FELICIANA DEMOCRAT.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

Edited by a special Democratic Committee.

CLINTON, LA.

Saturday Morning, May 26, 1855.

☞Subscribers who do not receive their papers, will please leave word at the office, east side of the Public Square.

☞The obliging captain of the Music, has our thanks for late city papers.

ARTHUR'S MAGAZINE FOR JUNE.—In advance of its cotemporaries, this number has been received. It merits like its predecessors, all the encomiums passed upon them.

THE WATER CURE JOURNAL:
AMERICAN PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL:
LIFE ILLUSTRATED:

These are the titles of three publications, issued by Fowlers & Wells, New York. The two first, every month, at $1,00 per year, and the latter weekly, at $2,00. These three journals are beautiful specimens of newspaper printing, conducted with much ability, and each according to its title, is replete with valuable information on all subjects appertaining thereto. They can all be obtained for $3.

"THE PLAY, THE PLAY'S THE THING."—The Hall of the Thesplans was graced on Tuesday evening last by a large audience to witness the performance of DON CÆSAR DE BAZAN. The piece was well put upon the stage, the characters appropriately costumed, and the scenery well painted, reflecting much credit upon the young artist who executed it. The performance was good, and was generally allowed to be the most perfect of the season. It will be repeated on Tuesday evening, June 5.

We trust that our citizens will display a prompt liberality in giving early and material aid to the society so that they may have the means to prepare for the coming fall. Amusements like these, so instructive and harmless in their character, should receive the support and encouragement of all good citizens and the ravings of fanatical bigots, in opposition thereto, should be treated with the contempt they merit.

☞The earth is parched, the weather hot, the wells drying up, the dust flying in clouds, and no prospect of rain.

ELECTION FOR CHIEF JUSTICE.—The Governor has issued his proclamation, ordering an election for Chief Justice, to be holden on Monday the 25th of June, proximo.

TO THE COMET: If you really are in want of *that* genealogy, apply to the first Know Nothing editor you meet.

☞The only difference of opinion that prevailed in the late anti-slavery meeting in New York related to the question whether the dissolution of the Union was a necessary part of their programme; and whether State sovereignty should be recognised in conflict with the higher law.

☞Swarms of locusts have recently made their appearance in the vicinity of Camden, Ark.

A HINT TO EXTRAVAGANT WIVES.—It's the last ostrich feather that breaks the husband's back.

WASHINGTON'S AUTOGRAPH.—An autograph letter of George Washington was recently sold at auction, in London for fifty pounds sterling.

HON. A. H. STEPHENS, of Georgia has published a long letter, declining a re-election to Congress, and expressing his strong opposition to the know nothings.

☞At the celebration, a few days ago, in New York, of the American and foreign Bible Society, a colored preacher declared that the condition of the colored people of New York was incomparably worse than that of the slaves in the South. As he had seen them in Church street and West Broadway, they were poor, ignorant, and degraded.

☞The Connecticut Know Nothings have determined to keep ther proceedings enveloped in midnight darkness: a subordinate council in Lynne had been kicked out of the imperial order, on the ground that its members exercised the right of freemen, and voted as they pleased.

DEMOCRATIC VICTORIES.—In Cambridge, Ia., at the late municipal election, the Democrats beat the oath bound conspirators fifty four votes. Heretofore the city has been largely Whig. In Columbus, Ia., also the Democratic ticket succeeded, the Know Nothings being completely driven from the field.

☞Senator Sumner of Massachusetts is delivering anti-slavery lectures in New York and Brooklyn. The Massachusetts senators are the prominent champions of abolitionism and are sparing no time or labor to propagate their disorganizing heresies.

☞The Hon. Lewis Cass has been invited to deliver the address at the New York State Agricultural Fair, at Elmira, in October next.

CHOLERA is said to have already broken out at Cincinnati, and the papers of that city are calling on the local authorities to make early preparations for it by cleaning the streets, and removing every cause of unwholesomeness.

Desertion of an "American Sentinel."

Dr. S. W. Sampson, late editor of the "American Sentinel," published at Jackson, has left, for parts unknown. It is said, he forgot to leave behind him, the funds of the "Social Circle," of which he was treasurer, amounting to about four hundred dollars, and to pay numerous accounts which he had contracted to merchants and others, in this parish, before his exodus. This know nothing editor, we are happy to add, was not a native of this state, but a foreign importation from the great north west.

☞Ex-President Fillmore with a party of friends, was to embark for Europe.

A Contrast.

Some Democrats who have joined the know nothings say they are as good and as firm in the democratic faith as ever, and claim to be democrats still. This is strange, if it be true. Facts do not bear them out in any such a conclusion. They now act and vote with a party, whose principles, so far as they are known to the public, directly conflict with some of the most vital principles that the democratic party have always sustained. This is a very poor way of being a democrat, to say the least of it. The democratic party every where act above board, and proclaim their principles from the house tops. The know nothings are secret and hidden in all their principles, meetings, and measures, except, so far as accident has made them public. The democratic party proscribes no man on account of his place of birth. The know nothings, without discrimination, declare all persons of foreign birth unfit to hold any office of trust or profit under the government. The democratic party claim the right for every one to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience, and make no distinction between citizens professing a different faith. The know nothings denounce the Catholics on account of their religion, and declare them unfit to be trusted as worthy citizens, although they assisted in establishing our freedom, and have always been as devoted to the country heretofore, as any other class. The democratic party leaves to every one, perfect freedom to act and vote, as his own sense of duty and propriety may dictate. The know nothings bind their members by secret oaths, to vote according to the dictates of a majority, or the direction of the grand council, or not to vote at all, under penalty of being published in all the know nothing lodges throughout the land, as a perjured villain, traitor, and scoundrel. The democratic party have ever supported law and order, and the equal rights of all in the exercise of the elective franchise, denouncing alike dictation, or intimidation at the polls, as tyrannical and dangerous to the peace of society, and the perpetuity of our free institutions. The know nothings have been known to go armed to the polls, in many instances, for the purpose of overawing and preventing naturalized citizens from voting, for fear of violence to their persons, or of taking their lives.—They have instigated riots and bloodshed in some of the great cities of this nation, and on one or two occasions, have destroyed the ballot boxes by violence, to prevent an election which they knew had gone against them. The democrat party have ever sought to elevate the masses, by holding out the equal right of all to preferment, requiring only honesty, capacity, and faithfulness to the constitution. The know nothings seek to degrade the foreign born citizens and the Catholics, by setting them apart from the rest and proscribing them as unfit to discharge the duties, or to enjoy the privileges, which the constitution and the laws confer. The democratic party seek everywhere to give free expression to public opinion, by freely, fairly and openly, discussing all measures connected with the rights and interests of the people, the policy of the government, and the conduct of their public agents. The know nothing party seek to govern the whole people by the agency and machinery of secret councils, organised throughout the country, in which the few lord it over the many, in violation of every principle of popular government and in utter contempt of the intelligence of the people, and their capacity to govern themselves.

The democratic party have nothing secret. All *their* principles, measures, candidates, and organizations are sought to be made as public as the most ardent democrat in the Union could desire. There is no underhanded work about it—no mystery—nothing hidden.

The know nothing party act directly opposite to this. All is secret, hidden, mysterious. Who knows what measures they advocate, by their own showing, except their proscription of foreigners and catholics from the privileges which the constitution and laws confer upon them. Upon every other other question all is dark as midnight.

The democratic party by their principles and their practice, inculcate in the public mind, love of truth, friendship, candor, fairness, magnanimity, honesty, moral bravery, and patriotism. The know nothing party, by their sneaking, underhanded manner, of shunning public scrutiny, in their attempts to control public opinion, inculcate deceit, falsehood, cowardice, treachery, distrust, persecution, and a general want of confidence from man towards his fellow man.

With these facts before them, how is it possible for any one calling himself a democrat to belong to the know nothings? He has either deceived himself, or is trying to deceive others. Know nothingism and democracy are perfectly antipodal to each other, and any democrat who has joined the know nothings, and still continues with them, ought to have independence enough to quit the order, or cease to claim to be, what he evidently is not, a democrat, We prefer open enemies to pretended friends.

COMMUNICATED.

Attorney General.

Among those who will be presented to the Baton Rouge Convention for nominating State officers will be the name of E. W. Moise, for Attorney General. Of the merits of this distinguished individual it is almost useless for me to speak. He is a noble generous and devoted Southerner. A democrat that has never flinched or wavered, but has ever sustained its principles, and upheld its banner when it has almost trailed in the dust. I knew him in the State of Mississippi, in 1840, during the Harrison excitement, when to avow ones democracy, was to be subjected to insult, and not unfrequently personal violence, yet he neither doubted, or quailed, but firmly, breasted the storm, fully confiding in his principle to bring him through safely, as the good mariner does his well tried ship, when the wind and waves are beating against it, and threatening danger. The ability with which he presided for years as speaker of the house of Representatives, won for him the approbation of both parties in the legislature. His abilities as a lawyer are known to be of a high order. As a public orator few can excel him. As a Debator, he is always ready, and generally carries conviction to every unbiased mind, that he is in the right His popularity is such that I am sure if nominated, he would be triumphantly elected, A better selection could not be made. ONE WHO KNOWS HIM WELL.

Secret Agents.

The abolitionists of the north, boast, that they have the church, the schoolhouse, and will have the state, ere long, on their side. When we see this has been their aim for years, striving in every way to influence public opinion, disseminating tracts, books, newspapers, and other publications, filled with misrepresentations of the south, and its institutions,—exciting hatred, prejudice, and sectional feeling,—and boldly declaring their determination to abolitionise the south, what is our duty? Are we not called upon by every consideration which we hold dear, to be not idle spectators, but to watch with ceaseless vigilance, every avenue to their plans of mischief and ruin. Every year they are sending their thousands among us in the shape of artisans, teachers, book agents, temperance lecturers, and in some instances, editors. How very careful ought every southern man to be, who he employs as teachers of his children. No northern man should be employed as such, until he give good and sufficient evidence from undoubted authority, that he is not an agent of the abolitionists, or in any manner tinctured with their heresy. How many northern men are engaged, all over the southern states, as teachers, who are total strangers, and for aught we know, have been sent secretly in our midst, to sow the seeds of our destruction, We should not be ungenerous to the stranger, who comes in good faith to make his home with us, but at the same time, we should not be so unjust to ourselves as not to be on our guard against imposition. This subject demands the serious reflection of all southern men.

The Spirit of Intolerance.

A very respectable and worthy minister of the gospel, we are told, openly acknowledges, that he has joined the know nothings, and for no other purpose than to put down the Catholics in this country.

This, though manly in the avowal, was nevertheless pernicious and dangerous in the sentiment.—That a protestant minister of standing and reputation, not only in his denomination but in society, in general, should deem it his duty to join a secret political association for such an object, is truly to be deplored. It evinces a spirit of bigotry and persecution amongst us, that we had fondly hoped, would find no advocates among such intelligent divines, as we conceive him to be. Such was not the spirit of his divine master, when he taught his followers, that his kingdom was not of this world, and, to "render unto Cæsar the things that belonged to Cæsar, and to God, the things that are Gods." Such was not the lessons taught by the great reformer, Martin Luther, when he opposed the see of Rome. Such was not the spirit in which our union was formed, nor the language in which the constitution is written, stipulating that no religious test should ever be required of any one holding an office of trust or profit under this government, and such was not the spirit of our pilgrim fathers, when they sought, in this country, a "Faith's pure shrine! Freedom to worship God."—The prevalence of a sentiment like this, unfolds a spirit of persecution and intolerance, if not arrested, will destroy the greatest pillar of the protestant church, the right of private judgment in matters of faith or conscience. Who does not know that once you prescribe one denomination for adopting what they conceive to be their religious duty, you open the door, that will in the end, lead to the worst consequences. The sect persecuted, will persecute in return, until a religious war, fierce, prolonged, and unrelenting, will visit our now happy land, and end in the destruction of liberty, and the loss of all the blessings which the people of this nation now enjoy. Free toleration of all denominations of religious sects, and opinions, is the safeguard given to all, and is the boast of our people, secured to them under a written constitution. If the members of any protestant denomination, would enjoy the right of private judgment in matters of religion, and think it wrong for others to proscribe them, therefore they should regard that right in Catholics, Jews, or Jesuits, with the same zeal they would their own. The right of every man to think for himself, and to worship God as to him seems best, is perfect and absolute in all, and no earthly power can take it away, either by legislation, or political disfranchisement.

We trust the reverend gentlemen above referred to, has seen his error, and will, in future, rely on the bible, truth, and reason, as did Luther, and not, upon secret political associations, to "put down Catholics, in this country."

☞At the late elections for Police Jurors, in the parishes of West Feliciana and Iberville, the Know Nothing ticket has been defeated.

The Bayon Sara Ledger gives the following incident connected with the election in West Feliciana:

Early on the morning of the election about half-a-dozen of Sams particular friends chartered a wagon and with flags flying, proceeded to the third ward for the purpose of putting *hors du combat* the gallant FORT! But, alas, for "young America," they were destined to witness a most signal defeat—the voters appeared, the polls were closed, and the result was as follows; for Wm, J. Fort, anti-Know-Nothing 25, for Dr. R. G. Stirling. Know-Nothing, 12! The "Wagon band" returned, but their flags have not been heard of.

Foreign News.

The steamship Baltic brings dates to the 5th inst.—The Emperor Louis Napoleon has received congratulations from all quarters, on his escape from assassination.

The man who attempted to kill him, admits that he had followed him to London for the purpose of finding an opportunity of shooting him, and that on finding he had failed there, he returned to Paris, determined to endeavor to effect his object.

The assassin fired twice at his intended victim, but missed his aim on both occasions. When he was arrested, the Emperor continued on his way, passing the assassin apparently unconcerned.

THE WAR.—It is stated that the British Government is desirous of resuming negotiations.

The departure of Louis Napoleon for the Crimea has been further postponed.

SEVASTOPOL.—The Allies were expecting an immediate and formidable attack from the Russians, and were making dispositions in preparation for it.

The guns of the Allies are reported to have become unserviceable from the protracted firing with them.

It was believed that they would be compelled to withdraw the troops from the place, leaving the guns in possession of the Russians.

The White Sea was about to be soon declared in a state of blockade.

PERSIA.—The diplomatic mission of the Allies to Persia, the object of which was to enlist that country on their side against Russia, had proved quite a failure.

SPAIN.—The Spanish Government is reported to have transmitted instructions to Gen. Concha, the Captain General of Cuba, that he should limit his vigilance and energies in protecting the colony to cases of strict necessity.

CHINA AND JAPAN.—The Baltic brings intelligence from China and Japan of considerable moment.

The ratifications of the treaty between the United States and Japan had been exchanged.

One of the largest cities in Japan had been destroyed by an earthquake. Jeddo, the capital, had been seriously injured, and the town of Simondo had been reduced to ruins.

In China, the rebels had been driven from Canton and Shanghai with terrific slaughter. This it is thought, would most probably end the revolution.

THE COTTON MARKET.—The circulars brought by the Baltic show that on the 5th inst., the day of her departure, cotton in the Liverpool market was active at the advance of ⅛d. per pound.

Lord John Russel had arrived in England on his return from the Viema Conference.

THE CRIMEA.—The allies had ben compelled at the latest accounts, to suspend the bombardment of Sevastopol until the arrival of reinforcements. This may be regarded as equivalent to a defeat, even though it should prove only a temporary one.

The latest despatches from Balaklava are dated the 17th ult.

The Russians fearing an approaching assault had opened a tremendous cannonade along the whole line. The French had consequently lost six officers and 300 men, but the Russians had lost immensely every night.

Every night the men-of-war were engaged in firing broadsides against the town.

The Russians in the city received provisions daily and were engaged in constructing immense works to the north and to the east of the place.

Two Polish deserters states that there were 100,000 Russians in the vicinity of Sevastopol, 60,000 of whom had arrived from Simpheropol.

A despatch from Vienna, dated Monday night, states that a decree that the army should be increased so as to raise it to a full war compliment, would be issued immediately.

A decree ordering all officers and soldiers absent on leave, has been published.

It is rumored that a separate treaty was about to be signed between Turkey and Russia forming part of a European treaty of peace.

The first division of the Austrian Army had received marching orders.

The appearances of affairs at St. Petersburg denoted great activity and energetic preparations for the continuance of the war. The Czar was devoting the whole of his time to military preparation.

The Emperor Napoleon had made the following reply to an address of the Senate in reference to an attempt which had been made to assassinate him: "I thank the Senate for the sentiments they have expressed. I fear nothing from attempts to assassinate me. There are existences which are the decrees of Providence, and as long as I shall not have fulfilled my mission, I run no danger."

The Russian reinforcements to the number of 50,000 had arrived at Sevastopol.

According to the Russian accounts the Allies had not destroyed a single Russian battery.

The Russian peasantry of the Province of Ukremi are reported to have risen in insurrection.

Six thousand Turks have been sent to join Omer Pacha at Balakava.

A despatch from Vienna states that an imperial decree will shortly be issued, calling out 80,000 men.

The New State Rights Man.

As our Know Nothing cotemporaries have neither copied a portion of Wilson's anti-slavery lecture at the Metropolitan Theatre, in New York on the 8th inst., nor specially condemned his sentiments on that occasion, we shall supply the omission by publishing the following taken from the Tribune's report of the proceedings:

Mr. Wilson (who was received with loud applause) commenced his address by adverting to the vast present importance of the topic he had come to speak upon, a topic which engaged the attention of the most gifted intellects of the age. He did not hope to say anything worthy of more than passing attention; but he would at once declare his position; he was pledged to the immediate and unconditional abolition of slavery, and the blotting out from the legislation of the Republic every act that countenances human slavery. In 1835, anti-slavery was in the nadir of its weakness; in 1855, anti-slavery is in the zenith of its strength. It has now laid hold on the consciences of the people; it has a majority in the house, and is rapidly changing the complexion of the Senate, in fifteen sovereign States it has a majority of 300,000; the most powerful journals uphold it, and the most ancient literary institution in America has cast from her bosom the Professor who surrendered a man to the slave-hunter. it has but to grasp the helm with the conscious hand of a master, and guide the Republic on its course. In 1835, law was trampled in the dust, and the few friends of the hunted slave, although they violate no rule of law, humanity, or religion held their lives and property at the mercy of mobs; but their perseverance for good now forms their best claim on the gratitude of their country, and the everlasting remembrance of mankind. Mr. Wilson then gave an outline of the rise and progress of slavery from the earliest history of the continent, and of the compromises made with it by freedom. The men who brought the first cargo of slaves into Massachusetts, were imprisoned for the deed and the Africans returned to their country at the expense of the Colony.

Even so late as 1760 South Carolina endeavored to check the slave traffic, but the policy of England forced it on her Colonies. In 1835 in New Hampshire and Connecticut, institutions of instruction to which colored pupils were admitted, where put down by legislation and popular violence. In that year the New York anti- slavery society institution was mobbed, a meeting of refined ladies in Boston was illegally dispersed by a mob of law abiding "Massachusetts gentlemen," and Lloyd Garrison was dragged through the streets of that city. State legislatures at the North passed resolutions against anti-slavery agitation; and Gen. Pierce declared, yes, Gen. Pierce declared, that only a few women, children and priests had any sympathy with the fanaticism of Abolitionists. Probably Gen. Pierce has recently had occasion to change that opinion. But the true men of that day knew that the war was not one of men but of ideas and principles; they knew that the right should triumph, and they persevered. When those days came which true Americans can never remember without a blush—when old politicians went through the land, invoking the people to "conquer their prejudices"—when Castle Garden Union Committee sat, there was still true men to be found, and a New York merchant declared that his goods, not his principles were for sale. The perpetrators of the Nebraska iniquity have gone down before the stormy wrath of the betrayed people. We have had in America (as in France) the revolution of conscience and the revolution of contempt, and before the latter the administration of President Pierce has gone down. New Hampshire, which in 1836 removed an institution of learning because it sheltered colored pupils, has given in 1855, 38,000 votes—that is 10,000 of a popular majority—to send three Abolitionists to Congress.

The very town where the outrage was committed in 1835 has given a majority to send John P. Hale to the United States Senate.—And so in Connecticut and Massachusetts the popular sentiment shows its change by equally striking manifestations—Massachusetts has dismissed from her bench the man who gave a man to a Virginia man-stealer. In your own city, where are the men who were false to freedom? But John P. Wheeler, who showed himself worthy, has received his desert. 'Tis the same in Ohio and other states. 'Tis nineteen years since I stood in the National Capital beside Williams' slave-pen. There I saw men women and children chained, and heard their groans. A short time ago I stood on the same spot, but the slave pen was no longer there; in its place was a garden and a sign hung there "Flowers for sale and boquets made 'to order.'" I hope but a few years more shall pass until every spot wherever the groans of human bondage are heard shall be a garden in which the blossoms of freedom shall make glad the eye, and the accents of hope delight the ear. The present administration has been defeated in every State in the North and I predict it shall be so throughout the South. Let any party, be it Democratic, Whig, or American, raise a finger to repress the anti-slavery movement, and it is sure to die.

We believe in the old Calvanistic doctrine of immediate redemption—yes, and of election too. An organization that shall be truly American and Democratic, embracing in its affection the people of the whole country, and the people of every color. Such a party might well be deemed powerful. But if there be any who hope to organize such a party, to go into power in 1856, without being anti-slavery, I ask them to go back seven years, and to see how, when the Whig party in '48 hooted anti-slavery out of its convention, it thenceforth began to die.

This is part of the lecture of Wilson, a United States Senator elect of Massachusetts, a leader of "Know Nothingism" at the East, a State Rights man, *par excellence*, according to the Picayune, and other organs of the transplants of Northern fanaticism. This man Wilson corroborates the declaration that the Know-Nothing achievements North and West have resulted exclusively in elevating the enemies of Southern institutions, and he, traitor as he is, looks forward with unconcealed exultation to the vastly augmented power of the Abolitionists in the next Congress though the agency of the secret association whose ramifications are permitted to extend throughout this section of the Union, whose best interests it was organized to destroy.

Men of the South, do you see no peril in the present aspect of affairs?

OUTRAGE AND LYNCHING.—The Monticello Miss. Journal of Saturday last, has the following:

Just as our paper was going to press, we heard that a rape was committed on the person of a white lady, living near Georgetown, on Tuesday last, by a runaway slave, belonging to Gen. Cunningham. The negro was immediately pursued and arrested by persons living in the neighborhood.—He confessed his guilt, and was hung.

EXTREME POVERTY.—Utter poverty often kills the affections; but a deep constant and common feeling of this world's hardships and an equal participation in all those struggles by which they may be softened unite husband and wife, parents and children, brothers and sisters, in thoughtful and subdued tenderness, making them happy, indeed, while the circle round the fire is unbroken, and yet preparing them every day to bear the separation, when some one or other is taken slowly or suddenly away. Their souls are not moved by fits and starts,—although, indeed, nature sometimes will wrestle with necessity; and there is a wise moderation, both in the joy and the grief of the indigent poor, which keeps lasting trouble away from this earthly lot, and prepares them silently and unconsciously for heaven.—*Wilson.*