Whigs who are too proud to betray their party into the infamous bondage of Know-Nothingism. With them the credit of their party and the honor of the State are too precious to be sacrificed to a grovelling lust for the spoils.

Our columns this morning bear gratifying testimony to the zeal and energy with which the Democracy of the State are preparing for the struggle. Observe with what unanimity of sentiment they speak. With the same directness of purpose and emphasis of language the Democracy in every county assume a position of uncompromising and unyielding hostility to Know-Nothingism. No where is the great issue evaded. It is everywhere confronted with the spirit of men who are resolved to conquer.

Courts of Claims.

Our readers are already aware that the Nestor of Indiana jurisprudence, Judge BLACKFORD has been appointed one of the Judges of the new Court. This appointment is an unsolicited testimonial to merit. The duties which the Judge has been performing for so many years have given him the very kind of experience and skill which are wanted in the Court of Claims. The Judges of the Supreme Court have had a [illegible] examination of "facts," and the disentangling of truth from conflicting and heterogeneous masses of testimony. The huge bills of exceptions, setting forth all the evidence in the court below, and the mountains of depositions in Chancery cases which Judge BLACKFORD has for so many years waded through, wearily and drearily we dare say, but yet honestly and earnestly, have made him every way competent to investigate facts, as well as law.

We heartily endorse the lively remarks of our friends of the *Journal* on the value of the new Court.

"Speculators who have bought bad claims for the chance of winning, will feel very little disposed to press them when they have to pass the ordeal of three cool, clear-headed "old fogies," who have a mortal aversion to acting upon anything till they know all about it, and when every step must be substantiated by testimony, instead of being established in a half fuddled Congressman's brain by the summary, but satisfactory process of a bottle of Heidesick and a terrapin supper. It will make a great difference. "Private claims" will have passed into oblivion along with *peine forte et dure* and other modes of legal torment, as soon as the Court of Claims gets fairly under way.

Anecdote of Steuben.

If our know-nothing friends will look on the map of Indiana, they will see that one of her counties is called Steuben, in honor, no doubt, of the noble hearted old Inspector-General of the American army. Another county is named Pulaski, another Koskinsco, and an other DeKalb. If those old heroes were living in the respective counties which commemorate their fame, and the power of the native party was equal to their will, they would not be permitted to vote. But to the anecdote:

"I recollect, says Steuben's Biographer," at a review at Morristown, a lieutenant GIBBONS, a brave and good officer, was arrested on the spot, and ordered to the rear for a fault which another had committed. At a proper moment, the commander of the regiment came forward and informed the baron of Mr. GIBBON's innocence and worth. "Desire Lieutenant GIBBON's" said the baron, "to come in front of the troops. Sir, said he to him, the fault which was committed, by throwing the line into confusion, might in the presence of an enemy, have been fatal—and I arrested you. Your Colonel has informed me that you are blameless—I ask your pardon—I would not do injustice to any, much less to one whose character is so respectable." All this was said with his hat off, and the rain pouring on his reverend head."

☞ Read, ye loving mamas and doting papas, what a crusty, wry-faced, wrinkled, ill-natured, forlorn, old batchelor has indited "about babies," etc.:

Baby bawling in the night,
Wakes you from a hoped for nap—
Tumbling round at twelve at night,
To get the little wretch some pap.
Tell me—couldn't you
Spank it with some gusto?
Wouldn't you?
Little pleasure—little cash—
Lots of little brats about;
Stable feeding—mutton hash—
Future fodder all in doubt;
Tell me—shouldn't you
"Cuss" yourself a little?
Wouldn't you?
At the door your woman meets you,
Young ones all join in one yell—
Tenderly the beaux kiss greet you
Don't you wish yourself in—Jersey?
Tell me, I repeat it, shouldn't you
Leave for California?
Wouldn't you?

APPOINTMENT BY THE GOVERNOR.—NATHAN B. PALMER, Trustee of the Institute for Education of the Blind, in place of ISAAC BLACKFORD, resigned.

The Trustees of the different Benevolent Institutions hold over under their former commissions, until their successors are elected and qualified.

DUEL AT NEW ORLEANS.—A duel was fought on Monday week, near New Orleans, between Mr. Gerard and John DeBuys. The *Picayune* says:

"The duel originated in a difficulty, which took place some time since, and grew out of the fact, it is said, that Gerard had acted as second in a duel against DeBuys some time since. The meeting took place beneath the oaks at Metairie Ridge, and the combat was witnessed by some fifty persons. Small swords were the weapons, and the conditions were that the parties should fight till one or the other fell. Gerard at first stood upon his guard, but being stirred up by some taunt from his antagonist, he made the attack, and the result was that he plunged his sword eight times into the body of DeBuys, receiving but a slight scratch in return. DeBuys now lies at the point of death."

MEN OR MONEY.—The Austrian government is beginning to wince a little at the expense of the war. The journals say it cannot be expected that Austria, without claiming any compensation, will carry on the war with from 300,000 to 350,000 men, and from 800 to 1000 guns, while England produces only 35,000 to 40,000 men. In the arranging of the conditions, the fleets of France and England will doubtless be taken into account; but if the latter does not supply more men, the allies will certainly require of her something in their stead, viz: money. The French government also seems dissatisfied with the small number of men that England has sent to the Crimea. The French talk of the war altogether as a French war, and seem to regard their ally as of little account. There is a general expectation of prompt and radical changes in the military plans of the Emperor and his British allies.—*Ledger.*

SAD ACCIDENT.—An Irishman who was at work on the Railroad, near Russiaville in this county, says the Frankfort *Crescent,* was accidently killed, on Saturday last, the 3d inst. Several hands were engaged in grubbing and opening out the road, when, suddenly a tree, which had been partly grubbed up, started to fall, and before the hands could make their escape, it fell, killing one of their number and slightly injuring another.

From the Washington Democrat.

Democratic Meeting.

March 5, 1855.

The meeting was organized by appointing John Hardin, Esq., Chairman, and J. P. GREEN Sec'y.

Whereupon H. Heffren Esq., explained the object of the meeting in a brief and pertinent address, showing the necessity of a complete and thorough organization of the party; after which he offered the following preamble and resolutions for adoption:

WHEREAS, The Democracy of Washington County, still adhering to the landmarks and principles of our party, whose rise is coeval with the dawn of republicanism, and still having faith in the patriotism and integrity of the masses, have assembled here to-day to re-assert those great fundamental principles which have ever been our support and refuge; and, WHEREAS, the great cause of the success of the opposition in the late canvass was owing to their secret and thorough organization, therefore

Be it resolved, That as a Democratic State Association was formed at Indianapolis on the 22d ult., and recommended that county and township associations be established throughout the State, therefore to carry out the said recommendation and effect a complete and effective organization, that we proceed to complete and perfect such association or organization in this county.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the Chair, to prepare a Constitution and By-laws for such association, and report the same at the next meeting of said Association to be held at the Court House in Salem on the——day of March.

Resolved, That we recommend and call upon all persons, irrespective of party, who are opposed to sectionalism, Know Nothingism, Fusionism, or any other *ism,* and are in favor of national principles, and "the greatest good to the greatest number," and for maintaining inviolate the natural and constitutional rights of each and every citizen, and also in favor of Democratic measures, to come up and unite with us in carrying out the great object and aim we have in view; namely the restoration of National men and national principles in the councils of the State and Nation.

Resolved, That as Practical, as Republicans, as lovers of our Country, and as Democrats, we denounce, detest and condemn as anti-republican, despotic, tyrannical and dangerous to our liberties, all secret political organizations, and that we will not support or uphold for any office of trust or profit or for any station, any person, who is identified with such society or organization.

Resolved, That our Senator and Representatives, by their efforts and votes to tid the State of a "Wild-Cat" currency, are entitled to the thanks of every good citizen of our county.

The above resolutions, after a few remarks, were unanimously adopted.

Whereupon the Chair appointed the following Committee to draft a Constitution and By-Laws, viz: Messrs. H. Heffren, J. B. Wilson, Z. Garriott, Col. V. Baker and P. J. Green.

On motion it was ordered that the chair appoint a committee of three, to report permanent officers for the next meeting. That committee consisted of Col. V. Baker, Col. D. Dawalt and George Beck.

On motion of Z. S. Garriott, the time of the next meeting was put for the 24th of March at Salem, at 1 o'clock P. M.

On motion it was resolved that the Secretary make out a report of the proceedings of this meeting, and request their publication in the Washington *Democrat.*

Whereupon the meeting then adjourned until Saturday the 24th of March inst., at 1 o'clock, P. M., for the purposes hereinbefore named.

JOHN HARDIN, Chairman.
P. J. GREEN, Sec'y.

Obligations of the World to the Bible

We publish in another column of our paper to-day, an article on the simplicity of style in the *Gospel Narrative.* The piece is an old one, but not the less valuable on that account. We hope those of our readers who have seen it before will regard its re-publication as they would the accidental meeting of an old friend—a happy event. The argument for the sincerity of the Gospel writers is both subtle and sound. It is not for us to write of the Bible as a divine revelation, as a light from heaven to guide the footsteps of erring man. But every one must admit the conservative influence of religion on our national institutions. History teaches that permanent freedom is a gift, granted by Heaven to those who are worthy of it; and that society, to be worthy of it, should unite the purest morality with the highest intelligence. Our national salvation depends on the combined influences of religion and learning. Religion will save learning from the taint of vice, and learning will rescue religion from the evils of superstition; and both together, acting in the world of mind, as the mystic power of heat and light in the material universe, will sustain, in ever varying and yet unending succession, the wondrous phenomena of moral life.

The Bible, simply as a literary production, as a book containing the most valuable history, the most beautiful poetry, and the most sublime morality has exerted an influence on liberty and civilization whose benefits are too great to be estimated. Our obligations to the Bible as the pioneer of freedom are incalculable. Our obligations to it for its eminently conservative character are equally great. It protects the fundamental laws of society, the right of property and the institution of marriage. Secure will be the liberty of that people whose literature manifests the tone and temper of the Bible. As the flowers and birds of the torrid zone are said to imbibe their brilliant colors, and their rich and various plumage from the warm and beaming rays of the tropic sun; so, our history, poetry and philosophy should be made glowing, eloquent and life-like by receiving and reflecting the moral effulgence of the Bible.

Prospects of Democracy in England.

A correspondent of the New York *Herald* has the following remarks on this subject:

Grave men are every now and then found to be shaking their heads and predicting that mighty changes in England will follow in the wake of this war, and that the aristocratic clases will rue the day that ever they advised it. The changes which must take place in the army will, they say, eventually affect all constitutions. Your system of primogeniture, of bloated Episcopalianism, of aristocracy and Pluticracy everywhere cannot live in presence of the rights of merit acknowledged in the army. A French gentleman, distinguished both in the statesmanship and literature of his own country, writes—"My mind is continually dwelling with painful interest on the situation of your brave army; and interest inspired by admiration for the army itself, as well as by the concern which I feel for the honor and credit of your institutions. If you do not succeed in repairing the mischief, and that quickly, (which indeed seems to me next to impossible,) England and her government will assuredly come out of this struggle somewhat discredited. Whatever may be the alternate results of the war, and of the heroic achievements of her soldiers, I have a difficulty in believing that this will have a considerable influence, though one perhaps little foreseen upon the future course of your domestic affairs. I expect that it will accelerate the pace at which you appear to be departing from the character of aristocratic government, according to the old acceptations of that term. Your army can hardly avoid undergoing a sort of revolution, and a revolution in the constitution of the army will surely not be confined to the army alone."

Yes—the real conquest of the Emperor of Russia will be, whether he physically win or loose, the alternate revolution of England. Supposing be be beaten French, and England will, in all probablitity, go to loggerheads in the settlement, and then the Czar will, like Richard, be himself again. Already men—before anxious for the war—begin to wince about this talk of a French army to the Rhine, and another year or two may see the Cobden and Bright Peace Party very different to what it is at present.

UNIVERSITY CLUB.

Peculiarity of the Gospel Narrative.

"Theirs" (the New Testament writers) "is a history of miracles; the historical picture of the scene in which the Spirit of God was poured on all flesh, and signs and wonders, visions and dreams, were part of the essentials of their narratives. How is all this related? With the same absence of high colouring and extravagant description with which other writers notice the ordinary occurrences of the world: partly, no doubt, for the like reason, that they were really familiar with miracles; partly too because to them these miracles had long been contemplated only as subservient measures to the great object and business of their ministry—the salvation of men's souls. On the subject of miracles, the means to this great end, they speak in calm, unimpassioned language; on man's sins, change of heart; on hope, faith, and charity; on the objects, in short, to be effected, they exhaust all their feelings and eloquence. Their history, from the narrative of our Lord's persecutions, to those of Paul, the abomination of the Jews, embraces scenes and personages which claim from the ordinary reader a continual effusion of sorrow, or wonder, or indignation. In writers who were friends of the parties and adherents of the cause for which they did and suffered so great things, the absence of it is on ordinary grounds inconceivable. Look at the account even of the crucifixion. Not one burst of indignation or sympathy mixes with the details of the narrative. Stephen, the first martyr, is stoned, and the account comprised in these few words, "they stoned Stephen calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." The varied and immense labors and sufferings of the apostles are slightly hinted at, or else related in this dry and frigid way: "And when they had called the apostles, and beaten them they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go"—Acts v. 40, 41. "And there came thither certain Jews, from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead. Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city; and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe"—Acts xiv. 19, 20. Had these authors no feeling? Had their mode of life benevolent them of the common sympathies and sensibility of human nature? Read such passages as St. Paul's parting address to the elders of Miletus; the same appostle's recommendation of the offending member of the Corinthian Church to pardon, and more than all, the occasional bursts of conflicting feeling, in which anxious apprehension for the faith and good behavior of his converts is mixed with the pleasing recollectin of their conversion, and the minister and the man are alike strongly displayed; and it will be plain that Christianity exercised no benumbing influence on the heart. No: their whole soul was occupied with one object which predominated over all the means subservient to it, however great those means might be. *In the storm, the pilot's eye is fixed on the headland which must be weathered; in the crisis of victory or defeat, the general sees only the position to be carried; and the dead and the instruments of death fall around him unheeded.* On the salvation of men, on this one point, the witnesses of Christ and the ministers of his Spirit, expended all their energy of feeling and expression. All that occurred—mischance, persecution, and miracle—were glanced at by the eye of faith only in subserviency to this mark of the prize of their high calling, as working together for good, and all exempt from the associations which would attach to such events and scenes, when contemplated by themselves, and with the short sightedness of uninspired men. Miracles were not to them objects of wonder, nor mischances a subject of sorrow and lamentation. They did all, they suffered all, to the glory of God."—*London Review,* No. II. p. 345.

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