

Noticed to Subscribers. The terms of the Republican are as follows: One dollar and fifty cents if paid within six months; one dollar and seventy-five cents if paid within the year, and two dollars will be charged if not paid until the expiration of the year.

THE TERMS OF THE REPUBLICAN

From and after the 1st of January next, will be one dollar and fifty cents if paid within six months; one dollar and seventy-five cents if paid within the year, and two dollars will be charged if not paid until the expiration of the year.

We promise our patrons that if our list continues as large at the end of six months as at present, we will enlarge our paper by adding four additional columns thereto—when it will compare favorably in size to any county paper in the state.

SECRET ORGANIZATIONS.

Perhaps the most forcible objection to political parties, as heretofore organized, was the manner in which they selected their candidates. Many honest men have always felt a great reluctance in giving their support to candidates thus presented to the public. In this county for instance, when the Democrats have been steadily in the majority, how often have we heard the loudest appeals made to the members of our party, by the opposition, not to support candidates selected by a few persons assembled in County Convention. Give us the volunteer system, said they—throw the doors wide open—give every man a chance, and let the people choose from the many whom they will have for officers—and down with your secret caucusses, delegate meetings and packed Conventions. This is about the character of the opposition we used to contend with. But it is not a little strange that many of those who used to manifest the greatest anxiety about this system, and make the loudest objections to it, can now take up the Know Nothing ticket, and vote it without a why or a wherefore.

A brief comparison of the delegate system, as practised by the Democratic party in this county as well as throughout the State and Union, with the practice of Know Nothingism, will show a wide contrast.

Public notice is always given inviting the Democrats to meet in their respective wards and townships on a certain day and hour. All are invited. A certain number are then and there appointed to attend a general County Convention. When so met, several important considerations should, and generally do, control the conduct of the delegates. Their regard for the success of the ticket they may form, and consequently the triumph of the principles of their party, will generally induce them to select the best men. If they fail in this, the result is most probably a defeat. And why? Simply because those candidates have to come before the people, and their merits and qualifications closely examined and investigated by their fellow-citizens. Mistakes are often made. But if so, in nine cases out of ten, the party suffers by it, by being defeated at the ballot-box.—Parties must, therefore, make good nominations—select candidates whose characters can bear the closest scrutiny, because there is no binding obligation in the shape of an oath, to require a party-man to vote for the candidate of his party, if he cannot do so with a clear conscience.

But how is it with Know-Nothingism? Their nominations are made within the walls of their lodges—sometimes in the dead hours of the night—where every proceeding is sealed with an oath of secrecy. At the late election of this State, thousands of men who were not Know-Nothings, were thus induced to vote for men whom they never heard of before, as well as in other instances, for men whom they had opposed all their lives; and in some of the adjoining States, if not in this, instances are numerous of members of the order cheerfully casting their votes for men whom they had never heard of before, and of whom they knew nothing whatever until the ticket, with their names, was placed in their hands. Thus it is clear that the members of this order are not permitted the privilege of exercising their own free will, and voting for whom they please, as true Americans should do. Their oath binds them to vote for the candidates presented by the order, and therefore it is useless for them to ask any questions.—Merit, qualifications and character are all out of the question. The vilest wretch that walks the earth, if he has but the tact to work his way through the order is safe for any office in the gift of the people.

And, strange as it may seem, we know enough men who can see nothing wrong in all this—who think it all right and proper, yet who used to think our liberties were in danger through the machinations of the time honored delegate system.

Public attention is directed to the many new advertisements in to-day's paper. They may interest you.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN PHILADELPHIA.

We learn by the Philadelphia Daily Argus, that a fire broke out in that city at 5 o'clock on the morning of the 12th instant, which was not extinguished until 11 A. M. of the same day. The fire is represented as having been the most destructive of any which has visited that city since 1850. It commenced in the extensive lamp and Chandelier Manufactory of Messrs. Cornelius, Baker & Co., in Cherry street, entirely consuming the same. The fire spread from the factory both south and west, communicating to buildings on the opposite side of the street. Some twenty-five or thirty buildings in all, were more or less injured by the flames, many of which were burnt to the ground. How the fire originated is not known; but from the fact that the fire had been extinguished in the factory the evening before, and that the flames were seen bursting from the building at several different places at the same time, it is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. The loss in all, is estimated at about a half a million.

PRIZE CONCERT.

A Prize Concert will be given in the Town Hall on Christmas evening, after which five hundred gifts will be distributed among the holders of tickets, consisting of Gold and silver watches, rings, book-cases, and a large assortment of valuable books, boots, shawls, and a great many smaller articles too numerous to mention. The object to which the proceeds are to be applied, should of itself commend this concert to the hearty support of the community. Persons at a distance can rely upon perfect fairness in the distribution, and reports of the same will be furnished them after it takes place, as well as where the gifts which fall to their lot can be procured. Tickets can be had for one dollar of Geo. W. SACKETT, Treas'r, or at the store of A. M. HILLS, or C. D. WATSON.

Dr. Beale, a Dentist of Philadelphia, who was tried and convicted some time since of committing an outrage upon the person of a young lady of that city, has been sentenced to four years imprisonment in the County Prison. Many persons as well as public journals in different portions of the state express doubts as to his guilt. The Dentists of New York, and elsewhere, have held public meetings, relating their knowledge of the conduct of persons while under the influence of ether and the impressions left upon their minds after the effects had been fully removed; all, or very nearly all of which, speak in favor of the person who has been accused and convicted of the outrage. The members of the profession of New York have got out a petition, which is said to be already numerously signed, asking for the pardon of Dr. Beale.

On account of being disappointed in receiving our supply of paper we have this week been compelled to delay our paper one day, which renders it too late for some of the up river mails. Disagreeable as this may be to our readers, it cannot be helped. We sent for paper some two weeks since, but owing to a scarcity of the article it was not received until Wednesday morning, and only one bundle then, just sufficient for the present issue. We expect more, of course, in time for our next paper, and if we are not disappointed we will not disappoint our readers.

FIRE! FIRE!!—On Wednesday evening last, about dark, the citizens of our Borough were alarmed by the cry of fire, when the flames were seen bursting from the roof of Mr. Thos. Robbin's Cooper Shop. In a few minutes a goodly number of persons were on the ground who succeeded in extinguishing the flames before any very serious damage was done.

MACAULEY, the great English historian, in speaking of human progression, says that the University of Oxford—one of the oldest and most distinguished institutions of learning in the world—is further behind the age than any other class of British subjects.

The same remark, it is believed, would apply with equal truth, to similar institutions in this country.

An Exhibition of Clearfield Academy Will be held in the Town Hall, on Friday evening the 22nd instant; to which the public are respectfully invited.

Exercises to commence at 6 o'clock.

Within the last few weeks there have been several cases of Typhoid Fever in our town, none of which however, have proved fatal; but on the contrary, all who have been thus afflicted are on a fair way of recovery.

A celebrated writer on the sight, says that wearing veils permanently weakens many naturally good eyes, on account of the endeavors of the eye to adjust itself to the ceaseless vibration of that too common article of dress.

A meeting of the Washingtonian Temperance Society will be held in the Court House on Monday evening of Dec. Court.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

Washington, Dec. 1, 1854. Washington has undergone a very great change within the last few years. Instead of being nothing more than simply the seat of government, sustained and supported entirely by the crumbs that fall from the public crib, she is now beginning to spread herself, and apart from advantages derived as the metropolis; she is fast becoming a self-sustaining community. She has many advantages, and it is not improbable that she may yet rise to importance as the emporium of commerce and manufactures of the beautiful valley of the Potomac. Four years ago, the population of the District was about 40,000 souls. It is now estimated at over 60,000. A large part of this extraordinary increase is supplied by wealthy citizens from all parts of the country, who have retired from business, and selected this city wherein to spend their money and the remainder of their days. They are generally fast liver, but are no detriment to the prosperity of mechanics, laborers and producing classes.

Extensive improvements both of a private and public character are progressing in all parts of the city. Vacant lots are everywhere being supplied with new and substantial edifices, and the old-fashioned and unpretending structures of earlier days are fast being metamorphosed into first-class modern edifices. The new wings to the Capitol are beginning to loom up towards the heavens. Most of the brick work is finished, and which is fast disappearing from the view by the beautiful white marble two feet thick. The extensions to the Post Office are even further advanced, and will be completed next summer.

Apart from national works, the structure next in importance is the new Metropolitan (Methodist) Church, on the corner of 4th and 6th streets—the foundation walls of which are now completed. This will be a magnificent edifice, and for which the friends of that denomination of Christians are chiefly indebted to the indefatigable efforts of the Rev. Henry Sliver. In taking an observation of this improvement the other day, we were forcibly reminded of a question we heard asked, not many months ago, by an excellent friend, whose fears had become wonderfully excited as to the designs of the Catholic world against the liberties of the people of the United States. "Why is it," asked he, "if they do not intend to make arsenals and forts of their churches, that they build such thick walls and divide the foundations into so many parts, vaults, &c.?" If this gentleman was here, he would have the same cause for looking with suspicion upon the Methodists, as the walls of this church are full four feet thick and divided into many different arched ways, or vaults, of extraordinary strength and solidity—but none too strong or solid to sustain the immense piles of marble, granite, brick and mortar that are to rest upon them for ages to come.

WASHINGTON, DEC. 8, 1854.

CONGRESSIONAL.—The second session of the 33d Congress commenced at 12 o'clock on the 4th instant. More than an ordinary punctuality characterized the attendance of the members at the commencement of the second session, and a quorum was present in each House. The annual message was read and listened to with marked attention. The first business introduced after the choosing of the seats, &c., was a resolution introduced by Mr. Sellers of Md., calling upon the President for any correspondence that may be in his possession in relation to the recent assembling of American Ministers at Ostend. In enforcing this resolution he made the very extraordinary remark, in speaking of Mr. Soule, our Minister to Spain, that if he would live in the United States until he was as old as Methuselah, he could not understand the principles of the government of the United States. This is quite a different opinion from that held and expressed by Mr. Clay during his last days in the Senate, who paid this gentleman the very highest compliment—and the public can have no hesitation in setting down Mr. Sellers as a Know-Nothing. On Friday, the President's veto of the river and harbor bill of last session having been read, a vote was taken on its passage notwithstanding the objections of the President, and resulted yeas 95, nays 80—not two thirds.

In the Senate, Mr. Bright of Indiana, was elected President in the room of Mr. Atchison, resigned. On Wednesday Mr. Adams gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill amendatory of the present naturalization laws.

In the House, on Wednesday Mr. Soler's resolution of inquiry concerning the convention of Ministers at Ostend, was disposed of by its reference to the Committee of Foreign Relations.

In the Senate, on Thursday, Mr. Brodhead of Pennsylvania, introduced a bill providing for a Commission or Court of Claims, to sit at Washington, and to hear and decide upon all cases of claims against the government of the United States. Such a Court is imperatively demanded, and will prove as advantageous to the government as to those having just claims. One excellent effect it would have, would be to starve out, and drive off the host of claim agents that hang around the Department, and the halls of Congress, who are generally what is called fast liver, and if their legitimate business will not pay a percentage sufficient to keep up their establishments, their inducements are only so much the stronger to wriggle through unfounded and exorbitant demands upon Uncle Sam's pocket. At other times these gentry manuse the things so that they pocket the lion's share of just claims, whilst the worthy claimant gets nothing. Under the plan proposed by Mr. Brodhead, when the claim of an honest creditor is fairly made out and paid, the person thus claiming will get all the benefit of it, and the government stand a much better chance to

ARRIVAL OF THE UNION.

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE. Both of Inkomann—General Cannon—Treat Slaughter—Allen awaiting aid—Russians swarming into the Crimea, &c.

New York, Dec. 8.—The steamer Union has arrived, bringing four days later news. She met with very heavy weather.

Cotton is heavy, and, at the time of sailing, prices remained unchanged. Eleven thousand bales were sold in two days, two thousand of which were for exportation. Flour was firm. Baltimore and Philadelphia brands selling at 44 shillings.—Wheat unchanged and firm. Corn is much duller—yellow bringing 45 s., white 46 s.

Provisions are firm. Consols have advanced 91 1/2. Manchester duller. Yarns have declined. Money is unchanged.

FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

The papers contain news from the Crimea up to the 14th of November. The bombardment of Sebastopol was progressing slowly, nothing decisive having been done. The Allies were strengthening their position.

BALAKLAVA.—The papers are filled with details of the battle of the 25th ult., known as the battle of Balaclava. The slaughter was great on both sides, the Russians getting the worst of it. Gen. Canrobert, commander-in-chief of the French forces, was wounded. The English had 38 officers killed, and 1,760 wounded, and 150 missing. The French has one General and 41 officers killed, and 21 wounded. The Russians said to have fired on the allies, as well as those unhurt.

The allies have postponed the assault of Sebastopol until the arrival of reinforcements. Detachments of Russians are swarming into the Crimea in immense numbers. The Arbia and Niagara have been taken to transport troops. No vessel of the Cunard line will leave until the 9th of December for New York, after which steamers will sail every fortnight.

The Collins line have changed the days of sailing to Saturday, in order that trade and commerce may be inconvenienced as little as possible.

A winter campaign in the Crimea is anticipated. The steamer Arbia was taking aboard the French troops for the Crimea, to sail in a few days.

The Pacific arrived out on the 23d ult., and the Pacific and Niagara on the 19th. Lord Palmerston is still in France, having daily interviews with the Emperor.—Rumor says their conference has reference to Spain and Cuba and American intentions in that quarter. It is probable, however, that they find sufficient to consult about of more direct importance to the allies.

Lord Dudley Stuart died at Stockholm on the 17th ult.

The details of the battle and sortie on the 2d ult. are given in the English papers. They create much excitement in England as well as France.

The British War Office calls upon the militia volunteers, and it is evident that a winter campaign has been determined upon.

Details of the sortie state that when Menschikoff attacked the allies in the rear, the result was most disastrous to the allies. Four English generals were killed. General Liprandi in command of the Russian Army, was wounded. Duke of Cambridge was also wounded.

Everything was ready for an assault, but had been postponed for the arrival of reinforcements. Lord Raglan has been created a Field Marshal.

It is stated that Gortschakoff intimated to the Austrian Cabinet that Russia was prepared to negotiate for peace on the basis on which the four powers guaranteed conditions.

Sebastopol dates to the 14th state that the Allies are reinforced to the extent of 1,000 daily.

The English and French armies had completed their third line parallels. A Russian dispatch says that the Allies had made a demonstration against the left flank of the Russian army, when the latter retired.

Strong Russian reinforcements are moving towards Crimea, and it is evident that the struggle for Sebastopol will still be maintained with all the powers the contestants can muster.

Prince Napoleon is at Constantinople, having been compelled to leave the army on account of continued bad health. Fourteen Russian war steamers have made a reconnaissance of the Baltic as far as Doge without encountering any allied fleet.

It is evident the allies were in a most precarious condition, and so weakened as to render an assault on Sebastopol an impossibility. They have suffered very severely, especially in officers and the very best portion of their armies.

Austria and Prussia remain in the same attitude. Spain is without special interest. The government is still unsettled. Nothing special from Switzerland. Ireland is quiet.

An eminent writer says: "It is my firm opinion, derived from experience, that the period of courtship cannot be too short. I have reason to say that when you have hooked your fish, the sooner you use your landing net the better."

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KNOW-NOTHINGISM REPEATED.

Wilds of Checaquo, Iowa, Oct. 7, '46. My Very Dear Friends—Before I left Dubuque, yourself and several other gentlemen of various Christian churches requested the publication of my sermon delivered on the 4th inst. A long habit of speaking extemporaneously has made me careless of the preservation of either sermons or speeches which I am called upon to make from time to time. Therefore, to give you my language or to transfer to paper my allusions to civil and religious liberty would be impossible. But, with every possible desire to be brief, I shall give my opinions to yourself in regard to the right of every man to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience, and just as freely express my fears of, and opposition to, every organization either secret or open which looks to the abridgement of this great principle, which is essential to the very existence of republican Government and the uncorrupted worship of the living God.

You, sir, are a Catholic, I am a Methodist. Your faith I believe to be the result of a deliberate judgment formed after a careful investigation. Your convictions and devotions are conscientious. Just such are my faith and my devotions, and the faith and devotion of every true Christian everywhere. I suppose you could not forsake your religion and remain an honest man; I am equally clear that I could not abandon my principles and retain for a moment my self respect and enjoy the approving smile of my Holy Maker and Judge who kindly regards the infirmities of his creatures and scrupulously abhors pretence or deceit. Then, my dear friend, what are we to do? On the details of our respective religious creeds we can never agree. Shall you, therefore, destroy me? or shall I, with a superior charity or enlightened faith, seek your annihilation, because we differ concerning matters which none but the wise and eternal God can correctly determine? Is it an injury to either of us that the other, standing upon his responsibilities to the Supreme Judge of the universe, chooses to consult Him alone, and disregard the opinions of men, merely relating to things of this world? It would insult your good sense to tamely answer these inquiries in the negative, for you had anticipated them all. There is only one answer, which has been conclusive to every reasonable worshipper of God. "Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind." The Constitution of the land, wisely providing for the political agreement of a multifarious religious sentiment, has guaranteed to every man the right to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience. And, for the very first time in the history of modern civilization, our national government has not only permitted, but has encouraged, by her liberal legislation, the growth of every sincerely devoted body of Christians, irrespective of their name or formulas. It is with regret that I see an attempt made in various portions of the country to create midnight censorship and star chambers, for the avowed object of disfranchising the Catholic population of the country, and waging a war, of all others the most fearful and vindictive—a warfare against religion. In the whole history of the world there never has been a time when such secret organizations as the Know-Nothings were left with so shallow a pretence for their combination as at the present, never a time when so little has been threatened by any organized form of Christianity as now.

In the first place, there is not a majority of the United States in communion with any church. There is a very clear majority who are not members of any religious body, and this majority would resist to the death the least squinting at an encroachment upon the right of opinion. In the second place the government does not, directly or indirectly, support by gifts or fees any one denomination of Christians, and of course can have no preference in her choice among them. Moreover, the numerical strength of the communicants of the several denominations is very nearly the same, and kept in awe by mutual watchfulness. A mutual forbearance, continued since the organization of our government, has created a Christian fraternity of feeling among conflicting opinions unknown before in the history of Christianity.

The population of the United States was in 1850, 23,191,918, and is now about 26,000,000; of this number about 1,600,000 are Methodists of every order, 1,200,000 are Baptists.

Who, then, that is not afflicted with a superstitious monomania, can offer a reasonable pretence for a formidable organization of a religious power in the United States? Indeed, sir, if there has ever been a time when infidelity and contempt for all religion and an ascendancy, that time is now.

But, should a time ever come when religious intolerance threatens the existence of free institutions, and resistance to ecclesiastical power becomes necessary, even then Know-Nothingism, or any other secret political organization, ought not to receive the countenance of any lover of free government. Secrecy and hypocrisy are the favorite instruments of kings and despots. No country can long remain free after its great principles are abandoned, and the government itself become the spoils of the tricky, skulking politician. I conceive the Know-Nothing organization of this character, or why the organization of all in a country like ours, where every man has a voice in the legislation of the land? Where no privileged order is established or countenanced by law, I cannot conceive of a single thing affecting those gentlemen as citizens which does not in the same sense affect every other man in the country. If their designs are just and patriotic, they are surely sustained by reason; and I think the same reasons which have convinced them will also convince us