SPIRIT OF JEFFERSON.

CHARLESTOWN:

Friday Morning, August 13, 1847.

WHAT WE BATTLE FOR.

The Democratic party, says the Pennsylvanian, have always contended for a certain set of principles—well defined and understood. We claim they are founded upon truth, justice, and equality. They are unchangeable as the laws of the Medes and Persians, and as solitary as they are immutable.

We contend for a simple form, and an economical administration of government, confined within strict constitutional limits, and affording in their operation, equal protection and encouragement to every legitimate calling, and to every honest citizen. We contend for a faithful discharge of all our obligations, for an unsullied State faith, and for a constitutional submission to the Federal Government. The rights guaranteed to the States we hold to be sacred and inviolate, and deny the right of the Federal Government to legislate within these limits. We are in favor of a sound currency founded upon a specie basis, and are opposed to the ill-defined, vague and uncontrollable financial schemes of the Whig party, because they swindle the honest son of toil, and build up an aristocracy of ficticious wealth, controlled by a few, worse in its influences than monarchy itself.—We proclaim unalterable opposition to any connexion between the government and banks.

We contend against the creation of a National debt, whenever it can be avoided, and against the assumption of State debts by the Federal government. We contend against the impolitic and demoralizing alliance of Church and State; against any restriction of the freedom of speech or of the press, and against any interference in matters of conscience. We regard the virtue and the intelligence of the people as the only safe-guards of a republican government, and to establish and perpetuate them, we support a universal system of education, common to all, and exclusive to none, and an equality of rights and privileges, believing that an educated people, enjoying the same immunities, will look to the same result. We are opposed to all sectional sentiments, regarding the interests of all the States as identical, and the *union* of the States as of more value than all else besides. We attach no importance to the accident of birth, but on the contrary, invite to our shores the friends of freedom of every faith and from every clime.

Such are some of the principles of the Democratic party, and for their establishment, the Republicans of this country have battled ever since the formation of the government. Their virtue and efficacy have been well tried, and have came forth, from the furnace of Federal persecution, like gold seven times refined. Let us then rally around them to a man, and sustain them, as did our fathers when they planted them in the wilderness, and watered them with their blood; until now, they have grown with our growth, and strengthened with our strength, and made us second to no nation under Heaven, in all the elements that constitute true greatness. Doing thus, it will be well with us and ours; and our country will remain forever the Asylum of the oppressed, the home of the exile of every nation, and the ægis of protection to all its citizens.

STRAWS.

We yesterday published an article (says the Richmond Enquirer) from a Whig journal in Southern Ohio, the Hamilton News, offering rewards, among others, of fifteen dollars "for the Whig who believes that Taylor ought to be nominated if there were no doubt of the election of a Whig to the office;" and fifty dollars for the Whig who electioneers for Taylor and does not feel as if he had stolen goods in his possession."

The New York Tribune republishes the article, with the following striking comments:

"There is a manifest propriety in discussing our domestic differences discreetly and courteously. *We do not believe Gen. Taylor will be the candidate for President—in the Free States at any rate*—but we *shall need and hope to have the votes* at least of the Whigs who now prefer him for the Whig candidate when nominated. Is such language as that above quoted calculated to *secure* them?"

Is not this a confession of one able and leading Whig paper, at least, that the Whig nomination of Gen. Taylor is all gammon; that he will not be the candidate, but will be used *for the present* to gather strength for the benefit of some thoroughgoing Whig? We have hinted at this game before. Here it is admitted by one of the high parties. We should like to know from the Tribune *who is to be* their candidate for President—Henry Clay, McLean, Corwin.

ENGLISH POSTAGE ON AMERICAN LETTERS.—The Washington Union states that, on the report of Major Hobbie, giving notice of the demand by the English government for the foreign as well as inland postage on letters by the American mail steamers, the Postmaster General instructed him to give notice to the Postmaster General of Great Britain of the abrogation of this contract at the expiration of 90 days, agreeably to a clause reserved therein. Further information has been received from Mr. Hobbie indicating that he was still negotiating with the British Postmaster General, but that nothing definite had been agreed on.

WHIGGERY IN VIRGINIA AND GEORGIA.—Mr. Botts and the Richmond Whig are for withdrawing our troops from Mexico and thus stopping the war, though we regard their plan of peace as chimerical.

The Whig Savannah Republican, on the contrary, says:

"We advocate a *vigorous and energetic prosecution* of the war with all the means within the control of the Nation, and by the cordial and hearty co-operation of every branch of the public service—but we will unceasingly denounce the demagogue who for temporary personal or party benefit, defames our best Generals—paralyzes their efforts, and jeopardizes the safety of our entire army."

☞ It is reported, and generally believed, that Col. JOHN MCPHERSON of Page County, (for many years a member of the Virginia Legislature,) has received the appointment of Consul at Genoa, in the place of C. Edward Lester, resigned.

GEN. TAYLOR--THE PRESIDENCY.

We have already announced the fact, (says the Lynchburg Republican) that the Whigs of Ohio, in their recent State Convention, repudiated in the strongest language, Gen. Taylor as the Whig candidate for the Presidency, and threw cold water upon the whole federal movement to draw the old hero into the strifes of party, merely to secure perhaps, a momentary triumph of *men* at the sacrifice of *principles*. Even the Whig papers of that State which had hoisted the name of Taylor, struck it from their mast head, in response to and acquiesence in, the wishes of the whole party of the State. When the Whigs of one of the largest and most influential States in the Union, in their collective capacity, array themselves in opposition to one claimed as the candidate of that party, his prospects of success are certainly any thing but flattering. But the Whig opposition of Gen. Taylor is not confined to the Whigs of Ohio. In every section of the Union, more or less, such opposition is seen to manifest itself to the old hero. We do not think we mistake when we say that much the larger portion of the Whig party of the north are unfavorably disposed towards Gen. Taylor for the Presidency. In Massachusetts the opposition to him is believed *unanimous*. The Whig press of that State are the most violent of any in the Union in their denunciations of him. *No terms are sufficiently strong to give expression* to their hostile feelings and sentiments, towards him. The state of Whig sentiment in other states of the North is not less indicative of similar hostility. The New York Tribune, one of the leading Whig journals of the Empire State, and the organ of much the larger portion of the Whig party of the north, does not hesitate to eschew all connection with the Taylor movement. Hear the explicit language of that journal:

"We have never written a line indicative of our wish, or of our belief, that Gen. Taylor would be the candidate of the Whig party; on the contrary, we have said before, and we now renew the declaration, that Gen. Taylor is not our candidate for the presidency."

This is indeed, quite decided, but Horace Greely goes still farther. Hear him:

"Let us have a whig candidate concerning whose opinions and views there is no ambiguity, and can be no mistake. Then if the people choose to be fooled again by Kane letters, or to vote for a man who hides his head in the sand, it is their own job."

Thus we see it plainly intimated that General Taylor is *ambiguous* in expressing his opinions and views. Quite a serious charge we should think.

Should Gen. Scott fight another brilliant battle in taking the city of Mexico, there can be no doubt that the entire northern wing of the Whig party will renounce Gen. Taylor, and supplant his name with that of Scott's. Then we shall have the novel and painful spectacle presented us of two of the first military chieftains of the country, even while engaged upon the field, and in an enemy's territory, contending for the reins of government, with two strong parties, divided upon sectional grounds, at their heels. History furnishes us with mournful examples of the ruinous effects of such contentions. May we not look upon such a contest as fatally subversive of our liberties and the permanency of our glorious confederacy?

SPEECH OF CAPT. MARSHALL.

Capt. Thomas F. Marshall's (formerly a member of Congress from Kentucky,) late war speech, at Louisville, was delivered in his usual scorching style. A correspondent of the Cincinnatti Enquirer says:

"He denounced the opposition to the war as infamous, and cruel towards their countrymen, who are contending against a dastardly foe and a destructive climate. He would carry the war to the last point of resistance, *and proclaim a peace*, and he would enforce it by hanging every one who rebelled against it. The *Mexicans*, he said, were a miserably degraded race, down-trodden by a band of rascally grandees and thieving officers, who were for war, because by that they could only live. *Government*, he said, they never had; the country was ruined by factions—military factions—who kept the people in the worst sort of bondage. Captain Marshall applauded the plan of the campaign, as one of the most splendid conceptions on record; and up to the time General Scott entered Mexico, was being prosecuted on a scale of grandeur unequalled in the history of the world. Taylor advancing through the passes of the Sierra Madre; Wool through Chihuahua; Kearney through Santa Fe and California; and all converging to a common centre, and intended to strike directly to the heart of Mexico. He then spoke of Scott's plan, which deprived Taylor of nearly all his force, and left him to fight the greatest army that Mexico could bring into the field with only 4,500 volunteers;—and the splendid result of that great battle. He said he had heard, since his return, that it had been the policy of the administration, from motives of fear and jealousy of Taylor's growing popularity, to sacrifice him and his brave little army! He seemed to understand the object of those who had so industriously circulated this foul slander of the opposition, and remarked, that if the government or a rival chief, could be suffered to act from such a motive, he would invoke the wrath and power of the Almighty to scatter and consume them with the red lightnings of Heaven!

"How, then, could this be Mr. Polk's war?—Capt. Marshall was for taking the whole of Mexico, and holding all we took. Could England object to it? No! Every inch of territory held by England, beyond its own little island, was held by the right of conquest—and that, by the laws of nations, was the best of titles. He would hold all."

SIGNIFICANT.

It is said by a correspondent of the Washington Union, that the very sudden and almost unanimous decision of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, to extend their road through Virginia to Wheeling, instead of Pittsburg, Pa., was caused principally by the unfortunate difficulty at Carlisle, in which Mr. Kennedy of Hagerstown lost his life. The stockholders believing that it would be unsafe for Southerners with their servants to travel through Pennsylvania, determined at once to avoid the difficulty by extending the line through Virginia.

☞ The Govenor has appointed the third Thursday in August (the 19th) for holding a special election in the counties of Giles and Mercer, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Lewis Neal, Esq., the late delegate elect. Madison Allen, Esq., democrat, has recently declared himself a candidate. He has, as yet, no opposition.

☞ In referring to Gen. Taylor's politics, a point mooted beyond all others, just now, the Washington Correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, says:—

By the by, speaking of Gen. Taylor, I must not forget that I have seen a letter addressed by an officer of standing and renown at Monterey, to a friend in this city, in which the old hero is said to avow openly to all his friends that he is no party politician; but that if he were one, he would, as far as he could understand the subject, be a "Jeffersonian Democrat." This, I trust, will settle the controversy.

THE ELECTIONS.

Returns are now coming in from the several States, in which elections have been recently held. They are, of course, very indefinite. We subjoin the latest accounts received:—

KENTUCKY.—In the last Congress the Kentucky delegation stood 7 Whigs to 3 Democrats. The following summary indicates the result:

1. Linn Boyd, D. 3. Todd, W. 4. Aylett Buckner, W. 5. Thompson, W. 6. Adams, W. 7. Duncan, W. 8. C. S. Morehead, W. 9. L. M. Cox, W. 10. Major Gaines, W.

INDIANA.—The delegates from this State in the last Congress stood 8 Democrats to 2 Whigs.—The returns received indicate the following result in eight of the ten districts:

1. ——Embree, W.* 2. T. J. Henley, D. 3. J. L. Robinson, D. 4. C. B. Smith, W. 5. W. W. Wick, D. 6. D. M. Dobson, D. 7. ——Thompson, W. 9. Jno. W. Cathcart, D.

From the 8th and 10th districts there are no returns—they were both represented by democrats in the last Congress.

The Legislature is still doubtful. The Whigs have made some gains, and the result will be very close.

*This is the district represented in the last Congress by Robert Dale Owen. Embree is reported to be elected, but we cannot believe that such is the case, as it is the strongest Democratic District in the State.

NORTH CAROLINA.—This State voted on Thursday last for nine members of Congress, which at the last election were divided as follows:—democrats 6; whigs 3.

From the 1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th, districts, no returns have been received.

In the 5th district, Venable, dem. is elected by a majority of 225.

In the sixth district there was two democratic candidates, but no whig candidate. Mr. Daniel, regularly nominated democratic candidate is said to be elected.

In the 7th district, Gen. McKay, dem. is reelected.

In the 8th district, R. S. Donnell, whig, is elected.

In the 9th, district, Outlaw, whig, is elected by a majority of 797.

TENNESSEE.—With regard to the election in Tennessee, for governor and members of Congress, we have no intelligence.

ALABAMA.—The election took place in Alabama on the 2d inst., for Govenor, members of Congress and the State Legislature. The returns for Governor, as far as received, show whig gains, but the result will not be known for some time.

2D CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

The following is the state of the polls in the counties heard from. Dinwiddie, Prince George and Amelia to hear from, which will make Mr. Meade's majority about 400.

	BOLLING.	MEADE.
Brunswick,	211	362
Mecklenburg	289	505
Greenville	62	135
Petersburg	411	304
	973	1306

SNICHERSVILLE BARBECUE.

The Barbecue given at this place on Thursday last, by Messrs. MOORE & MARSHALL, was one of the most agreeable gatherings of the kind, we have ever had the pleasure of attending. About 800 persons were present—of which number more than 300 were Ladies, embracing to a great extent the beauty and fashion of Loudoun, and some of the adjoining counties. In this particular, at least, it was a feast for the eye and a balm to the heart, and if the smiles of the fair awakened no response, it was no fault of theirs, we are assured.

The gentleman who had been selected to deliver the Oration, was necessarily absent, and this portion of the exercises of the Day had to be dispensed with. This, though a matter of regret to many, interfered in no way with the enjoyment of the occasion. The fine Band from the White Sulphur Springs being present, arrangements were made for dancing, at an early hour, and was kept up with only an intermission at dinner, during the entire day. Those who did not participate in this innocent amusement, had abundant sources of enjoyment in other ways, and the entire assemblage seemed in every respect gratified during the day, and left the ground at a reasonable hour, in the best spirits.

At Dinner, the tables were loaded with the greatest profusion. Every delicacy of the season had been procured, and all was served up in the very best manner. The arrangement for the second table was not as good as it might have been, yet none seemed to complain as to this, knowing the difficulty of serving so large a crowd as were in attendance. All in all, it was a most pleasant and agreeable occasion, and will be treasured by many as one of the oasis in the pathway of life.

SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS.

We have not received a full return of the election of School Commissioners in the county, but understand the following gentlemen have been elected:

In District No 7—Gerard D. Moore.
In District No 12—Dr. R. S. Blackburn.
In District No 13—Dr. John Lock.
In District No 14—Jonas Walraven.
In District No 15—Geo. W. Little.
In District No 17—Richard Henderson.
In District No 19—Dr. Wm. F. Alexander.
In District No 20—Wm. C. Worthington.
In District No 21—Carey Thompson.
In District No 22—George Mauzy.
In District No 23—Benjamin Moor, Jr.
In District No 24—Wm. Moor.

☞ ALAGONQUIN TRIBE, No. 4, of the improved Order of Red Men, was duly opened in Smithfield, Jefferson county, Va., on the 2d sleep of the 2d seven suns, Sturgeon Moon, (7th inst.,) G. S. 5607, by N. Sherer, Great Sachem, assisted by R. W. Reed, G. K. of W; A. Seal, G. K. of O. W. of the Great Council of the State of Virginia; and members of the Shawnee Tribe, No. 2, Winchester. The following are the officers of *Alagonquin Tribe* for the present three moons:

Alfred B. Tanquary, *Venerable Sachem*; James Merchant, *Senior Sagamore*; Josiah Watson, *Junior Sagamore*; F. B. Burwell, *Prophet*; W. J. Burwell, *Keeper of Records*; F. Laughlin, *Keeper of Wampum*.

New Shenandoah Company.

A meeting of the Stockholders of this Company is called, on the 9th of September, to take into consideration the arrangement proposed by the Front Royal Convention, for an increase of stock, and the permanent improvement of the Shenandoah River. No doubt seems to be entertained of a prompt and hearty ratification of the arrangement proposed.

SEVERE STORM.—There was a severe northeast storm at Boston on Thursday night, and the Journal fears to hear of a destructive hurricane in the West Indies. The corn and fruit trees were much destroyed. The storm was probably severe at sea, and the coasters, and vessels arriving on our coast from abroad, may have suffered somewhat.

At Newport, R. I., several yachts and sloops and one schooner, in the harbor, dragged ashore.

IS GEN. SCOTT AT THE CAPITOL.

We have nothing as yet, to confirm the rumor that Gen. Scott had taken the city of Mexico.—While we feel confident that by this time, at least, he has entered the capitol, and without very serious resistance, the statement that he was in Mexico, on the 17th July, wants confirmation, and for the reasons set forth by the Picayune. That paper of the 3d inst. says:

The brig Mary Jane has also arrived from Tampico, having left there on the 26th ult. So far as we can learn, the latest accounts from Tampico make no mention whatever of Gen. Scott's victory. Letters of the 25th in abundance have been received in town from Tampico. They say not a word of the entrance said to have been made on the 17th—eight days previously. It is clear that there was no such story current in Tampico.—Private letters would have mentioned it, and Capt. Hussey, of the Mary Jane, would have heard of it. He heard nothing of the kind. How far communications between Tampico and the Capitol have been interrupted by the late expedition of Col. De Russy, we have been unable to learn; we have no later Mexican papers by either of the arrivals. But even were the usual mail entirely broken up it would seem asif so important an event as the fall of the Capitol must inevitably have reached Tampico in 8 or 9 days, transmitted 'from mouth to mouth.'

We have taken some pains to follow to their sources many reports in relation to Gen. Scott's position. We still incline to the belief that he did not march from Puebla before the 15th. By the map most in vogue Puebla is eighty-seven miles distant from the capitol, and we do not believe that his march will be entirely unopposed. We have thus barely indicated some points which the reader will consider in forming his opinion.—It is now said that our next intelligence from Vera Cruz will be brought by the Fashion. She left here on Thursday, the 22d ult. for that port, and should there be intelligence of importance to be communicated, it is thought she would return at once. The interval to be employed in speculation we hope may be short, for there is manifested an extreme anxiety for full and authentic accounts.

THE CHICAGO COVENTION.—As we anticipated, the proceedings of this body have not given great satisfaction to those who were chiefly instrumental in calling it together. The Jefferson (Mo.) Inquirer says:

"The Convention being composed principally of men from the Northern and Eastern States, they recommended more particularly the improvement of harbors upon the Lakes, and leave the great waters of the Mississippi, as we would infer, to be improved by the enterprising people of the west, and sneakingly beg the General Government to assist them in establishing harbors upon their lakes and fish ponds."

THE $5,000 REWARD.—The Whigs of Georgia, as we learn from the Free Press, offer the above reward to any one who will produce proof that either the President or any of his Cabinet has either a son or son-in-law in our army in Mexico. The President, we believe, has neither sons nor daughters, and the Hon. Secretary of State has never been married. As far then as they are concerned, the Whigs of Georgia have run no risk in offering the $5,000 reward. As it regards the other members of the cabinet, we are not sufficiently acquainted with their domestic relations, to speak of their ability to furnish this additional test of their patriotism. We venture in the name of the Democracy, however, to offer a similar reward to any Whig who will prove that either of them have ever given encouragement to the enemy, by writing, speaking or preaching against the justice of the war, and abusing their own country for engaging in it. They have always faithfully and firmly stood up in defence of their country,—whilst Webster, Crittenden and Corwin, have been doing all in their power to give aid and comfort to the enemy. Webster and Crittenden have sons in the war, we admit; but that seems to be a very unsatisfactory kind of proof as to the patriotism of the fathers, and if the Secretaries referred to had *nothing else* to offer they would be in a bad way indeed.—*Winchester Virginian.*

MORE "AID AND COMFORT."—We learn from the Philadelphia American, that on Saturday last, *Two Millions of Specie* passed over the Harrisburg railroad, on its way to Mexico, via New Orleans. This, with five millions previously forwarded, makes seven millions of dollars recently sent from the North. The New York Tribune of Saturday says:

We stated, on Thursday, that the Sub-Treasurer would soon remit $3000,000 in specie to the South. We now learn that a portion of the $3,000,000 has already gone, and that there still remains in the vaults of the monster $4,250,000 in coin. The rumored arrangement with the Rothschilds has been consummated, and that house has agreed to place a certain amount of specie in Mexico, for the use of the army, to be reimbursed here. The amount can be increased if necessary. This is a very favorable arrangement for both parties, and will obviate the necessity of moving the coin.

THE CATHOLIC CHAPLAINS.—The Union in referring to the charge that the two Catholic chaplains had been sent to Mexico by the President in the capacity of spies, says:

It is scarcely necessary for us to say, as we are authorized to do, that the President never conceived such an idea—much less could he have conveyed such an one in conversation with Mr. McCalla—as attributed to him by that person.

It is proper to state also, that neither at the time the Revs. Mr. McElroy and Mr. Rey went to the army, nor at any prior or subsequent period was there any conference or communication with them, by any member of the administration, nor between the President and the cabinet or any member of it, nor anything in communication with *Gen. Taylor*, to whose headquarters they went, which sanctioned, in the remotest or slightest manner, the idea that they were expected to act as "spies."

MORE CONFIRMATION.—A letter in the New York Sun, dated at the city of Mexico, July 6th, says:

"In the hotel where I am is a Mexican gentleman writing a history of the war; and one-half of his material is from the Mexican portion of the American newspapers. Corwin's speech is his text book. The author is in high glee to think your journals are so favorable to Mexico."

The Baltimore Sun says, "The value of dutiable goods entered at the New York Custom House on Tuesday last; was $648,506, and the cash received $156,612. We also perceive that the cash duties received at Philadelphia for July, 1846 and '47, and for the previous seven months of the operation of the new tariff, were as follows:

	July.	Prev. mos.	Total.
Old Tariff	$184,354	1,522,063	1,706,417
New Tariff	389,316	1,517,694	1,907,010

Thus showing the increase at the port of Philadelphia during one month, and the dullest month in the year, to be $200,598. In short, the question of high tariff and low tariff seems no longer a debatable question. Politicians have dropped the subject from their vocabularies, and the probability is that the present tariff, if changed at all, will be ultimately changed for one still lower.

HOW THEY GET OUT OF IT.—Some one asked a Whig if Gen. Taylor was not the same Zachary Taylor who recommended that Mr. Van Buren send to Cuba to get the blood hounds.

Yes, said the Whig—but Gen. Taylor was a loco foco then!—*Nash. Whig.*

☞ All portions of the country have been recently visited by most terrible storms, of rain, hail, &c. On Tuesday night, about 11 o'clock, a violent storm visited this section of the county. The rain was very heavy—accompanied by severe thunder and lightning, but we have learned of no material damage being done.

IMPROVED ORDER OF RED MEN.

The Great Council of the Improved Order of Red Men of the State of Virginia, was duly instituted in Winchester, on the 6th sleep, 4th seven-suns of the Buck Moon, G. S. 5607, by the Great Sachem Incohence, of the Great Council of the United States. The following are the officers: Nathan Sherer, Great Sachem; James H. Drake, Great S. Sagamore; B. F. Evans, Great J. Sagamore; John P. Bentley, Great Prophet; C. B. Coffroth, G. K. of Records; R. W. Reed, G. K. of Wampum; Jno. C. Miller, G. K. O. W.; Alfred Seal, G. K. I. W. C. A. B. Coffroth, G. Representative to the G. C. of the U. S. Charters were granted to open new Tribes in Smithfield and Woodstock. Applications for Charters must be signed by six individuals, well recommended as good citizens in the community in which they reside, accompanied with the fee of 13 fathoms of Wampum ($20.) and addressed to the Great Keeper of Records, Winchester, Va.—*Winchester Republican.*

THE VICE PRESIDENT.

The Hon. George M. Dallas, Vice President of the United States, with some members of his family, has been sojourning for a few days at Selma, the delightful residence of Senator Mason at this place. Our citizens generally, and of all parties, availed themselves of the occasion to pay their respects to a gentleman, not less eminent for his station in the government, than for the virtue and excellence with which he adorns the circles of private life. We trust that he will bear with him as agreeable impressions from his visit to our Valley, as he will leave among those who have had the good fortune to make his acquaintance.

[*Winchester Virginian.*

From the Correspondent of the Union.

NEW YORK, August 2, 1847.

The ship fever and its concomitant diseases are making fearful ravages in Montreal. The mortality is at present seven times the usual average, and is upwards of 400 a week, or 21,000 a year, in a population of less than 50,000! Hundreds of families have left the city. The venerable and Rev. Mr. Richards, the father of the Catholic clergy in the diocese, known and beloved by all, has just fallen—the *eighth* victim of the clergy. Of all the priests, whether of Irish or other extraction, who can speak English, there is but *one* (Rev. Mr. Conolly) able to attend the immigrant sheds. The great Cathedral is literally deserted; there being no clergyman disengaged from the incessant labors of attending the sick to say mass, or administer the sacraments there.—The Nuns and Sisters of Charity are dead, sick or worn out by fatigue.

The excellent Bishop Bourget and his vicar general take their turns night and day by the beds of the sick and dying. The clergymen who can speak English even imperfectly, are called in from the country parishes. The Jesuit fathers from our Catholic College, St. John's, have been summoned to Montreal; and already, with a devotion which is really sublime, the good men have set forth for their mission of death.

An affray occurred at Blacksburg, Montgomery County, Va., on the 24th ult., between members of the National Circus Company and citizens of Montgomery, which has probably resulted in the death of a worthy young man who was in attendance at the Circus. The circumstances which gave rise to the altercation are stated in the Fincastle Democrat to be the following. A dog belonging to the Circus was kicked by one of the visitors, to whom he was troublesome, and out of this incident the affray arose, in which one of the showmen cut a young man not engaged in the quarrel, with the edge of a scythe, inflicting wounds which it is feared may prove mortal. Efforts have been made, but without success, to arrest the offender.

But little more than a year since a peaceable and orderly young man was killed at Charlottesville by a member of a Circus company, during a row created at one of their exhibitions. In that case the murderer could not be identified, and was of course turned loose upon society to commit other acts of violence in other places. It would be well for the peace, the safety and the morals of the country, if these travelling bands of reckless, lawless men, could be stopped altogether.—*Rockingham Register.*

THE DEFALCATION.—We cheerfully give place to the following resolution adopted yesterday by the Board of Directors of the Branch Bank of Virginia at this place, (says Thursday's Lynchburg Republican.) Should the defalcation not exceed the amount mentioned, the loss to the Bank will be very trifling, as the official bonds of the defaulting officers will cover 30,000 dollars, and the Bank will be able to recover a few thousand dollars from other sources:

"Resolved, That the editors of the papers in this place be requested to state under their editorial heads that the Board of Directors have been laboriously engaged in investigating the affairs of the institution for several days past, and that the amount embezzled from the Bank, so far as they have been enabled to ascertain, is about the sum of 35,000 dollars, though they have not the means at present of ascertaining the precise amount."

The examining trial of James B. Green takes place to-day before a Called Court of the Corporation of Lynchburg.

BRIGHT PROSPECTS FOR IRELAND.—The following is an extract of a letter dated Cork July 9th published in the Norfolk Beacon:

"I am happy to inform you that the crops throughout the United Kingdom are excellent.—The Potatoes free from disease, but not so many planted as formerly, for fear of the rot. Every thing is abundant, and getting cheaper every day. We do not know what to do with the Corn here. There are now about 100 sail of ships laying here, ladened with corn and wheat, besides an immense fleet is expected from the Mediterranean. While I am writing they are arriving in sections of six to seven. Immense failures among speculators are occurring daily. Some vessels have laid here five weeks for orders, and then advertised their cargoes for sale. Believe me, when the crops come in grain will be a drug in the market.—Bread, four pound loaf, 9d. Butter, per pound, 10d. Beef per pound, 6d."

The Philadelphia Ledger of yesterday says—

We yesterday saw a very well finished counterfeit $5 note on the Bank at Middletown, in this State. It is admirably executed, and would scarcely excite suspicion on the closest scrutiny. Another dangerous counterfeit is a three dollar issue on the Mechanics' Bank at Newark, N. J. This issue, though not near so well calculated to deceive as the fives on the Middletown Bank, has nevertheless been widely circulated in and about the city. The Pennsylvanian of yesterday notices another new counterfeit, of the denomination of three dollars, on the Marine Bank at New Bedford.

GREAT FIRE IN MAYSVILLE—$30,000 *Worth of Property Destroyed!!!*—A destructive fire occurred at Maysville, Ky., on Wednesday. The Cincinnatti Commercial says:

The flames commenced in the three large warehouses owned by Gen. Collins, which were entirely consumed; and such was the heat, and the rapidity of the fire in its destroying course, that three other buildings, frames, were also destroyed. The latter were owned by Mr. Newton Cooper, and occupied by several families.

A quantity of hemp and bagging belonging to the Maysville Manufacturing Company, and amounting in value to about $22,000, was destroyed. The entire loss by this fire is estimated at between thirty and thirty-five thousand dollars, of which about ten thousand is known to be covered by insurance.

SUGAR AND COFFEE CROPS.—Accounts from Ponce, P. R., to the 29th ult., state that the inhabitants and the crops are suffering dreadfully for the want of rain. The sugar crop of 1848, it was thought, would not be so large by one half in consequence. The crops of coffee, sugar, and the other products, by which the poorer classes are principally sustained, are considered as entirely ruined.

From the Baltimore Sun.

COMMERCIAL RESTRICTIONS.

In the future we must accustom ourselves to expect the gradual relaxation of the restrictive principles that have heretofore been applied by the various nations of the earth to commercial intercourse. The signs of the times are not to be mistaken by any but those who are wilfully blind to them, and it will prove the worst of folly vainly to strive against them, under the fallacious anticipation of some era *propitious* to the recurrence of an exploded theory—exploded by its own practical operation. The best of wisdom is that which yields natural prejudices and individual interests to the potency of experience in favor of the general good; and the time has now come when the admonition of reason may be distinctly understood by every man who is willing to listen thereunto. It suggests the propriety of resigning the delusive hopes of exclusive privileges; and challenges the application of sound judgment to the natural principles of trade, that all the consequences and influences evolved, foreseen and unforeseen, may be steadfastly improved: what is evil, carefully avoided, and what is good, sedulously maintained.

So far as this subject refers to our own country, we have much cause to believe that any violent political agitation thereupon will be known no more. The difference between parties now, is more in words and the subtleties of party prejudice, than in active meaning and purpose; and although the day is not yet gone by, perhaps, in which, under certain circumstances, some change might occur in legislation upon the matter; yet we apprehend, there would be no action corresponding with the ultra sentiment with which we have been familiar in times not long past. Certainly, no such action could possibly be attended with permanent success, and would be only the procursor of another change "back again."

A Congress of Nations, our readers are aware, has been spoken of, and is expected to take place in the centre of commercial Europe, having direct reference to the most liberal principles of national intercourse for the purposes of traffic; and we may rationally expect from the deliberations and resolutions of such an assemblage of men as will thus be brought together, an influence that will in time be sensibly felt, though, perhaps, imperceptible at first, throughout the commercial relations of the globe. The address of Louis Chitti, Esq., commissioner of the Belgium government, referring to this subject, is a paper entitled to general attention; it invites the co-operation of this country in the purposes of the convention, and presents the fact that distinguished political economists of France, Germany, England and Italy will take part in the labors of the Congress. The address opens with the following paragraph, which strikes us as peculiarly appropriate:

"God, in his infinite goodness, has diversified the climates of the world, and has given to each latitude the exclusive cultivation of certain products. He has so ordered that the people of the different regions of the globe should find it to their advantage to exchange their products, and that by means of those exchanges, relations of affection and good will should spring up between the different nations. Fraternity, and the love of our neighbor are in accordance with the benign law which Christ revealed to us, and even were that revelation wanting, we should find them written in the heart of each member of the great human family. The protective system is a manifest violation of that divine law which makes all men a single family. According to it, each nation, shutting itself within its own frontiers, and prohibiting the introduction of foreign commodities, isolates itself in the midst of its brethren, injures their interests and treats them as enemies, instead of endeavoring to gain their good will. Countries governed by this system are towards others like citadels in a state of siege, holding all those who desire access to them at a distance."

The "Belgian Association," which has made the move in this matter, is anxious that the United States should be represented in the Congress, and we perceive that Mr. Wm. H. Polk, the President's brother, is among the number who respond to the invitation.

From the Richmond Enquirer.

"THE GREAT QUESTION."—Under this head, the New-York Tribune counting upon a Whig majority in the next House of Representatives, (which we strongly doubt,) takes a deliberate view of the duty of the Whigs, in regard to the war, in case peace should not be established in the mean time. As it is interesting to know what course will be pursued in such a case, we quote the language of this leading organ of one branch of the Whig party. Though the Tribune does not say so in so many words, its meaning is too plain to be doubted, viz: that the Whigs should and will generally vote against supplies to carry on the war. Its pretext is the saving of lives and money, but this view we have always contended, is fallacious. To retreat from Mexico, would incite her passions, encourage her hopes of revenge, lead to a fierce and harrassing border warfare, and, in the language of Col. Doniphan, "postpone eternally the peace." The Tribune thus defines its position, and that of "the Whigs generally with whom it is acquainted." We have no doubt that it will find plenty of aiders and abettors in Southern Whiggery:

"Throughout the Southern and Western States this dilemma is presented to the Whig candidates for Congress: "The country is now involved in War: No matter about its origin; what do you propose to *do?*" And this same question will press with redoubled force upon the Whigs in Congress, in case there shall be a Whig majority in the House. We trust the general answer will be—"We will do RIGHT, and, to the extent of our power, refrain from doing or sustaining *wrong*, no matter how specious may be the excuses for, nor how alluring the promised advantages of a contrary course." Let this stand be taken and consistently maintained, and were it to cost us a Presidential defeat, we should esteem the result more honorable, and ultimately more advantageous to us than ten years of uninterrupted domination.

"We cannot speak for others: but the Whigs generally with whom we are acquainted are devoted to Peace, Justice and Freedom; they loathe War, *Robbery and aggressive Slavery*. They do not see the policy of expending tens of thousands more of lives and countless millions more of money in Mexico, when the most favorable result of so doing will be the acquisition of territory which we do not need, and which is very likely, when acquired, to involve us in deadly fraternal discord. We shall see whether other Whigs, and how many, hold opposite opinions."

THE TARIFF, THE SUB-TREASURY, AND RUIN.—The New York Express of Saturday bears testimony to the commercial ruin effected by the operation of these destructive locofoco measures, the tariff, sub-treasury, &c. It says, "the exhibition of specie by the banks in their quarterly returns of this day, it is said, will be much larger than on the previous quarter. Some predict that it will be between ten and eleven millions of dollars. Should this be the case, it is the largest sum ever reported in Wall st. The banks were never so strong as they are at present." Yet, two years ago every whig paper in the Union said the country would be speedily ruined, if the democratic party adopted those measures, which have as the result shows, contributed much to produce a degree of prosperity never before enjoyed by us as a nation.—*New Haven Register.*

R. W. GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF VIRGINIA, I. O. O. F.—At its Annual Communication, held in the town of Alexandria, on the 3d and 4th of August, 1847, the following persons were elected to the offices respectively affixed to their names, viz: Edward S. Hough, of Alexandria, Grand Patriarch; Jas. M. H. Brunet, of Petersburg, Grand High Priest; Samuel Bozes, of Richmond, Grand Senior Warden; Wm. Morgan, Jr. of Alexandria, Grand Scribe; John I. Proctor, of Alexandria, Grand Treasurer; John C. Schmitt, of Woodstock, Grand Junior Warden; Henry F. Zimmerman, of Alexandria, Grand Sentinel; George M. Bain, of Portsmouth, Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of the United States.

FROM VERA CRUZ AND TAMPICO.

Confirmation of Gen. Scott's entrance into the city of Mexico—Loss of 300 Men!—Express from San Fernando to Matamoras.

The steamship Washington, Captain Pratt, arrived at New Orleans on the 1st inst., from Vera Cruz, via, of Tampico and the Brazos. By the National received the Sun of Anahuac of the 22d ult., the Tampico Sentinel of the 25th, and the Matamoras Flag of the 24th. The following letter, received from a gentleman of New Orleans, furnished to the National for publication, is of exciting interest, and if true, confirms the news that Gen. Scott had entered the city of Mexico:

BRAZOS ST. JAGO, July 27th.

Sir,—I hasten to inform you that Mr. Fischer has just arrived here from Matamoras, and was informed that the Colonel commanding had reviewed on parade last evening that Gen. Scott had entered the city of Mexico with a loss of 300 men. The news was brought by express to Matamoras from San Fernando, by a Mexican to the Alcalde, and was generally believed to be true.

There is no doubt as to the information having been imparted to the troops at Matamoras. I would have given you more particulars, but Mr. Fischer has gone back two miles, in hopes to get his baggage here in time for the Washington. I cannot give you more, as the boat goes, and has not yet returned in time to go to New Orleans in her. W.

The other New Orleans papers have nothing in reference to the contents of this letter by the Washington, which will cause a general inclination to doubt its authenticity also. The Bulletin says:

The Washington brings no intelligence in relation to the report of General Scott having entered Mexico on the 17th. She stopped at Tampico on the 25th, and Brazos St. Jago on the 27th. She brought the following passengers:

Lieutenants Kingsbury, Ordnance Corps; Palmer, North Carolina Volunteers; Summers, U. S. A.; Boyle, Louisiana Volunteers; Capt. McGirard, from Tampico; Messrs. Kelly, A. C. Levy, Cooper, Floyd, Wolf, Danin, and 38 discharged soldiers and teamsters.

The passengers from the Ann Chase arrived at Brazos on two schooners, on the 26th ult.

The U. S. transport brig Mary Jane, Capt. Hussey, also arrived last evening from Tampico whence she sailed on the 26th ult. She has made the voyage hence to Tampico and back in six days.

We are indebted to Captain Hussey, for the Sentinel of the 25th, containing the official report of Col. De Russy, of his late expedition. His orders were to call upon the Mexican commander, Gen. Garray, and claim from him the American prisoners detained at Huejetla, suggesting reasons why they should be liberated, and in case of Gen. Garray's compliance, bring them back with him to Tampico.

On reaching successfully Asuluama and Tantayuka, he informed the Alcalde of those towns of the object of his expedition, and stated that, though he was accompanied by a military escort, his mission was not in hostility. The attack was made upon him the