

MEMPHIS APPEAL

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1875.

KNOWNOTHINGISM REVIVED.

The Republican party, in its desperation, has lately resumed the desperate principles of Knownothingism. The Radical papers and orators in Ohio are busy in trading the Catholics. They have flooded the State with huge pictures representing the pope of Rome with his feet on the neck of the American people. The State, repudiated and abandoned by the Knownothing party, have been revamped in Ohio. Lafayette Lane, the Democratic candidate for congress in Oregon, is a Catholic, and for that reason he is assailed and denounced by the Radical press. In Oregon the Radical seem to have lost sight of the fact that America is a free country, where a man possesses the unquestioned right to communion with his God as he chooses. In Maryland, Hon. John Lee Carroll is the Democratic candidate for governor. He is a grandson of "Charles Carroll of Carrollton." His piety, his integrity, his ability, and his usefulness as a good citizen, have not been assailed, but a furious crusade has been made upon him because he and his grandfather, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, are Catholics. This attempt to revive the vile and detested Knownothing party will increase the hatred which the people have manifested for Radicalism. Religious proscription has been repudiated by the American people, and it will be a milestone around the neck of the party that has adopted it with the hope of defeating the Democratic party. "Religious and civil liberty is guaranteed by the constitution, twin flowers on the same stalk. No man can be struck down for exercising the right to worship God as he pleases. When the name of a great-grandson of Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, is presented for the suffrage of the people, he is proscribed because he worships God at the same altar his distinguished ancestor did one hundred years ago." It is to the interest of all religious denominations to oppose and rebuke every effort to proscribe a candidate on account of his religious faith, for if this intolerance is encouraged, it will extend to all denominations, and men will be defeated or elected to office on account of their religious views. This is contrary to the genius of American institutions, and to the spirit of the constitution. Hon. Beverly Johnson, in a speech delivered last Saturday night, in Baltimore, defended Mr. Carroll, the Democratic nominee for governor, from the crime of being a Catholic. He said: "Mr. Carroll's blood, like his faith, descends from one of the immortal signers of the Declaration of Independence, who was from the first to last universally respected and esteemed, and who died revered and beloved by the good of every religious denomination. No man was so situated or intimated as to object to him on account of his faith. If, when he was attacking his name to the great charter of American liberty, any member of the body had objected to his right to do so because he was a Catholic, the objection would have been treated with scorn and detestation. No such objection was interposed, and his union with the other of those great and pure men was received with joy and approval, as tending to strengthen the great cause in which they had embarked. Is it not marvelous that in this age of the world, and particularly in this country, such an objection should be countenanced by any sane man? I say especially in this country, because our ancestors were so impressed with the duty and necessity of not interfering politically with any man on account of his religious faith, that in one of the first amendments to the constitution, that were ever made, it is provided that 'congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.' And it is believed that a like provision is contained in every State constitution. But what is the religious faith whose followers were so ready to consign to political servitude, in the name of the Deity, every Roman Catholic believer in it as firmly as any one belonging to other religious sects. They have a different mode of worship. So have other sects. But the essentials of the faith are common to all. They believe in the divinity of Jesus, in the Trinity and the atonement. What is the most reasonable mode of worship men may not differ about, but all Christians believe in these essentials of the faith. Have Catholics ever failed to be good citizens? All the duties of life, public and private, they discharge as fully as any other Christians. During the war of the revolution and that of 1846 with Mexico, they hazarded life and fortune to maintain the principles which produced the first, and to maintain the rights of our government in the last two. They stood shoulder to shoulder with Protestants on every battlefield, which was often literally mired with their common blood. But in addition to what I have said, every theological student knows that the truths of Christianity have never been more ably maintained than by Catholic writers, nor have its beauties been more eloquently or ably presented to the human heart than in the works of the Catholic Church. In his 'Genius of Christianity,' Christianity itself is at war with all idolatrous deities. It has been well and truly said that, 'by inculcating the precept of universal love of mankind, it raised the narrow spirit of patriotism to the extended feeling of general philanthropy; and that 'it laid the foundation for the peace of the world, through the doctrine of reconciliation of men with God and with each other.' Then, too, how sadly weakened would be the glorious army of Christians without the Roman Catholics. They constitute a number far greater than that of all other sects combined. In conclusion, then, on this head, I hope, for the honor of our State and the reputation of our people, that no citizen will fail to support Mr. Carroll only because of his religious faith."

GRANT SEEKING PLEASANT.

President Grant has a hide as impenetrable as that of a rhinoceros. He is insensible to shame. Drunk with power, and reveling in sudden and unexpected wealth, he cares for nothing but ease, comfort and the cloud of smoke that envelopes his empty head. According to reliable data he has been absent from his post of duty at the national capital fully one-half his term. Of the last five years of his official career he has spent two and a half of them from the seat of government, and has not, in all that time, failed to draw every penny of his salary. Not satisfied with the past summer's vacation, we see it stated that he starts on a pleasure trip to Colorado. The Presidential history of the country affords no parallel to this. The people would not have tolerated such a wrong before the war, but now it would seem as though the President and his friends have made up their minds that the people have no rights but their rulers feel bound to respect. No one will for a moment pretend to say that the affairs of the government could possibly have been administered properly under such circumstances. If so, why not shut up shop for one half the year, stop the salaries, and thus save the country a flow of expense. Surely Grant's regard for the obligations and the dignity of his great office falls largely below that of any of his predecessors. He has violated all precedent, and has set an example not only to his subordinates, but to all posterity, that can only be regarded as pernicious. In addition to this, his frequent prolonged absences have given such encouragement to fraud, theft, and other official crimes, that his administration stands far above in history as the most venal and corrupt on record. But what does he care? With a salary of fifty thousand dollars per annum, and perquisites that nearly double that amount, he can snap his fingers at those who object to his junketing at summer resorts, clam-bakes, horse races, etc., and more than that, hold the third term over the heads of his party as a threat which it dares not disregard.

THE NASHVILLE AMERICAN.

The Nashville American, of the eighth instant, contains a long and able letter upon "Southern Iron," from Colonel George T. Lewis, of Memphis, to Hon. Robt. M. Patton, of the Centennial committee, and Hon. Robt. Tyler, Centennial agent for Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana. Colonel Lewis gives an extensive review of the southern iron situation, and demonstrates the fact that the metal in our section of the Union is of a superior quality, and can be manufactured cheaper than elsewhere in the United States. The letter is not only an important address to the Southern Centennial committee, but is replete with interesting facts and valuable information. Colonel Lewis is a gentleman of fine intelligence and thorough study, and has for forty years been actively identified with the greatest iron and mining interests in Tennessee. This letter, like the one written several years ago, will attract general attention throughout the United States as well as in Europe.

Twenty-third Senatorial District Convention.

At a meeting of the Democratic-Conservative convention of the twenty-third senatorial district, held in the town of Ripley, on the eighth instant, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for congress from said district, the following proceeding were had: The convention was organized by electing John W. Murry temporary chairman, and W. O. Abernathy secretary. The committee on credentials having reported, the convention then proceeded to elect permanent officers for the same. John L. Grace was elected chairman, W. M. Abernathy secretary, and C. J. Frederick assistant secretary. The convention then organized the name of Colonel C. C. Terry was put in nomination and nominated by acclamation, Captain Wolf and Captain Falkner having withdrawn. The following resolutions were then offered and adopted: Whereas, We are reliably informed that intimidations, threats and violence are being used by white persons toward colored men in this State, who indicate an intention of voting with the Democratic-Conservative party in the present canvass, and whereas, we regard it as one of the most sacred obligations resting upon us to afford protection to such colored men; therefore, Resolved, That we hereby pledge ourselves to protect to the full extent of the law all such colored men in this senatorial district, and that we will use all lawful means in our power to ferret out any and all persons who may be guilty of any such offenses, and to have the same apprehended and prosecuted to the end of the law. Resolved, That the delegates of this convention express their thanks to the good citizens of Ripley for their hospitality and cordiality shown during the sitting of the convention. Resolved, That a copy of the proceedings of this convention be furnished to the Nashville American, Ripley Advertiser, Memphis Appeal and the Benton County Argus, with a request that they publish the same. After which the convention adjourned sine die.

W. M. ABERNATHY, Chairman.

C. J. FREDERICK, Secretary.

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