

ocrats. He would ask, candidly, if the cause of religion had suffered most under Democratic or Know-Nothing policy? He alluded to the times when preachers were courted, when they were considered the pets of society. But when they turned Know-Nothings, through the false policy of checking Catholicism, their influence began to wane. The cause of religion had not received an impetus by such a course.

He believed there was some reason yet left among the masses—the public mind had not become completely deranged or Know-Nothing.

Mr. Willard continued: I appeal to the Protestants of America as indicative of the progress of Protestantism to redeem the history of the past two hundred years. Look at Maryland. Here was a State founded and settled by Catholics—were driven from their Native country by the bigotry and persecution of Protestants, and compelled to seek a home in the new Western World.

Did these men say that Protestants should be deprived the privileges and immunities of the government they had established? No. They opened their doors to all—to Protestants as well as Catholics. They placed no barriers in the way of the free enjoyment of religious opinions by all.

And now what does the history of Protestantism in Maryland show as to the condition of the Catholics? It shows eight hundred Protestant to sixty-five Catholic Churches. Does this look like the Pope was about to "take" the country? In Louisiana—Catholic Louisiana—the same may be said as to the Protestants—there are now two hundred and fifty Protestant and sixty-five Catholic Churches in that State. Is it necessary then, that the Protestant clergy should turn into the midnight dens of Know-Nothingism to keep out the Pope? In Florida—which in the days of Monroe we purchased from Catholic Spain—Protestantism has also far outstripped Catholicism. Florida has now one hundred and seventy Protestant and only five Catholic Churches.

Does this look like a necessity existing for Protestants to join the K. N. lodges to put down the aggressive power of the Pope?

The course of the Protestant clergy was next descended upon. Not the clergy who preach the "unsearchable riches of Christ," but the political clergy who have disgraced their high and holy calling by prostituting their high and holy offices to the basest political uses.

Does the cause of religion require that its ministers shall join with a secret band of political conspirators to preach treason against the Constitution and the country? Is it necessary for the success of Protestant principles that the Protestant Ministry should join with all the fervor of fanaticism, in a crusade against the dearest rights—the most glorious privileges of a large number of American citizens?—

Is it in consonance with the spirit of Religion and the purity of its precepts? No. These Know-Nothing, political, hypocritical, "vagabonds" are a disgrace alike to the cause of Christianity and the ministerial office, and were doing far more harm than all the efforts of its bitterest opponents could possibly do.

These political preachers were an inebus upon the cause of Christianity, crushing out its life-blood and wounding it to the death. They were not the "called of God;" they were of the devil, and sought for fitting companions in the dark seclusions of the Lodges of Know-Nothingism.

Their preaching was a disgrace to the Church—libel upon Christianity—a slander upon the truth of God; fit only for the minions of darkness—in keeping with the vilest despotism.

He would sooner place a child of his, for education, in a den of infamy, than under such teachers as these Political Preachers. He would calculate upon the evils of latter tutoring being far worse than all the former. These preachers feared Catholicism—feared the Pope. And yet they were daily begging money to send missionaries to preach their dogmas in Catholic Spain, Italy and France. They were as dishonest in their professions of fear of the Papal Power as they were in all their other professions. They were pursuing a policy of the bitterest proscription, bigotry and persecution towards a portion of our people—a policy at war with the very principles and essence of Religion as well as Republicanism. He trembled for the Church when he thus saw a portion of the ministry thus dedicated to persecution—to evil instead of good. He revered and held in veneration the true and honest minister of Christ. He hated and detested as all good men do, the venal gang who have stolen the livery of Heaven to serve the devil in.

These preaching politicians have set a new trap to catch the foreigners when they could not seduce into their K. N. Lodges. It was styled the "American Protestant Association." The idea was, under the pretext of religion and benevolence, to get all protestant foreigners into this association, this younger brother of the Know-Nothing hydra, array them against the Catholic foreigners—thus creating a war of religions, if bloodless, (which was not at all likely,) yet none the less odious and hateful.

The trap was an Abolition Know-Nothing catch. But Protestant foreigners were too wise to be gulled into it.

Gov. W. dwelt at length upon Know-Nothingism—showing it up in all its dangerous and Anti-Republican tendencies—that were its principles to succeed our government would be subverted. Know-Nothingism had no arguments to offer but the bowie-knife, the club and the pistol; and the hands of that party were red with the reeking gore of the men, women and children, they have but recently slaughtered at Louisville. Could these outrages continue in the cities? No! the country would retaliate, and a dreadful retribution would follow. Civil war followed fast upon the heels of Know-Nothingism—anarchy was its twin brother. But the National Democracy and the National Whigs, arrayed side by side, would make common cause against this Harlot of the Nation under the broad pennant of the Democratic party they would array themselves in the great battle for our common country. Victory would be ours.

Gov. W. cited numerous instances of the

devotion of foreigners to our country both upon the late battle field, and in the civil office. They were for the true interests of the country—heart and soul. The first great battle for religious freedom in this country, was fought in 1800, by Thomas Jefferson. The second battle for the same principle would be fought in 1855, and the Democracy of the Nation must be the champions of this principle.

If we would save our churches, our liberty and our country, we must stifle this monster of Know-Nothingism by combination of all the true patriots of the country, Whig and Democrat. Then shall our land be the land our fathers made it—the land of Civil and Religious Liberty.

Gov. W. concluded his remarks amidst the most deafening applause. Indeed, throughout his whole speech, he was frequently disturbed by the shouts and cheers of the assembled multitude.

Col. Allen May, being loudly called for, took the stand and made a most excellent speech. He dwelt upon the Anti-Americanism of Know-Nothingism—spoke of the disgrace and calamity the Know-Nothing Political Preachers were bringing upon the Churches—deplored the lethargic condition of the Churches and the few revivals which they now enjoyed, as compared with those they had previous to their clergy forsaking the preaching of God's truths to disseminate the principles of Know-Nothingism.

Col. M. urged upon the Democracy the necessity of sustaining their State organ, the *Sentinel*, saying much to the point of this subject. He concluded his remarks by rallying the Democracy to gird on their whole armor and fight valiantly the battles of our country, at the ballot box. He was listened to throughout with the greatest attention, and was frequently interrupted by loud and prolonged cheering. His speech was a short one, but it was among the best of the occasion.

The Committee on Resolutions then reported the following, which were adopted by acclamation:

WHEREAS, As we have assembled hereto-day as a Mass Meeting of the National Democracy of Indiana, we deem it more appropriate to postpone adopting any resolutions upon State policy until our next State Convention shall be called to nominate candidates for State offices.

Resolved, That we claim with pride the name of National Democrats—that we are "Old Liners," and always expect to follow the *old lines* so plainly marked by the patriots and sages of the Revolution, in the Declaration of Independence, and in the Constitution of the United States. Our name is as unchangeable as our principles, and our principles are as immutable as are the foundations of the Universe.

Resolved, That we announce our continued hostility to all secret political societies and organizations, as being inimical to the genius of our institutions, and revolting to the pride and manly spirit of a free and intelligent people. That we deeply deplore the frequent scenes of riot, outrage, murder, arson, and desolation which have been occasioned by these worse than Jacobin organizations; and that we appeal to every man who values a good reputation and an honorable name among his fellow-men, to lose no time in separating himself from so foul a conspiracy; for he that counsels and associates with men who commit these most revolting crimes, is a participant in their guilt, and morally, if not legally, responsible for their acts.

Resolved, That we hereby proclaim our decided hostility to the principles and conduct of that sectional and fanatical party, known as Abolitionists, who have so recently unfurled their banner of Abolitionism and Disunion throughout the Northern States. That we view their proceedings with increasing apprehension of great injury to the peace and prosperity of our common country, and as being diametrically opposed to the provisions and requirements of the Constitution of the United States, which, if violated, as they propose, must bring the dreadful result of Disunion, Civil War, the ruin of our beloved country, and the destruction of the last pillar which sustains the temple of Liberty on earth.

Resolved, That we cordially re-affirm the principles of the Democratic National Convention of 1848, and of 1852, as embodying the only political system of action which can be taken on the great National question to which they refer, and as best tending to perpetuate the peace, harmony and integrity of the Union.

Resolved, That we most positively and unequivocally condemn and oppose all attempts to control by force and violence the right of free suffrage of citizens at the polls, either in the States or Territories of this Union. The will of the People, properly expressed is the highest law, but if that expression be stifled or defeated there is an end of civil government, and a failure of the power of the people to protect them.

Resolved, That we view with disgust and disapprobation, the conduct of non-resident Know-Nothing bullies from Missouri, or hired Abolition fanatics from Massachusetts and elsewhere, in their interference with the legal rights of the actual settlers of Kansas to vote as they please, or to deprive them of the sacred and inestimable privilege of deciding the laws which are to govern them as citizens of the Territory.

Resolved, That we cordially invite all men of a national sentiment and faith, to co-operate with us in maintaining the sanctity of the American Constitution, the principles of the Declaration of Independence and the integrity of the Union, against the attempts of fanatical Abolitionists and demagogues, who are aiming to array one section of this confederacy against the other, and whose ambition to possess political power, would induce them to sacrifice the dearest interests of the country, and to entail the dreadful consequences of civil war, bloodshed, disunion and anarchy upon the ruins of our now happy, prosperous and mighty nation.

Resolved, That we will most strenuously maintain the fundamental principles of the rights of civil and religious liberty, the right

of the citizen to worship according to the dictates of his own conscience, the freedom of speech and of the Press, the offering of the benefits of our laws and institutions to men of every nation and of every clime, the equality of all good citizens, and the protection of the government to every man who legally claims to be an American.

Gov. Wright then came forward and delivered one of the best speeches that we ever heard. The Governor is a rapid speaker, and it is impossible for us to do justice to his remarks. We may however present a synopsis, and nothing more, of his eloquent address. The great forte of the Gov. is, that at once takes firm hold of the hearts of a Democratic audience. His vehement earnestness, his passionate appeals to the noblest sentiments of the human heart, with the forcible and powerful manner in which he enforces his opinions—all take possession and command the attention of popular assembly, and especially of an assemblage of Indiana.

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of the Irish and German laborer, now turned round and wanted to trample in the dust the men whose worn and withered hands had made the ingrates what they were.—(Here the vast multitude rose to their feet, and gave a universal cry of "shame, shame, shame.")

After a few more remarks the Governor concluded the best speech we have heard from his lips.

On the conclusion of Gov. Wright's address, Mr. R. J. Ryan, of this city, came forward and in a brief speech presented to the Shelby County Delegation, which was the largest sent up to the Convention, the beautiful American Flag, procured by the Democracy of Marion County for the purpose referred to. The flag was accepted by Judge Sleeth on the part of Shelby County in some appropriate and eloquent remarks, which we took some notes of, but regret not having space to publish. The following resolution was then offered by Mr. Ryan, and enthusiastically adopted, after which, the thousands present gave three hearty cheers for the CONSTITUTION and the UNION, for the DEMOCRACY of INDIANA, and the unflinching DEMOCRACY of INDIANAPOLIS, and then adjourned in regular procession to their respective places of departure.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Democracy here assembled are gratefully tendered to the Honorable Judge Alvin P. Hoye, and also to those who assisted him in the discharge of his duties as President of the Convention.

THE MEETINGS AT OTHER STANDS.

At the second stand speeches were made by Hon. Jas. C. Allen of Illinois, Hon. Jas. G. Davis, and W. F. Hutchens, Editor of the Henderson (Ky.) *Reporter*. Our reporter not being able to be at all the stands at once, was only able to procure an abstract of the speech of the latter gentleman. He said:

I came here not to participate in the proceedings of your Convention—not expecting to make a speech—nor do I now propose to do so. In response to a call, however, it may not be inappropriate to say that I have from Kentucky, and that as a Kentuckian to say to you that though from my knowledge of the democracy of Indiana in years past, I had no distrust of your nationality—of your soundness on the great question that now divides and distracts the country—the question that threatens the stability of our glorious Union.

The Governor then spoke of the question of a religious test, and referred to the peculiar circumstances under which the men of the Revolution had declared in the fundamental law of the land that no human being should be proscribed for his religion or birth. In regard to the former point, in as much as different denominations had settled the several colonies, it would be futile to attempt forming a national union, and at the same time establish a particular religion by law—and in regard to the latter, as hundreds and thousands of foreigners had fought bravely in the Revolution and for the liberties of their adopted country, and as the obstacles thrown in the way of emigration by King George was one of the chief causes of the revolt of the colonies, of course it would be a violation of their own principles and also suicidal to their interests to pass unjust and exclusive laws upon the subjects of religion or birth place. Well, continued Governor Wright, the same reasons that governed the Fathers, solemnly warn and call upon us to follow their liberal example, and extend religious toleration and liberty to all denominations, and equal rights to the freemen of foreign birth.

He then referred to the nationality of the Democratic party, and alluded to the universal hostility of the members of the party to the principles of its principles. A true soul Democrat could make a speech in the North which would be applauded in the South—My friends, said Gov. Wright, as long as you stand by the Constitution and the Union, so long can you fearlessly speak your sentiments in every section of our common country.

The Governor here alluded to the hypocrisy of the proscriptionists when they said that they had no design to break down the landmarks of the Constitution. True, they do not dare to attack its wise provisions in so many words, but they do what is meaner and more treasonable—they created false and proscriptive public sentiment which is more pernicious than any intolerant statutes and enactments.

The Governor then addressed the women, the true, the honest hearted wives and mothers, as he called them, that upon them and upon the manner in which they raised up their sons and daughters, did indeed depend the freedom and liberties of the country, and the preservation of our institutions.

He here denounced those shameless ministers of the gospel who attempt to corrupt our children, and instead of preaching peace and good will among men, used their sacred calling to the furthering of the basest party and sectarian purposes that are conceivable. He also read several provisions from the Constitution made by the fathers, and demonstrated the difference between them and the miserable principles of the new factions arrayed against the Democracy.

Put we are compelled to conclude this hasty sketch of the Governor's speech—The various points and hits, and often cutting illustrations which he made, and which drew down the shouts of the listeners, we are totally unable to notice at present.—Among others he said that the people of the West were a fast people, and it would not take them long to crush out bigotry and Know-Nothingism. Here he told an anecdote of a young lady who made up her mind one morning not to go to school that day. When asked the reason, she replied that she had married the night before.

“Why Sally, you ought to have told us?” “Well,” said Sally, “I hadn't time—John didn't ask me till sundown!” Again: these rich and wealthy proscriptions, after laying up coffers full of money, which they had acquired by means of the sweat and toil of

ed him, and called him up higher. He is now the Commissioner of the General Land Office, and he was happy in endorsing the appointment.

Mr. Goodrich made several attempts to leave the stand but the assemblage would not hear to it.

He paid an eloquent tribute to the memory of Henry Clay, and eulogized his political career, as being always consistent. If he were now resurrected from the dead, what would be his terror. If he inquired in the North for his Whig party, the party which he had ably sustained and supported; they would tell him it had joined the Know-Nothings and gone to the dogs. If he inquired in Wisconsin for it, they would tell him it had joined the Abolitionists, and were off with the niggers. If he inquired here for it, they would point to some dark hole where he would find the last remnant of his once great party. (Applause.)

A number of trains, both regular and extra, arrived after our reporter left the depot, to attend the meeting, and many incidents are omitted. The Shelby Delegation carried numerous banners, with pictorial illustrations, of which we cannot even give our readers an idea.

The number in attendance during the day has been variously estimated. Most all agree, however, that there were from 25,000 to 30,000 people present—being undoubtedly the largest political assemblage ever convened in Indiana.

THE REVIEW.

SATURDAY MORNING, SEPT. 8, 1855.
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING BY
CHARLES H. BOWEN.

12⁰⁰ The *Crawfordsville Review*, furnished to Subscribers at \$1.50 in advance, or \$2, if not paid within the year.

We devote almost the entire space of our columns to the proceedings of the Democratic Mass Convention. We want everybody to read them as they will be found highly interesting.

THE BANNER BAND.

Don't forget the concert at the Court House to-night. We clip the following notice from the New Albany *Tribune*.

12⁰⁰ The "Banner Band" of Indiana, proposes to give a concert in Crawfordsville on Friday evening next. We assure our friends in that city that a rich treat is in store for them. This band cannot be excelled in the West, in our opinion, and we have no doubt it will win the highest medal of applause from the citizens of Crawf