

Hon. Ezra Hunt.

The name of this gentleman has frequently been mentioned, of late, in private circles, as well as in the public prints, in connection with a nomination to Congress from this State. At a public meeting of the Democracy of St. Charles' County, he was regularly brought before the people, and the Delegates from that County instructed to urge his claims before the Convention. And we have no hesitation in stating that he would have been the choice of much the largest portion of the Democracy in this section of the State, if he had not uniformly declared his determination not to permit his name to be used in this connexion. In this resolution he remains inflexible; and, grateful as he no doubt is for the kind partiality of his numerous friends, he prefers, as yet, to wear the Judicial ermine to enter upon the stormy life of a politician. This determination of Judge Hunt is unfortunate for the interests of the State and of the Democratic party. He is just such a man the people should delight to honor. Uncompromising in his principles, possessed of a strong and capacious intellect, highly cultivated by reading and reflection, and of a sense of honor, that scorns every thing that is dishonorable; he is just such a man as the people need to represent them. He possesses another recommendation, which should be the more highly prized for its scarcity—he is no office-seeker. He would accept of no office which requires any species of electioneering, or intriguing to obtain. He would be the last man to urge his own claims to office, in person, or through the agency of friends. If his character as a man, and his talents and services as a politician, were not enough of themselves to win the esteem and confidence of the people, he would not be found enlightening them as to his merits or his services, or attempting to influence them in his favor. To enter into any bargain or intrigue for office, to proclaim to the people what he has done and suffered for the party, would (in his view) be but to show his utter want of qualification for the post, and to convince them of that, all his Democracy might be summed up in one word—selfishness.

The True Secret.

The question which we put last week to those interested in the Town of Louisiana, is in part answered by the following article from that interesting and sprightly paper, the "Hannibal Journal." We hope that they will read it attentively, and ponder over its contents; and they need not devote their money, their time, or their energies, to remove the County Seat from this place, in order to make their town a place of considerable importance.

"Until the fall of 1840, the business of this place was pretty much the same as that of the surrounding towns. The stocks of goods were laid in once or twice a year, and sold out to the few regular customers living in the vicinity, and of course, at what are usually esteemed 'fair living profits,' by all retailers. All parties, the merchants and the consumers, were satisfied, and the trade was gradually but slowly increasing.—About that time some of our merchants made a bold effort to attract the trade from a greater distance—and to effect this, they commenced selling their goods at very low prices for cash, lower even than those of St. Louis. This they could well afford to do, as their expenses generally were far below those of that city. They also determined to buy the produce of the country, of every description, and to pay the highest market prices for it.

An improvement was immediately apparent in the trade. The news of the 'great bargains in Hannibal,' spread like wildfire, far and wide—every day, buyers, who had never been here before, made their appearance in the market, and these, on their return home, showed their purchases and induced their neighbors to come. In this way our town has acquired a celebrity in a few months, which it can never be deprived of, and which we think has laid the foundation of its commercial prosperity."

Here is the true secret of the growth and prosperity of Hannibal. Its local advantages are but little if any superior to those of Louisiana. The latter place is a much handsomer and better site for a Town, and ought to attract the trade of a large portion of this County,—a portion of Lincoln, Montgomery, Callaway, Audrain & Ralls,—a section of country, filled up with industrious farmers, producing annually a large surplus of hemp, tobacco, pork, beef, and grain of all sorts. Hannibal too, has had to contend with Palmyra—where there is now, and for many years has been, strong competition, in all departments of business. And without any desire to have the County Seat of Marion removed, she has been steadily and rapidly improving for the last two or three years. It can only be accounted for upon the ground which is stated in the above extract. Large sales for cash and small profits, and a determination to buy every thing the farmer has to sell, at fair prices, has done for Hannibal, what the same mode of doing business, will do for Louisiana, or any other point having similar advantages. Let every merchant in Louisiana adopt this course, and let it be known, and they need not trouble themselves about removing the County Seat to Louisiana. We saw last fall two or three farmers, from the upper part of this County, wagoning their wheat to Hannibal. Why was this? Two reasons may be assigned for it—one, that wheat was worth a few cents more in Hannibal than at Louisiana; but a stronger one was, that they

could purchase their winter supplies from 15 to 40 per cent. cheaper in Hannibal than in the latter place. The merchant who sells for cash, can afford to sell for that much less, than he who sells on a credit of one and two years, and then may not collect his money for as much longer. It requires no argument to prove this—it is a common sense proposition, that is evident to the meanest understanding. We have not done with this subject—more of it at another time.

Our Proposition.

The proposition we made in the last week's "Radical," has been well received by all from whom we have heard an expression of opinion. Every one who knows any thing of the state of affairs in this County, cannot fail to have seen the necessity of resorting to some such mode, to prevent a total alienation of feeling among our friends. The one recommended cannot be objected to. The whole County may be here, if they desire, and express their opinions freely and publicly. If we have no one in Pike County suitable to represent us, we may go to other Counties and select some other man, and instruct our delegates to urge his claims before the Convention. This will place the delegates in a far more agreeable position, than to be left in the dark as to the will of the people they represent. We have before us a letter from one of them in which he says: "I notice with much pleasure your proposition in the last 'Radical,' for arriving at a correct knowledge of public preference between the two gentlemen in this County, who are spoken of as candidates for Congress. As a member of the Democratic party, and of the delegation from this County, I am gratified to perceive that there is a prospect of adjusting this delicate question in an amicable and satisfactory manner."

Besides, it will be a very favorable occasion for our friends from the different portions of the County, to consult with each other, as to selecting suitable County candidates. We have a Senator, two Representatives, three County Court Judges, a Sheriff, and an Assessor, to elect, besides Members of Congress. Let our friends then, one and all, meet on the Eighth of January next, and freely and openly express their wishes upon the subject of the Congressional nomination, and consult among themselves as to the most suitable persons to be run on the Democratic ticket at the next general election.

The Right Spirit.

Alabama and South Carolina will reject the share of the Proceeds of the Public Lands, going to them under the late Act. Resolutions to that effect have been introduced in the Legislature of both States, and the Governor of the latter State, warmly recommends such a course in his annual message. We do not doubt but that Missouri will follow their noble example. Honor,—interest, fidelity to the Constitution—to principle, every motive of patriotism, conspire to induce Democratic Missouri to reject the proffered bribe. It is the germ of a public debt—high taxes, and wasteful prodigality in the public expenditures; and though we may be poor and in debt, we hope our State will exhibit the moral sublime of a whole party, spurning the degrading offer, and clinging with firmness and resolution to their long cherished principles.

Illinois.

The people of Illinois are beginning to see that the Banks have been permitted to do as they please long enough. They are calling aloud for a resumption of specie payments by these institutions. The following is a resolution passed at a late meeting of the citizens of Madison county:

Resolved, That in our opinion, Justice, as well as Honesty, demands that the State Bank of Illinois should be compelled to resume specie payments at an early day, or be prohibited from oppressing the people of this State, by suits of law for the collection of their debts, while they peremptorily refuse to pay their own, or to extend any facilities whatever to the public.

A correspondent of the Boonslick Democrat, who served as Senator from one of the Western counties during the last session of the legislature, deals some pretty severe blows upon the head of Major McDaniel of Marion. He gives an account of the Major's movements at Jefferson last winter, and intimates that there is something behind the curtain still worse. For ourselves we have heard different accounts of this Bank affair, and we should like to know the whole truth about it. The same writer says that the Democrats made no nominations for congress during the last session. He and Mr. Wright are at issue on this point.

The Division of the Whigs for the sake of the Union.

The Hon. F. Mallory, of Va., was lately invited to a dinner given to his colleague, Mr. Gilmer, by the citizens of Nelson and Albemarle counties. His letter declining the invitation, contains the following wholesome truths. So much for the Harrisburg nominees keeping mum and concealing from the people their true principles:

"Federalism is at last unmasked, and the true issue is now before the country. The real question to be decided, is whether the General Government shall be administered according to the doctrines of the Hamilton or Jefferson school.—This cannot with truth be denied, or if denied it cannot be concealed from the people, and how they will decide the recent elections plainly indicate. A just punishment awaits these 'patriotic

leaders" (as their devoted followers style them) who have attempted to build up a standard of faith for the Whig party different from the promises and pledges which elevated Gen. Harrison to the Presidency. If the measures passed at the late Session of Congress with such indecent haste, truly represent the designs of the party which succeeded to power, I can only say here what I have said elsewhere, that I for one was deceived by them and was the cause of deceiving others, for I held out in my addresses to the people during the late campaign a very different prospect from that of a National Bank, a Public Debt—the plundering of our Treasury and a high protective Tariff. Let what will come, I intend to adhere to the old republican creed and extend the right hand of fellowship to all of the same faith not stopping to enquire what may have been our former differences of opinion as to men or measures of administrative policy."

Bowling Green Lyceum.

This youthful institution we perceive is still in the full tide of successful experiment. The debates heretofore have been exciting and quite interesting. We are highly pleased as to the principles they have adopted in regard to the selection of questions for discussion. Repudiating all subjects of a light or trivial character, they have universally chosen such only from which light and knowledge could be derived. The highly important and interesting question "Is man morally bound to abstain from all intoxicating drinks?" has been selected for discussion upon Friday night the 7th of January. It is a question long mooted and warmly contested, and will no doubt call forth the latent sparks of genius from many of the members. We understand the following gentlemen were selected as principals in the debate: Geo. B. Crane and B. T. Coalter in the affirmative, and Judge Hunt and N. P. Minor in the negative. A general invitation is tendered to all.—[Olive Branch.

Owing to indisposition of the President of the Bowling Green Lyceum, the meeting advertised in the "Olive Branch" to be held on Friday the 24th inst., is postponed until Friday the 7th of January, 6 o'clock P. M.

The steam Ferry Boat at St. Charles was blown up, on the 7th inst. A Mr. Bell, a respectable citizen of Gasconade was so badly mangled by the explosion, that he died in a few hours. Several other persons were more or less injured. No censure is attached to any of the hands, or the manager of the boat.

VIRGINIA ELECTION.—The Fredericksburg Arena, says that sufficient returns have been received to leave no doubt that William Smith has been elected to Congress in the Culpepper district, over Linn Banks, both democrats.

Frankford Lyceum.

On Monday the 27th inst. the following question will be discussed:

Resolved: "That the late Extra session of Congress resulted advantageously to the Country." Gentlemen of both political parties are invited to participate.

The St. Louis Bulletin says that more than 2000 houses have been erected in that city during the present year.

INVENTION TO WALK ON WATER.—The Prussian government has had its attention drawn to a new and ingenious contrivance for walking on water—an elaborate account of which is given in the Prussian State Gazette. It is the invention of a pioneer at Magdeburg, who on several occasions descended the river with his knapsack and musket, with as much apparent ease as he would travel over a dry road.—Pennsylvanian.

Democratic Meeting in Audrain.

The Democrats of this County held a meeting on the 1st December, at which B. Canterbury, L. T. Musick, W. Pearson, J. Gant, & L. T. Brown, were appointed a committee to draft Resolutions, which were severally adopted. Hon. John Jamison being present, addressed the meeting upon the adoption of a resolution, complimenting his course in Congress and the Legislature. James Jackson & J. Walton, were appointed delegates to the State Convention.

The Eighth of January.

The Democrats of Pike County are earnestly requested to meet at the Court House in Bowling Green, on the 8th day of January 1842, for the purpose of instructing the delegates from this County to the State Convention, for whom they must cast their votes, for a member of Congress from this section of the State. Let no man stay away!

From the Richmond Enquirer.

HON. ISAAC HILL?

If any persons resolutely deny that this man has any "agreeable qualities" on which they can "recreate" themselves by reflection, to such this letter is not addressed. It is not written to challenge discussion, or exasperate foes.

But what is the presumption in this case? Who is Mr. Hill? What has he been?—While I declare no sort of partiality for or against his personal opinions, it is intended that in answering the above questions, the secret of the writer's respect should be told.

Mr. Hill is one of the most striking instances and illustration of persevering self-reliance, and triumph and conquest over obstacles, destined to illuminate the annals of this country. With no patron but poverty,

and no succor but hope—extremely feeble in body, and lame in one limb—the eldest of nine children who, with their afflicted mother, in a great measure dependent on him for support—with little or no education, save what he gleaned by the midnight torch while others slept, he still bated "not a jot of heart or hope," but pressed right on, resolved to find a way to fortune or make one. Though adversity marked him for her own, and thick clustering afflictions crushed his early hopes, still with an indomitable fortitude which has ever characterized his career, he seems at the outset to have said,

"What cannot be avoided, 'Twere childish weakness to lament or fear"

The story of Bunker Hill and the burning of Charlestown, told by those who shared the terrors and the fame, filled his young bosom with patriotism; the hand that moulded his active and tenacious intellect kindled in his soul a burning thirst for knowledge.—While yet in tender youth, and almost too lame to walk, he endured the daily journey of four or five miles on foot, amid the driving storms of the inclement region of the ocean coast, to enjoy the privilege of a district school.

In 1802, Mr. Hill found an opportunity of gratifying his master passion, in becoming an apprentice in a printer's office. Here he was voracious of all knowledge, and industrious in the use of all his time. Having faithfully performed his duties to others and himself, he left his master in April, 1809, the day before he was twenty-one years of age, and came to Concord. The unknown mechanic entered the village he was destined to beautify in more respects than one, with a rustic staff in one hand, and his wealth loosely tied in a bundle in the other. He commenced the New Hampshire Patriot, "two weeks after he became a citizen—was himself the editor—the foreman—printer—the proof reader, the distributor about town.—From an obscure and miscellaneous sheet, in a few years rose to be, probably, the most influential political journal in the country, since one.

The Editor, of course, had no smooth summer voyages to make. The blows fell thick and fast, and he resolutely bared his bosom to them all. He proved to his antagonists, if ever any man did, "that there were blows to give, as well as blows to take," for he did deal round hard knocks with inexhaustible energy. Mr. Hill came fresh from the people; his thoughts were homely and natural; they sprang from his glowing spirit like lava from the bosom of a volcano, and they produced their legitimate effect. The hardy mountaineers became inspired with the oracular issues from the Hill of political wisdom. Copies rapidly multiplied—revolutions of opinion followed, and New Hampshire became, what it has since been called, "Isaac Hill's State." It is useless to disguise the fact—this plain printer—this toil-worn editor—this architect of his own fortune—has been, and is the political idol of this people. He has held every office in their power to bestow. He has been Justice of the Peace, Representative, Clerk of the State Senate, Senator and Governor, by almost unanimous vote. Besides, it is well known that he has been a member of the United States Senate, and has held office under two National Administrations.

It may be asked, how did he win this power? Answer—First, by decision of character. If early circumstances of adversity and native endowment did not generate this noble quality, they certainly nourished it into a stern vigor. It is interesting to think of the germ: the boy orphaned almost of every ray of hope—trembling with exhaustion, by his dim torch-wood light gleaming on the book, scarce seen through tears, not of effeminate weakness, but of heroic ardor, which the long days' pulling at the press, could not quell—to think of that obscure boy's resolve, to plow and sow broad-cast the unploughed mind of the hardy yeomanry of the land!—Who but those like conditioned, can, with the thermometer of their own soul, measure the intensity of patriotic enthusiasm, which prompts such decision, and makes it life's polar light? The mariner still guides his bark by the north star; notwithstanding the constellation to which it belongs is, at times called the Great Bear. If a young man would make his life efficient, it must be concentrated to one great aim. Ram-Dass, a Hindoo Deity, was supposed to have fire enough in his belly to burn up all the sins in the world. In practical life, in the stern gladiatorship of mind with mind, this fire that consumes obstacles is courteous but unflinching decision. If Mr. Hill has sometimes seemed to be wanting in gentle terms with his antagonists, it has been, I suppose, because he believed with Sir Boyle Roche, that the best way to avoid danger is to meet it plump. At any rate, his life has been a continual battle, as was said of Luther's; and more that was applied to the hero of the Reformation, might be not inappropriately said of Mr. Hill. With an intellect of no gigantic proportions, seconed by learning of no marvellous compass, and gifted with no rare or exquisite abilities, but invincible in decision and constancy of purpose, he advanced to the accomplishment of one great design, with a continually increasing momentum, before which all feeble minds retired, and all opposition was dissipated.

But the second, and perhaps the most obvious characteristic of Mr. Hill, is his wonderful industry. I say wonderful, because it did excite wonder in me when a boy.—Very well do I remember the little old building which used to stand over there (it is all gone now) where the "Franklin book store" used to attract me to buy penknives to lose and picture books to read. If there changed

to be no other customer there, the sounds of feet and the creaking press might be heard over head, and something went scratch, scratch, scratch, apparently behind a desk in the corner, in the midst of books and papers. In answer to a call, up would jump a little, lame, thin-faced man, with high forehead, eagle eye, plain brown coat and metal buttons, with pen dripping from the arrested demolisher for the next Patriot, the fiery editor would come bounding down to the counter in a gait between a walk and a gallop, and his clear but musical tones would immediately make you feel that no time was to be lost. "Well, my son, what do you want?" "A book, sir, a picture book." "Ay, little fellow, here is one that has reading and pictures both, and more reading than pictures. You must learn to value the useful more than the pretty."—By the time the book was tied up, and the price paid, the practical lesson would end, and the pen would resume its lecture for ten thousand eyes. If twenty customers came in succession, he was the attentive servant to them all, unless they came to idle away time. He could "make mischief slave to patience," but he would not sacrifice interest to complacency, when the indolent made demands on his time. If they pressed upon him too hard for copy, he would go to the case and compose extemporaneously with both hand and head. I have seen him thus employed in his office, surrounded by a large number of active young men, who are now master workmen, powerful editors, or members of Congress.—When these were restoring their strength with "balmy sleep," the master genius of that place of power would be still awake posting the books. Four hours were all he allowed for sleep, though never exacted such industry from others. If, as printer, editor, farmer, book publisher, and public officer, Mr. Hill has done much; if, from obscurity, he has fought his way into high places, tunnelling a path, through mountains of opposition, to the highest seat a sovereign State could present, he who wonders at the result has only to remember that

"Hercules himself must yield to odds; And many strokes, though with a little ass, Hew down and fell the hardest timbered oak."

Having alluded to the youth who have been apprentices in his office, I may be permitted to add that I know of more instances of noble and generous patronage extended by Mr. Hill to the meritorious and to the ungrateful even, than delicacy to the living will permit me to enumerate. Some of the most beautiful works in the libraries of American literature, were fostered in their incipient stages by Isaac Hill. Nathaniel H. Carter, when unknown to fame, as well as when Professor at Dartmouth College, was by his patron encouraged to task his beautiful talents; and so was his fellow-student, the lamented Haines. Gov. Plumer was first induced to hazard his "Layman" and "Cincinnatus" essays under the supervision of the Editor of the Patriot; and in the same paper appeared the first productions of the beautiful "Carnelia," now a distinguished poetess and Editor in Boston. She will remember what response was made to a call pressed from her by the woes of early widowhood and the care of her young family, then living in a quiet village amid the mountains of New Hampshire. But, I must stop. They rise too fast to my view.

What is Mr. Hill now? He is the pure citizen, living where he is best known, and loved by those who know him best. He is employing his influences as a patriot of his stamp should. He is said to be, and perhaps is rich; a man of his career ought to be, if money is a fit reward for industry. Has he acquired it dishonestly? Let the first violation of trust be proved. Has he won wealth by avarice? Let any citizen of Concord, political friend or foe, be asked that question? Let the numerous testimonials of his benevolence answer. As the devoted friend of education, he has trained his sons in the best colleges. As the friend of rational liberty and internal improvement, he is editing two very influential periodicals, and himself toiling daily on one of the best farms in the State. His "Farmer's Monthly Visitor" is one of the most useful papers in the world. I have never had any political or pecuniary connexion with Mr. Hill. I shall not call on him this season; but I cannot leave my native State without recording my testimony as to the personal worth of the so much slandered Isaac Hill. E. L. M.

HANNIBAL, DEC. 7th 1841.

Mr. Buckner:

Sir, as chairman of a meeting of the Democratic association of this place held on Saturday last, I have to request you to give the following an insertion in the "RADICAL."

Whereas there appears to be some difference of opinion among the Democrats of Marion County, as respects the choice of a suitable person to be nominated in a State Convention to be held at a future day as a Candidate for Congress, in the upper district of this State, and as we wish to suggest a meeting of the Democratic party in each Township, for the purpose of producing reconciliation and a greater concert of action.

It was on motion Resolved, "That the chairman of this meeting, be requested to publish a meeting of the Democrats of Mason Township, on Friday the 24th inst., in the town of Hannibal, to elect three delegates to represent this Township, in a county convention, which we now suggest to be held in the town of Palmyra on the second Saturday in January next, and do recommend a similar meeting in the different Townships in this county previous to that time. Respectfully yours, E. H. JAMES, Chairman.