WEEKLY STATE SENTINEL.

"Let us cling to the Constitution as the mariner clings to the last plank when the night and the tempest close around him."

INDIANAPOLIS:
THURSDAY MORNING.....MARCH 22, 1855

Death of Nicholas.

This news, brought by the Africa, is of the highest interest, in every respect. The present Czar, Alexander, is said to be an amiable, but not an energetic man. It would be idle to speculate on the probable changes which may be produced in the condition of Europe by this sudden appearance of the King of Terrors to claim his share of influence on the destinies of nations. We should feel grateful that, in our country at least, the great questions of peace or war are not dependent on the life or death of any one man.

On the death of ALEXANDER and the renunciation of Constantine, NICHOLAS succeeded to the throne, Nov. 19, 1825, and was crowned at Moscow, Sept. 3d, 1826. For nearly thirty years, he has been the most conspicuous figure in Europe; and we believe that the Earl of Derby was right, when in a recent speech he declared that the Czar was a truly great man. If the world must have despotic sovreigns, it is some comfort to have them men of genius and energy.

We have never joined in the abuse of NICHOLAS as a tyrant and an oppressor. He had his post assigned him by circumstances in the grand drama of human events, and he filled it well. That post was to guide, with a firm hand and honest purpose of heart, the march of a semi-barbarous people towards civilization. Contrast the Russia of 1825, with the Russia of 1855, and the credit due to NICHOLAS, will be measured by the amount of improvement. It would have been a miracle if the Czar of Russia had admired and approved republican institutions for his own people, but he was, in his way, *the friend of progress*, and did much to prepare his nation for liberal principles and those democratic forms of government which are destined to mould the Sclavonian race into the highest types of humanity.

Order is heaven's first law, and the sovreign who can teach sixty millions of uncultivated men to obey it, is a benefactor of his race. Order is the pioneer of well-regulated liberty; it is the *transition-state* of humanity.

The most philosophical of American statesmen, in language worthy of the thought, has expressed the great political truth which forms the justification of NICHOLAS.

"Liberty is a reward to be earned, not a blessing to be gratuitously lavished on all alike;—a reward reserved for the intelligent, the patriotic, the virtuous and the deserving; and not a boon to be bestowed on a people too ignorant, degraded and vicious, to be capable either of appreciating or enjoying it.

"Nor is it any disparagement of liberty that such is, and ought to be the case. On the contrary, its greatest praise, its proudest distinction is, that an all-wise Providence has reserved it, as the noblest and highest reward for the development of our faculties moral and intellectual. A reward more appropriate than liberty could not be conferred on the deserving; nor a punishment inflicted on the undeserving more just than to be subject to lawless and despotic rule. This dispensation seems to be the result of some fixed law; and every effort to disturb or defeat it, by attempting to elevate a people, in the scale of liberty, above the point to which they are entitled to rise, must ever prove abortive and end in disappointment. The progress of a people rising from a lower to a higher point in the scale of liberty is necessarily slow; and by attempting to precipitate we either retard or permanently defeat it."

Complimentary.

The following compliment is paid to Governor WRIGHT, by that valuable paper, the "*Journal of Commerce*," for his vetoes on the bank bills:

Governor WRIGHT, of Indiana, has maintained his high character for sagacity and sound principles, by vetoing the bank bills which recently passed the legislature of that State. We regret to learn that both bills have been passed over the veto, the constitution only requiring for this purpose a simple majority. One bill establishes a State Bank with branches, the charter of which is to run for twenty years, not subject to any alteration by the legislature "without the assent of the President and directors of the Bank and every branch thereof." This monstrous bill provides that twenty days' notice of the opening of the subscription books shall be given, but allows the books to be closed as soon as the amount is subscribed, which would give one man or clique the power to subscribe for the whole, and then close the books upon all other applications. The most extraordinary provision, however, is that which authorizes the Bank to receive on deposit, moneys, bullion, plate *and other articles of value of small bulk*, upon such terms as may be agreed upon between the parties,; and then to discount to the amount of three times the amount of its capital, and three times the amount of the deposits! Such a basis for banking is a disgrace to the age in which we live, and we wonder that the people of that State allow such a system. Such a bank might well afford to pay a liberal sum for the charter, but we shrink from the supposition that the legislators who supported it could have any personal interest in such a scheme.

The other law alluded to, is less objectionable, because its provisions may be changed by the next legislature, and it is not fastened upon the State for twenty years, like the incubus above noticed. It contains, however, no clause of improvement upon the loose system of general banking already established in Indiana, while it places almost unlimited power in the hands of the Auditor. We did hope that the State had learned something from the financial struggle through which it has just passed, but it would seem that this is not the case.

Internal Improvement.

Our friends of the *Journal* impute to President PIERCE an unbecoming partiality for the South, because he signed a bill for removing obstructions from the Savannah river, and failed to sign one making appropriations for the St. Clair Flats. We have no knowledge of the act and bill except what is derived from the pages of the *Journal*. If our memory serves us, our democratic friends about Cleveland were of the impression that the bill for the St. Clair Flats was neglected in the hurry and pressure of the closing hours of the session. But even if the President put it in his pocket deliberately, there is a fact, appearing on the face of the act for removing obstructions from the Savannah, which may explain his approval of that act. *The obstructions were placed there during the Revolutionary war for the common defence.* This recital in the act, and which was not adverted to by the *Journal*, may furnish the key to any apparent inconsistency in the conduct of the President.

☞ We have, perhaps, done injustice to our sister cities, Madison and New Albany, by stating that there were many houses "to rent" in those cities. The *Banner*, of the former and the *Ledger*, of the latter city, assure us that our informant was wrong in his statements.

☞ DUVAL'S is *the* place where may be seen goods of every hue and shade, quality and price. Do not fail to look in upon Mr. D.'s fine stock. It is worth the examination of purchasers.

☞ It is confidently asserted that Kentucky Trust money will soon be worth something *near* its face. The Cincinnati *Commercial* thinks so.

Foreign Influence.

It is alleged that American Liberty is to be subverted by foreign influence. Foreign fiddlesticks! Where is the foreign influence? Look over the lists of officers and legislators in the various States of the Union, and you can scarcely find a foreigner. There has been positive injustice done to them in the distribution of offices. It is said that foreigners are "nursed in customs antagonistical to republicanism." If it be so, they show a prodigious aversion to their nurses. The only danger is, that they are too republican. Such is their intense hatred of Kings that they are jealous of Presidents; such their dread of the tyrannical abuse of power, that they are reluctant to concede the necessary delegated discretion to their governmental agents.—This is error, but it is error in the right direction; for we have the highest authority, that of Mr. JEFFERSON, for saying that "free government is founded in jealousy and not in confidence." However, be that as it may—alkalies and acids are corrosive poisons, but they neutralize each other; and, perhaps, Providence permits the existence of native Americans, to counteract the extreme Democratic opinions of our foreign population.

His excellency of Massachusetts says:

To a republican government there is necessarily cause for greater alarm than to others. Here the adopted citizen is invested with both the right of choosing and being chosen to office. Not only must he be an elector, but he may be, and often is, an officer. Every additional naturalization tend to denationalize, to Europeanize America. The universal record of history teaches that all republics that have risen and fallen owe their destruction to foreign influence, unseen at first, permitted till too strong for resistance, at last fatal.

The last sentence contains the important discovery, for which His Excellency may claim the merit of originality.

We, in our ignorance, had supposed that, as there had been few republics in the world and several of them not deserving the name, history could provide no guidance because it could furnish no parallel. But we stand corrected. "*The universal record*" has been inspected, and our merely secondary and hearsay information must be set aside. The most recent case of the fall of a republic was that of the French republic on the 2d of December, when LOUIS NAPOLEON closed the legislative chambers, seized the power of government, and vested them in his own person. LOUIS NAPOLEON was but an imitator of his uncle, who, by a similar act, had overthrown the Directory. NAPOLEON'S conduct finds a likeness in that of CROMWELL who dissolved the parliament, put an end to the commonwealth, and ruled England with more than kingly power. CROMWELL, again, has a prototype in JULIUS CÆSAR, by whose hand the Roman republic fell. These were all cases of usurpation and military dictatorship; but we never before read of any "foreign influence." The Greeks, after being shattered by long continued civil wars—to say nothing of an invasion by the Gauls—were finally conquered by Rome. This was, no doubt, a case of "foreign influence" of a very decided sort; but we doubt whether His Excellency refers to "foreign influence" exercised in this way. The same sort of "foreign influence," viz: conquest, destroyed Carthage. Venice and the little States of Italy became merged in the Kingdom of Italy, established by NAPOLEON. Whether this merger was by conquest or voluntary annexation is immaterial. It certainly was not by such "foreign influence" as naturalization produces.

We, also say, beware of foreign influence, of that influence which comes, like a thief in the night, to filch from us the jewel of our liberty; of that influence which is foreign to the constitution, foreign to republican institutions, foreign to the welfare of humanity; and which, though disguised under patriotic pretences, is but another name for the intolerance of European despotism.

But while we repudiate the idea of danger from our foreign population, under existing laws, we believe the native party are doing the very thing to create danger.

CANNING, in one of his speeches, tells a story of a Roman general who had gained a great victory and made many prisoners. The victor, at a loss how to dispose of his conquered enemies, sent a message of inquiry to his father, as enator distinguished for wisdom; The father replied, "Dismiss them unransomed and unmolested." The son could not understand such advice, and sent a second message. The second answer was. "Exterminate them to the last man." This was equally astonishing, and the son hastened in person to consult his sire. "By my first advice, which was the best," said the old man, "I recommended to you to secure the everlasting gratitude of a powerful people." By my second, I pointed out the policy of getting rid of a dangerous enemy. There is no *third* way."

The native party, in their treatment of foreigners, are like the Roman general. They will not receive them as friends and equals; they will not drive them from our shores as enemies—they only make them pass under the yoke; they subject them to indignities, and create invidious distinctions. This is the sure plan to unite in one solid mass of hostility all the discordant elements of our foreign population.

Divide and command, is a maxim by which we might always protect ourselves. But we are not put even to the trouble of dividing. Our foreign population is already divided. Every political opinion has its supporters among them; and every one has its opponents.

What two classes of men can be more different than Irish Catholics and German Turners? Where can we find, among natives, such diversity of creed and character as exists between stern Scotch Presbyterians and the airy French dancing masters?

If you wish all these various races and nations to form a really dangerous and foreign element in society, give them some common cause of grievance, make them feel that they are common sufferers, and they will combine to secure a common remedy. Then, there will be secret foreign clubs and foreign orders; inflammatory appeals, riots and bloodshed Then, we may discover, too late, that we have evoked a demon, who will not down at our bidding, and who is gifted with more than mortal power of doing mischief.

Mercantile Credit.

The following paragraph from a financial article of the New York *Herald*, is worth pondering:

A false friend in the ordinary walks of life is more to be dreaded than an open enemy; but in business, where the credit, the creation of a life spent in toil and anxiety, is at stake, a false friend may ruin any man. Every one engaged in mercantile pursuits is immediately interested in this matter, and such precautions should be taken as will remove all from the tender mercies of unprincipled agents. Competition in business destroys in small minds that nice sense of honor so necessary to sustain confidence, and leads men into the practice of the meanest and most contemptible acts, such a thimble-rigger or pickpocket would indignantly repudiate. Men of comprehensive minds take a more enlarged view of things. They entertain no petty jealousies, but on the contrary are at all times willing to aid and sustain a brother merchant, instead of secretly plotting his downfall and ruin.

☞ Mr. John Mitchel, President of the Evansville Branch Bank, still lies very dangerously ill.

The Four Points.

Our readers will find below the Four Points, which have been so much talked and written about of late. They were agreed upon about the last of December, by France, England and Austria, dragnted by the French Minister at Vienna, and submitted to the Russian Minister, GORYSCHAKOFF, "not as an official document, but to be used as an *aide-memoire*," which means that they are to be regarded as a general sort of a platform on which the Allies are willing to treat, subject, however, to such modifications and alterations as may appear to them to be desirable and reasonable. The CZAR will certainly not accept them in their present form, until he has been pretty well drubbed; nor does it appear to us that England and France have yet achieved anything against him to entitle them to ask so much—not more than is right and proper, perhaps—for the protection of Turkey, but more than they can expect to get, unless they take Sebastopol, for so far they have been decidedly worsted, and although all the advantages gained by Nicholas are of a negative kind, still they have been valuable to him and very injurious to his antagonists. These, since the declaration of war, have sent to the East about one hundred and seventy thousand soldiers, of which not less than fifteen thousand have died of the cholera, and not less than twenty-five thousand have died in battle, of wounds, and of all kinds of diseases. Nor can they muster now in the Crimea more than ninety thousand. So that the war, as regards the *personnel* of the army, has been a most absorbing one, and as regards the *materiel* not less so; for already very little less than $150,000,000 have been expended, exclusive of what Turkey has paid, and promised to pay. The London *Times* says, at the end of a year's war England will be minus on account of it about twenty millions sterling, and France will have expended not less, probably. It would be a pretty fair calculation to assume, that so far, the war has cost the Allies twice as many men, and twice as much money as it has cost Nicholas; and this is taking a very favorable view of it for them. England, if she has not lost her army, will get it back so cut up, and wasted, and worn, that an entire loss would not be much more disastrous:

THE FOUR POINTS.

"For the purpose of fixing the sense which their Governments attach to each of the principles contained in the four articles, but reserving to themselves, as they have always hitherto done, the power subsequently to make such special stipulations as appear to them demanded by the genral interests of Europe, over and above the four guarantees, for the prevention of the return of the late complications, the Plenipotentiaries of Austria, France, and Great Britain, declare that—

"1. Their Governments are jointly of opinion, that it is necessary to abolish the exclusive protectorate which Russia has exercised over Moldavia, Wallachia, and Servia, and from henceforth to place the privileges accorded by the Sultans to these Principalities, which form part of their territories, under the joint guarantee of the Five Powers; and that they (the Governments) have, therefore, considered, and do consider, that none of the stipulations of the old treaties of Russia with the Porte, having reference to the said provinces, can, at the conclusion of a peace, be put again into force; and that the arrangements which have to be made in reference to them, must in future be combined in such a way as to afford perfect and entire consideration for the rights of the Sovereign Power, those of the three Principalities, and the general interests of Europe.

"2. In order to give to the freedom of the navigation of the Danube all the development of which it is susceptible, it would be expedient that the lower portion of the Danube, from that point where it becomes common to the two littoral States, should be withdrawn from the territorial dominion that exists in virtue of article three of the peace of Adrianople.

"At any rate the free navigation of the Danube would not be secured if it were not placed under the *surveillance* of a syndical board that should be invested with the necessary powers for the purposes of getting rid of the obstructions which at present exists at the mouths of this stream, or which may at a future time be formed there.

"3. The revision of the treaty of July 13, 1841, shall have for its object to connect the existence of the Ottoman Empire more closely with the balance of power in Europe, and to put an end to the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea. The measures to be taken in reference to this end depend too directly on the contingencies of war for their basis to be laid down as yet. It is sufficient to indicate the principle that is to guide them.

"4. Russia, in renouncing the claim to extend an official protectorate over the Sultan's Christian subjects, who belong to the Oriental *ritus*, naturally renounces the revival of any article of her former treaties, and more particularly of the treaty of Kutschuk Kainardji, the erroneous interpretation of which has been the main cause of the present war.—While they, (the Governments) extend each other their mutual coöperation for the purpose of obtaining from the initiative of the Ottoman Government the recognition and observance of the religious privileges of the various Christian communities without distinction of rite, and while they jointly avail themselves, in the generous intentions proclaimed by His Majesty the Sultan with reference to them, they will take the greatest care to protect the dignity of His Highness, and the independence of his crown from every encroachment.

Suggestions about Poland.

In the last number of the North British Review are some interesting speculations on the condition and prospects of Europe. We give an extract relating to Poland which contains two important ideas—

1. That the Poles are incapable of forming a government for themselves.

2. That Austria is thinking of the resuscitation of Poland.

We hate to entertain the thought that the gallant Poles have so little nationality, and are so humiliated, as not to be able to take care of themselves, even if external pressure was removed. And yet it *may* be true.

"'If,' said I, 'we reconstruct Poland, what do you propose as its limits?'"

"'Precisely the limits,' they answered, 'such as they were before the first partition. All that is within that frontier still remains Polish in recollections and feelings. You must give them a king and a constitution; but beware how you consult the Poles as to either. They will be acquiesced in if they are imposed by an external force; but we could not agree on them. Beware, too, how you select a Pole for our king. There is no great family that has not far more enemies than friends. You must give us a foreigner: and, unless you give us back our old royal family of Saxony, he must be an Englishman or a Frenchman. We are jealous of the Germans, and we despise all the weaker nations. We should be ashamed to be governed by a Spaniard, or an Italian, or a Belgian, and not be proud of a Dutchman, or a Dane, or a Swede; but we would willingly take our king from France or from England."

"'I have reason to believe,' said Shanowski, 'that Austria is thinking seriously of the resuscitation of Poland. Ever since she joined in destroying that barrier, she has felt Russia pressing more and more heavily on her. It is said, too, that the reconstruction of Poland is one of the threats held out by Russia to Prussia. It is possible that both Austria and Russia feel that their Polish provinces are now sources of danger and weakness, and that either of them will make a good exchange, if she can substitute for them a separate kingdom, owing to her its existence, and relying on her for support. The advantage of such a move would, of course, rest with the sovereign that began it. A quasi-independent Poland, created by Russia out of her own, the Prussian, and the Austrian Polish dominions, and governed by her nominee, would be more valuable to her, and more dangerous to the German powers, than even her possession of the Principalities. Such a kingdom created out of the same materials, but by Austria and Prussia, would weaken Russia more than any injury that we can inflict on her in the south."

Present Condition of the Turks.

We extract from the number of the Edinburg *Review*, Lord CARLISLE's melancholy but truthful picture:

"Among the lower order of the people, there is considerable simplicity and loyalty of character, and a fair disposition to be obliging and friendly.

Among those who emerge from the mass, and have the opportunities of helping themselves to the good things of the world, the exceptions from thorough-paced corruption and extortion are most rare; and in the whole conduct of public business and routine of official life, under much apparrent courtesy and undeviating good breeding, a spirit of servility, detraction, and vi ictiveness appears constantly at work. The bulk of the people is incredibly uninformed and ignorant: I am told that now they fully believe that the French and English fleets have come in the pay of the Sultan; and when the Austrian special mission of Count Leningen arrived in the early part of this year, and led, by the way, to much of what has since occurred, they were persuaded that its object was to obtain the permission of the Sultan to the young Emperor to wear his crown. Upon the state of morals, I debar myself from entering. Perhaps the most fatal, if not the most faulty bar to national progress, is the incredible indolence which prevades every class alike, from the Pascha, puffing his perfumed narghilé in his laticed kiosk on the Bosphorus, to the man in the ragged turban who sits cross-legged with his unadorned tehibonque in front of a mouldy coffee-shop in the meanest village. In fact, the conversation of every man whom I meet, who is well-informed on the state of the population, with very few exceptions, might be taken down as an illustration, often very unconsciously on their part, of the sense usually assigned to the prediction in the Apocalypse of the waters of the Euphrates being dried up.

On the continent, in the islands, it is the Greek peasant who works, and rises; the Turk reclines, smokes his pipe, and decays. The Greek village increases its population, and teems with children; in the Turkish village you find roofless walls and crumbling mosques. Statesmen who do not see these matters with their own eyes, if told of the rotten state of the Ottoman Empire, are apt to say, they do not at all precieve that:—this Prussian General inspected their army the other day, and was highly pleased with its efficiency; this English Captain went on board their fleet, and saw them work their guns, and said that it could not be better done in any English ship, Their military hospitals are perfect models of arrangement and good order. I believe all this to be true, and I can will conceive that in one or two campaigns, on a first great outburst, the Turks might be victorious over their Russian opponents; but, when you leave the partial splendors of the capital and the great state establishments, what is it you find over broad surface of a land which nature and climate have favored beyond all others, once the home of all art and all civilization? Look yourself—ask those who live there—deserted villages, uncultivated plains, banditti-haunted mountains, torpid laws, a corrupt administration, a disappearing people." (Pp. 182–184.)

The new Czar and the War.

The intelligent writer on Russian affairs in the *New York Tribune*, gives us the following:

The new Czar was born on the 29th of April, 1818, and accordingly is nearly thirty-seven. If not of extraordinary abilities, he possesses fair capacity and intellect. If not gifted with the iron will of his father, and if marked by a certain mildness of temper, he has exibited more than once considerable energy. He has a poetical and chivalrous turn of mind, and is Russian to the core. Years ago, he urged the use of the Russian language at Court, instead of French. As Grand Duke, he was always kindly to any pure, genuine, Russian development in literature and policy. Some ten years ago, he insisted strongly on the propagation of the Russo-Greek creed among the Protestant Finns, Esthonians, and other tribes forming the peasantry in the Baltic provinces.

It is scarcely to be supposed that he will make any changes among the highest dignitaries of the empire. Such things will come by-and-by, as for some time past he has had a small court and a knot of favorites around him. Prominent among these is Prince Bartyatynsky, who last year distinguished himself in Asia against the Turks and the Circasian Shamyl. This prince is a proud, haughty, ambitious Russian. He spent a great deal of his youth in Vienna, and it is possible he may be sent thither under some pretext—to control the action of the Russian Legation at the approaching conference.

Could it be admitted that the war, at the start, had not the approval of the new Emperor, he will feel it necessary to prosecute it vigorously, unless a peace, acceptable to Russia, can be obtained. In honor of the memory of his father, whom he loved devotedly, and to whom he looked with deep deference, he will so act. He was always treated by the deceased Czar with the utmost fondness—always as the most confidential friend, and as his successor. For about eighteen years the Grand Duke has been habitually present at Cabinet meetings, giving his opinion and sharing with his father the thorny and heavy burdens of absolute power. It was the aim of the late Emperor to fit his son to sway the Imperial scepter, and not allow him to be taken unawares in his new position. Alexander II, therefore, ascends the throne not as a mere novice, but wholly aware of the great task before him. If so disposed, he could not at once change the policy of the Empire. The late Czar, idolized as he was, by the Russian people, will now be looked upon as a kind of martyr to the strong and wide coalition against him, and his sudden death will, in our view, lend fresh fuel to the warlike flame. In this point of view, the death of Nicholas creates no new probability of peace, nor renders it possible to count on any concession to the Allies which he would not have made.

Another probability which merits consideration, is that the King of Prussia, the uncle of the new Czar, with the Prussian Court, and the officers of the army, and of course, what is called politically the Russian party at Berlin, moved by the sentiment of so-called chivalrous honor, will not desert the young Autocrat Indeed, they will be likely to espouse his cause more decidedly. Nor should we be astonished to hear that Francis Joseph, moved by common courtesy, should mediate for an armistice, to give time to the new sovereign to assume his royal charge, to ascertian his position and decide on his policy. That such a demand, made by Austria, and backed by Prussia, would be acceded to by the English Cabinet at least, is probable. Out of this might arise an interruption in the fighting in the Crimea, as well as a delay in the negotiations for peace. It would, however, be premature to deduce from the death of Nicholas any considerable addition to the chances of a speedy termination of the war.

WHAT ALL BOYS MAY COME TO.—The Boston *Post* reports a speech lately made by one of the new Know-Nothing Councillors of Massachusetts, during an official visit to the Alms-house, at East Bridgewater. The *Post* observes, "it stirs the blood like a toddy stick;"

"Boys! I want you all to look at me. Look directly at me, for I am going to say something to you. How many of you would like to be members of the Governor's Council? Now, if you will only do what is right, at all times, and never steal, nor lie, nor swear, you may all rise, some day, to eminent stations. I was once a poor boy myself, but I always calculated to do what was right. I never would steal, or lie, or use bad language. I was apprenticed in my youth, but have now become one of the Governor's Council! Now, boys, never let me hear of your doing anything wrong. Always do what is right; never cheat, or steal, or lie, or swear, and you may become a great man."

☞ One of the strongest opponents of the temperance bill in the Senate, was Col. Drew, of Evansville. The *Journal*, of that city, says he has been for years a retailer of spirituous liquors.—*Prese.*

Colonel Drew did oppose the Temperance Bill in the Senate, but he is in no wise engaged in the liquor business in Evansville or any other place. This is one of the modes adopted by an irresponsible press of manufacturing opinion and injuring men.—*Brookville Democrat.*

☞ JACOB STEVENS was arrested by officer WRIGHT, for intoxication. Fined $3 and costs.

[Written for the Indiana State Sentinel.]

HOPE IN WINTER.

BY WM. H. HOLCOMBE.

As those, who, wintering in the Arctic seas
Look round them vainly for the cheering sun,
Gone, but not lost, behind their Southern hills,
And in the gleaming snows, auroral lights
And coruscations of the cloudless sky,
Discern memorials of the living fire
Of heaven and prophecies of its return;
So we, in thankfulness and patient hope,
Standing on Winter's melancholy waste,
The unurned ashes of the year, have glimpse
Of blessings, beauties, glories which have been
And are again to be.

How dark and cold,
How desolate and foreboding are the forms
Which Winter's touch impresses on the world!
The stately trees, a troup of skeletons,
Tower in the gloom and wave their naked arms
Complainingly to the sky. With tinkling sound
The ghostly echo of its summer laugh,
The brook goes stealing through its frosted banks,
Or, chilled by north-wind-kisses to repose,
Lies white and silent as a water-nymph,
Outstretched and in the moonlight fallen asleep.
All things bear token of decay or death,
As if our world receded from the sun,
And from the lambent sphere of life and love,
Into the fathomless and frozen void,
And might, perchance, become a wandering globe,
A chaos habited by glimmering shapes,
Where fire had lost its heat, and light and shade,
Where sounds were echoes only, and the souls
Of living men were ghosts, and thoughts were dreams,
And Life a picture which but seemed to live.

But lo!—at signal given by Him, to whom
The axial lines round which the stars revolve,
Are merely threads His mighty hand has woven
Into the wood of nature—lo! it turns,
And like the homeward-bending prodigal
It nears the radiant palace of the sun,
To be re-welcomed with paternal kiss,
Re-clad in gold and purple, re-illumed
With light and love and joy!

Whoever sat,
Contemplating on solitary hills,
Beneath a canopy of cold gray cloud
Manifed 'gainst northern winds, and never felt
The holy presence of invisible powers,
Nor could distinguish, with attentive ear,
Voices on either hand? From deep ravines,
Fainter than rustling of their own dry leaves,
Come the last quavers of the harvest song,
Which Autumn reapers sang 'mid their fields
Golden with sunlight, while from greenest meads
And azure vistas, shadowy, re-woke,
The fairy bugle of the frolic Spring,
Calling the bright-eyed flowers around her feet,
Echoes like water rippling in a dream.

Thus oscillates the mighty weight of Time,
Fowards and backwards, on our human heads,
Counting our lives out with its solemn beat,
A pendulum of Memory and Hope,
That links the Future sweetly to the Past,
And on the Present sheds the joy of both.

NATCHEZ, Miss.

*[We take the liberty of saying that the following eloquent essay is from the pen of a distinguished jurist.—EDS. SENTINEL.]

For the Indiana State Sentinel.

The Bible.

At no period in our history, have party issues of greater magnitude, divided the opinions or excited the passions of our people: but there are questions of still wider and more enduring interest upon which no public journal can give forth a feeble or uncertain sound, without being false to God, our country, and to truth.

History has been compared to the lights in the stern of a vessel, which only illuminate the track over which she has passed. Whatever may be thought of the general accuracy of this illustration, there is one point upon which all candid and intelligent men must admit that history sheds a broad and unchanging testimony. However dubious may be her oracles on other subjects, there is no mistaking the lesson which she teaches, as to the connection between virtue and freedom. COLERIDGE never uttered a profounder truth, than when he thus moralized, in his ode on France, written amid the throes of her revolution:

"The Sensual and the Dark rebel in vain,
Slaves by their own compulsion; In mad game
They burst their manacles, and wear the name
Of Freedom, graven on a heavier chain!"

The friends of the Bible may claim as natural allies, all to whom the interests of liberty, learning or virtue are dear, all the statesmen and scholars, the patriots and philanthropists of the land. All the study and experience of the wise and good must increase their sense of the value of the Bible; a volume which comes recommended to them by all that is awful in authority, venerable in wisdom, or touching in goodness; a volume which embraces infinite being within the range of its truths, and pours through every department of life the streams of its consolations; a volume which, replete with the precepts of morality and the lessons of wisdom, has every where invigorated the energies, ennobled the feelings, and elevated the pursuits of man; which increasing the sources of individual happiness, quickening the pulse of social life, and strengthening the foundations of national security, has extended its fostering care to every institution on which the hopes of humanity repose; which like the alchemy of Medea that caused the dry and barren earth to gleam with the verdure and flowers of spring, has reclaimed society from ignorance, superstition and crime, and by its influence upon the refinement of manners, the amelioration of law, the correction of practical errors in government, the purity, dignity and beauty of literature, and the general progress of truth, has immeasurably enhanced the grace, comfort and glory of human life.

One of the most obvious benefits resulting from the circulation of the Bible, is the amount of useful knowledge which it diffuses throughout the community. It is not pretended that the Bible furnishes that practical information concerning the laws, and institutions of the country which is necessary to qualify the citizen for the discharge of his civil duties.

But if the Bible does not in itself furnish a system of popular education, it is peculiarly fitted to form the best introduction to one. How often has the infant prattle been hushed by its simple eloquence and natural pathos? Thus, while its grander themes require the highest exercises of reflection, it imparts a variety of pleasing knowledge level to the meanest capacity, and by exciting the feelings and stimulating the thinking faculties, gradually unfolds the powers of the mind. The Old Testament is a national literature in itself. It contains every form of composition which has been vivified by the breath of genius. The power of imagination, splendor of language, tenderness of sentiment, and elegance of imagery which distinguish its Poetry, have made it the favorite study of scholors, the most distinguished for their taste and genius. How strikingly beautiful is that Parallism, peculiar to Hebrew Literature! "Its amplifications of a given thought are like the echoes of a solemn melody; its repetition of it like the landscape reflected in the stream. In thus repeating the same idea in different words, the Hebrew muse seems as if displaying a fine Opal in which we discover fresh beauties in every new light to which it is turned." Take up its Proverbs and Maxims, and who can help admiring their original and practical thought; their airy sarcasm and caustic satire, their felicitous phrase and sententious wisdom. They are replete with wit, learing and genius. Look at its history, and we find it free from the frivolous anecdote, the absurd fable, the vulgar superstition which digust us, in other compositions of a rude age. Its narrative is as minute as the chronicles of FROISSART, as poetic as the staves of an old ballad, and luminous on every page with the presence of God, and the designs of his Providence. There is no other history so unaffected, yet so full of dignity, so rich in poetry, yet so simple in style, so affecting in its pathetic recitals, yet so vivid and powerful in its grand and terrific scenes.

There is one striking fact connected with the composition of the Bible, which impresses upon it, a character peculiar to itself. It is a book which some forty writers, poets, prophets, kings, judges, statesmen and heroes of every degree of cultivation, and in every stage of society, living through the course of fifteen centuries, and distributed over the ancient world, from the idolatrous banks of Chebar to metropolitan Rome, have concurred to make. Hence their writings present us with the longest, most varied, and instructive record of man, under all the lights and shadowns of his existence, to which the student can resort. It is from this great number of facts, images, sentiments and reflections, this cosmopolitan cast of the Bible, connected with the fact that it was not the work of a critical or analytic age, that it excels other books in its tendency to excite intellectual inquiry and elicit profound emotion. We are apt to estimate the value of a book in a system of education by very false standards. It is not the book in which all the results of knowledge in a particular department, have been elaborately wrought up by a great thinker, so as to be immediately available for the purposes of practical instruction, which is most valuable in education. A stream of ideas may be thus poured into the mind, of which however it will be as speedily emptied. The stimulus administered to the fancy and the reason, is so gentle, that these powers are not called into active play. The Bible is a book of on opposite character. It brings the world home to a man, supplies him with the scenes, the thoughts, and the characters, which travel and experience would furnish, but leaves him to discipline his faculties by weaving out of the material thus collected, his own intellectual garniture.

The Bible also contains a code of morals, the most perfect in theory and operative in practice which has been ever discovered. History teaches no truth with more startling distictness, than the necessity of an authoritative system of morals to the perpetuity of government. Sociey cannot exist except in a savage state, without the cohesive power of religion. Why did the ancient republics melt, like the icicle even in the ray in which they glittered? The debasement of the ancient spirit was not only owing to the luxurious habits which followed foreign conquest but to those advances in knowledge and phylosophy, which reduced the national religion to a shadow and thus robbed it of its authority, over the conscience. The Bible excels all other systems both in the purity of its precepts and the sanctions which attend them. It not only commends "whatever is honest, just, true, lovely and of good report," but it speaks in the tone of authority, and with the voice of law giver. It commands attention by the majesty of its claims, and enforces obedinence by the rewards which it promises to virtue, and retributions which it assures us, will follow vice.

Even the sceptic who denies the validity of its claims, acknowledges its precepts to be worthy of a God. Examine for a moment, the ten commandments. It can be shown by the testimony of profane historians, that the Decalogue must have been delivered to the Isrealites, nine hundred years before any of the early systems of morals, such that of Confucius or Zaheucus or Pythogora were published. And yet the contrast between the Decalogues and these early philosophies is as great as that between the sun, and the broken and glimmering fragments of his glorious image that are reflected in the running stream. The Decalogue was not only in immeasurable advance of the age in which it was delivered, but it still remains after the lapse of more than three thousand years, a faultless and unapproachable model of excellence, so simple that the most unlettered can understand it, so concise that the most stupid can remember it, so comprehensive that human wisdom can not add another precept to its code of duty, so practical that it comes home to the business and bosoms of men, in every relation of life, and under every form of society, so pure that the criticism of all time has been unable to detect in it, any alloy of human prejudice, or passion.

But the Bible has contributed most largely to the amelioration of society, by the dignity and grandeur with which its revelations have invested *human nature*. Intellectual illumination, moral reconstruction, civil, social and religious freedom are seen to be proper and necessary means of making secure his title to a bright reversion in the sky. It is to the Bible that we owe our free institutions. It is the concurring testimony of all historians that English liberty was born in religious excitement; the great struggle in which the oppressive prerogatives of the crown were restricted, and the rights of Englishmen unalterably established, was emphatically a religious struggle. At the birth of Christ, there was not in the whole Roman empire, a single benevolent society. Human nature wasted its entire energies in a selfish pursuit of wealth power or pleasure. That event introduced a eligion which, (in the language of one of its eloquent champions) proclaimed to its followers, that whilst the passion *of some* might be to shine, of some to govern, and of others to accumulate, one great passion should alone inflame their breasts, a passion which reason ratifies, which conscience approves, which heaven inspires of being and doing good. Under the train of ameliorating influences this awakened, the institution of marriage with all the sweet charities that nestle in its bosom has been rendered sacred, the fetters of slavery have been broken or lightened, the horrors of war mitigated, the restraints of law imposed upon rulers, the administration of justice tempered with mercy, and all the arts which relieve the distress, multiply the comforts, refine the pleasures, and ennoble the duties of man, warmed into life.

☞ The Terre Haute *American* thus speaks of A. B. CARLTON, editor of the Bloomington *News Letter*, and Prosecutor in the Terre Haute District. The compliment is a merited one:

"We learn that A. B. Carlton, Esq., makes an excellent Prosecutor; attends to the interests of the State promptly and efficiently; rendering ample justice and assistance in every case in which he has been concerned.—We are pleased to note this fact. Much depends upon this officer; and too often have incompetent and inefficient officers been chosen to fill the post which Mr. C. now occupied with so much credit and honor to himself and the State."

ILLINOIS ALL RIGHT.—We are requested to say that Governor Mattison, of Illinois, now in this city, has received full security for the amount of land and surplus funds, and also a sufficient amount of the interest fund in the hands of Wadsworth and Sheldon, at the time of their failure, to enable the Treasurer of Illinois, with other provisions made by the late Legislature, to pay the January interest deferred by the failure of Wadsworth and Sheldon, at the time the next July interest is paid. The balance of interest found in the hands of Wadsworth and Sheldon is amply secured to the State by the sureties, and the preference made in the assignment of Wadsworth and Sheldon. Arrangements have been made with the American Exchange Bank to act as transfer agent for the State of Illinois.—*Journal of Commerce.*

☞ We regret to learn, says the Brookville *Democrat*, that our young friend, N. S. BYRAM, Esq., so long known as one of the necessary appendages about the "Old White Corner," leaves on Monday next, to take up his quarters at the reputable house of TOUSEY & EDDY, at Indianapolis. That firm have done well in securing the services of Mr. BYRAM, for with a good knowledge of book-keeping he combines the good quality of being an excellent salesman. The fact is, he is at home any where you put him. To our friends at Indianapolis, we can cheerfully recommend him as a young man of taste and discernment, and is therefore bound to shine.

Details of the Foreign News by the Pacific.

Distress of the Working men in England—Serious Riots at Liverpool—Attack on the Markets—Capture of Prisoners—Reports from Birmingham and Manchester—Quiet Restored.

Destitution in England had almost reached its height. From the combined causes of an unusually severe winter, unusually dear prices for all descriptions of provisions, and a total stagnation of trade, the poor are in a deplorable state. Many thousand laborers have been, for weeks, without food, excepting the supplies of charity.

In Liverpool the times have been peculiarly severe, in consequence of the frost having stopped the extensive building works, and from the continuance of easterly winds having prevented the arrival of American shipping. The absence of shipping, alone, deprived nearly 5,000 dock laborers and porters of work, and of all descriptions of laborers there were not fewer than 18,000 men destitute of employment. Considering the number of helpless women and children dependent on these men, this presents a terrible amount of suffering. Our correspondent describes it as pitiable to see hundreds of poor fellows idling around the Exchange, in hopes of obtaining a "chance job." Considerable liberality has been displayed by the citizens, and about £3,000 were subscribed. Relief stores were opened in various parts of the town, and tickets entitling the bearer to bread and coals were freely distributed. The conduct of the unemployed was, almost without exception, peaceable and praiseworthy, although want was so great that instances had occurred where men actually tainted from hunger, and fell on the street. The bulk of these really industrious classes bore up bravely, in the hope of an early return to labor. However, on Tuesday, the 20th, great agitation was observable in the Scotland Road, one of the lowest and most disreputable quarters of the town. By degrees the excitement swelled into the dimensions of a riot. Bands of the discontented marched out into various parts of the town and caused the greatest consternation to the citizens. The stores along the principal thoroughfares were immediately closed—the jewellers and silversmiths first, next the cutlers and gunsmiths, and finally the entire trade of the