

DAILY NEWS

SATURDAY, MAY 22, 1880.

THE SCYTHE.

We have a class of politicians in the Republican party of this city known by the classic name of Abbogoines who are to be found in groups on Sunny days in some cool sequestered spot, and who, when night tucks up her sable skirts, generally meander to the polished surface of some beer counter. You know them; you see them every day. They are the vampires of common decency and are to be measured by the amount of gas they expend in the course of twenty four hours. You can distinguish them very readily by their deportment. They are generally sleek, nobby looking fellows who place a great deal of confidence in their good looks and youthful appearance, and who dream of the pleasures of public life.

These Abbogoines are of no particular harm to the party, and form but a sort of receiver for the waste material that accumulates in the brains of the quiet Statesmen, yet they sometimes parade their folly to such an extent that the more quiet people think them Political asses. We do not think the Abbogoines should be judged so harshly. They should be allowed the privilege of airing their statesmanship upon all occasions, because, as a general rule, they think the rest of mankind are dupes, and measure the intellect of every one by the manner in which he treats them.

The people don't want Abbogoines for their leaders this Fall; they want men who are sensible; who are honest; how are capable; and whose characters are above questioning.

Let the Abbogoines alone and they will kill themselves by their own folly.

Men who tell us how to run a newspaper. These are generally a species of the political Abbogoines. They will tell you more successful ways of running a newspaper than Horace Greeley ever heard of. We kept a stick in which we cut a notch for every plan given us in one day by these fellows, and when the sun set we counted twenty-three notches. It is impossible to run a paper twenty-three different ways in one day.

We venture to say, that not one out of every ten of these men, could write a ten line editorial in two days.

Sam, don't think because a man has been elected to some paltry county office, that he is necessarily a smart man and a gentleman. It is true that he generally walks the streets as if he was a boyanza king, but nine times out of ten he has't paid for the coat he wears, or even paid the poor woman who washes his shirt once a month. No sir, don't be deceived, it is almost impossible for a man to be a politician, and be a gentleman.

THE SCYTHE.

"The Danger of Infidelity."

EDITOR NEWS: In an obscure column of the *Express* of the 21st inst., I noticed an article entitled "The Danger of Infidelity." Will you grant me the space in your valuable paper to say a few words concerning said article.

The writer adopts the above high-sounding title under which to hurl at Col. Ingersoll the anathema of Christian bigotry. In the beginning of his article he makes a terrible, if not a disastrous blunder, in his comparison of human life to a tide, when he says the surface is placid, but there is a mighty under current which is turbulent. Any one who has the least knowledge of streams, knows that whatever there is of boisterousness in them is in the surface, while the under-current runs more slowly and more smoothly. In his second comparison he says Ingersoll is of the under-current. But in his first paragraph he says the under-current is stronger and more mighty. Then must Ingersoll and Infidelity be of that under-current which "forces everything in its way to feel the effect of its existence." While his comparison is very damaging to himself, it only vindicates the old adage, "Straws float upon the surface, but pearls lie at the bottom." As the pearl compares with the straw, so Ingersoll compares with the insignificant pigmies who abuse him because of his opinions.

The writer seems injured because Ingersoll uses the Bible to prove his assertions. Well, it must be galling to the Christian to be thus refuted by his own testimony; but it can not be helped. Ingersoll says the Bible is the work of man; then he uses that book to prove it; he says it lies, and has only to introduce it as self-evident proof; he says the Bible contradicts itself, and quotes from its chapters to verify the statement; he says it is vulgar, and offers \$100 to the minister who will read certain parts of it to his audience; he says it is fabulous, and reads page after page of what the church, itself admits, and quotes from its glowing accounts of how its Author(?) commanded his people to kill men, women and children, not even sparing the innocent babe, on its mothers breast. He says the characters it holds up as the chosen people of God, were barbarous, cruel, sensual and depraved men stained by every tint of crime, and polluted by every form of vice, and as evidence refers to "the children of Israel," to David, Solomon and Elisha, who, if the Bible were true, would be the most infamous and depraved wretch whose vile carcass ever burdened the earth, or whose name disgraced the pages of ancient history. Elisha, the saint upon whom fell a portion of the mantle of goodness; from Elisha—Elisha, the lunatic who cursed forty-two innocent, happy little children, simply because they laughingly referred to his failure to cover his senseless cranium

with hair; nature had feathers for vultures, and hair for hyenas, but none to waste on such debased imbeciles as Elisha. I ask the thinking Christians of today do you, can you, believe that the great and good God who rules and governs all, to be so heartless; so devoid of pity, that he sent two she bears to tear those playful joyous children, for what, coming as it did from innocent childhood, under no circumstances could be called a crime? If you do, then from the bottom of my heart, I pity you, for they are deserving of pity who are thus enslaved by superstition. Had Ingersoll used other argument you would have discarded it as a lie; but since he used the Bible to prove its own absurdity, you whinnily cry out, "Inconsistency."

He says it is useless for a man to try to believe otherwise than conscience dictates. Conscience has dictated to the unquestioning follower every religion upon earth.

If we rely upon the consciences of men for our religion we find ourselves involved in a mental labyrinth from which the only escape is infidelity. Conscience guides the blind follower, but reason leads the reformer. He says that Ingersoll does not believe what he tried to teach others in his recent lecture in this city. The chances are ten to one the writer of that article did not hear him; one hundred to one, he did not understand him if he heard him; and one thousand to one he prevaricated in his statement if he heard and understood the great iconoclast.

He wishes to know how the Bible has withstood so long the attacks of infidels. Well, my friend, prior to the nineteenth century they hanged, burned, and otherwise tortured men who even expressed a "doubt" concerning the Bible, and, from the tone of your article, I guess you are not much nearer the goal of civilization than they were. One would judge from the last paragraph of your article that you were a direct descendant of Cotton Mathew.

He says Ingersoll is a bold robber. Well, Ingersoll is the last man in the world, perhaps, who, if a robber at all, would be anything but a bold one. No sneak-thief for Ingersoll. Colonel Ingersoll says your religion is wrong, and has a happy faculty of proving it. Gallileo was just such a robber when he told the church the earth was not flat. Columbus was just such a robber when he said the Atlantic Ocean had a western shore. Ingersoll is just such a robber as was the man who first denied that the moon was made of green cheese. Yes, Ingersoll is a bold robber. He has bearded the lion in his den and robbed him of his power. He is robbing the world of superstition, and the clergymen of their bread, "there is where the shoe pinches." But he is no robber of charity nor destroyer of human happiness. He is the last man to ridicule any good the church is doing, he only insists on calling things by their right name. There are in the church many good and noble men and women, who do good deeds because it is right; but there are too many who sound the trumpet and forget the charity.

In the close he speaks in fluent terms of the frey hell with which the church has made so many converts. Yes, stick to your fire; it ever has been a conspicuous article in your revivals—fire and the sword have made you more believers (?) than reason ever did. The fire of the inquisition have burned the skeptic, and from his ashes has arisen the phoenix of free thought.

In the finale, he displays the same loving inquisitorial spirit that animated his forefathers. But the day of superstition and of the suppression of free thought, is forever past. You cannot stop the hurricane, nor manacle the ocean's wave. Neither can you stop the tide of human progress; and the sooner orthodoxy finds this out, the better. Your day of glory is past; your sceptre is broken, and your heartless tyranny is over. Vent your spleen; hurl your base insinuations and infamous lies at Ingersoll; but dare not attempt to place a Christian censorship over the press, or fetter the freedom of thought.

NEMESIS.

No, son, no; you needn't be afraid of it. Just drink a tub full of it, if you wish. No man ever got drunk, or learned to be a drunkard, drinking Sunday school picnic lemonade. You might the dropsy, or you might drown yourself with it, but it will never make you drunk.—*Huckeye*

The season has arrived when seven or eight stoves can be dispensed with in the average dwelling house. Any man who can kick strong enough to break a horse's leg can kick over a stove. That's the easiest way to get 'em down. Stove pipe, properly made and put up, will fall when the stove does.

—Cain bottom chairs are made for Abel bodied men.—*Keokuk Constitution*. And so long as they pass a quiet Eve on them they don't care Adam.—*Whitehall Times*.

Gold and Silver Electro Plating.

Our goods are not merely washed but the gold and silver is made to adhere by the use of ten powerful batteries. We guarantee first-class work and are prepared to plate any article of any metal. Spoons, knives, forks, castors, tea sets, &c., &c., made like new for half the original cost. Old and hollow silver were repairing a specialty. Watches, clocks and jewelry of every description repaired in first-class style.

REED & OWEN, 629 Main street, Under Cal. Thomas.

Any person desiring good workmanship in making and hanging awnings, will find good workmen at No. 306 Cherry street, north side, between Third and Fourth. BURNETT & WATSON.

H. S. Richardson & Co. are still selling Queensware, glass and plated ware at old prices. 307 Main st.

THE FAIR

Is the best place in Terre Haute to buy cheap Notions, Toys, Hosiery, Albums, Stereoscopes and Views, American chromos, Satchels, Mirrors, Wax and China Dolls, Bird Cages, Base Balls and Bats, and the best line of baby carriages at the lowest prices in the city. For these, and all miscellaneous goods, no place excels.

THE FAIR.

325 Main street.

Amusements.

GREAT FIRE

AT AN

OPERA HOUSE!

Sixty-five Persons Killed and more than Two Hundred Wounded.

[Cor. Inter Ocean.]

Few cities have been the scene of so many startling and harrowing events as the City of Richmond. In my former letter a few of the reminiscences of the war were presented, and with my readers I endeavored to revisit some of the old familiar spots. Yesterday I attended church at the Monumental Church (Episcopal), a handsome octagonal edifice on Broad street, which was erected upon the spot where perished, on the night of December 26, 1811, sixty or more persons by the burning of the Richmond Theatre. Among those who lost their lives in the conflagration were Geo. W. Smith, the Governor of the State, A. B. Venable, United States Senator, and many other leading gentlemen of the most distinguished families of Virginia. After the service I was shown the marble cenotaph, in the front portico of the church, which records the names of the victims and is placed above their remains. There is always much interest attached to these old disasters, and especially when it is remembered that this event at the time was the most fearful catastrophe that had ever occurred in the States. I was fortunate enough to meet a very old gentleman, who remembered the event well, and from whom I obtained some most interesting facts. It was also my good luck to procure the loan of the original playbill of the night of the fire.

THE PLAY-HOUSE WAS CROWDED

with an unusual audience. There could not have been less than six hundred persons in the house. Just before the conclusion of the pantomime the scenery caught fire, and in a few minutes the whole building was wrapt in flames. The scenery took fire in the back part of the house by the raising of a chandelier. The boy who was ordered to raise it by some of the players, stated if he did so the scenery would take fire; but, nevertheless, he was commanded in a peremptory manner to hoist it. The boy obeyed, and the fire was instantly communicated to the scenery. He gave the alarm in the rear of the stage, and requested some of the attendants to cut the cords by which these combustible materials were suspended. The person whose duty it was to perform this business became panic stricken, and sought his own safety. This unfortunately happened at a time when one of the performers was playing near the orchestra, and the greatest part of the stage, with its horrid danger, was obscured from the audience by a curtain. The flames spread with almost the rapidity of lightning, and the fire falling from the ceiling upon the performer was the first notice which the people had of their danger. Even then many supposed it to be a part of the play, and were for a little restrained from flight by a cry from the stage that there was no danger. The performers and their attendants endeavored in vain to tear down the scenery.

SAID AN EYE-WITNESS

"The fire flashed into every part of the house with a rapidity horrible and astonishing. No tongue can tell, no pen or pencil can describe the awful catastrophe. There was but one door for the greatest part of the audience to pass, men women and children pressing against each other while the flames were seizing upon those behind. Those nearest the windows were afraid to leap down, while those behind them were seen catching on fire, and writhing in the greatest agonies of pain and distress. At length those behind, urged by the pressing flames, pushed those out who were nearest the windows and people of every description began to fall, one upon another; some with their clothes on fire, some half roasted. With the assistance of others I caught several of those who had leaped from the windows. One lady jumped out when all of her clothes were on fire. I tore them burning from her, stripped her of her last rags; and protecting her nakedness with my coat carried her from the fire. Fathers and mothers were deploring the loss of their children, children the loss of their parents. Husbands were lamenting their lost companions, wives were lamenting their burnt husbands. The people were seen wringing their hands, beating their heads and breasts, and those who had secured themselves seemed to endure greater torments than those who were enveloped in the flames."

These are the facts connected with this startling event, and my informal vouchers for the truth, as we well remembered this memorable disaster.

SIXTY-FIVE PERSONS WERE KILLED And 200 wounded. Mr. McRae says that one young man (a reporter) who was sitting next to him was killed instantly. He was buried in the debris one hour before he was rescued.

Let the people of this city think of this most terrible catastrophe, and ponder over the great risks that we run every time that we allow one of our children to visit our own Opera House.

It is simply a yawning and frey hell, enticing the pure and innocent on to destruction. Why? we ask do not our city authorities protect us from this most horrible danger, especially when our would-be destroyer is an eastern money shark.

THERE is trouble for Blaine in Indiana. Several delegates, hitherto very solid for him, are disgusted with his methods. James S. Collins, delegate-at-large, and J. J. Todd, of the Eleventh District, have announced a change of purpose as regards voting for Blaine.—*Washington National Republican*.

All agree that H. S. Richardson & Co. have the finest display of Silverware in the city, and at reasonable prices. 307 Main st.

BABY WAGONS.

Scudder is bound to close out his stock of baby wagons to make room for ice cream. Call and see him. Great bargains to be had.

Before buying your BOOTS AND SHOES call on Paddock & Purcell 407 Main street opposite Opera House. They constantly keep on hand a full line of finest class goods and sell cheaper than anybody. Remember the sign of "By Jingo."

New and elegant line of Silverware just received at Richardson's Queensware store, 307 Main street.

Magnetic Artesian Baths.

Recommended by the highest medical authority for Paralysis, Rheumatism, Gout, Neuralgia, Catarrh, Gleet, Syphilis, Skin Diseases, Dyspepsia and all Female Diseases. Elegant new bath house. Competent attendants. Cheapest and best baths in the world. Bath house at the foot of Walnut street.

MAGNETIC ARTESIAN BATH CO., Terre Haute, Ind.

New line of bird cages just in at Richardson & Co.'s Queensware store, 307 Main street.

Burnett & Watson are prepared to do all kinds of general blacksmithing. Give them a call. 306 Cherry street, north side, between Third and Fourth.

Go to Wright & Kaufman for choice goods as low as they can be sold anywhere in the city.

H. S. Richardson & Co. are still selling Queensware, glass and Plated ware at old prices. 307 Main street.

First-Class Furniture.

Forty years experience in the furniture business enables me to offer a class of work superior to the common factory goods. Chamber, library and office furniture made a specialty. Call and see the most beautiful chamber set at 40 per cent. less than can be purchased elsewhere in the city.

I will also repair and varnish old furniture; job work in all branches made to order at No. 513 Walnut street.

CHARLES TRICHE.

Katzenbach's Havana Whips beat all the other Cigars.

Go to Wright & Kaufman for all kinds of Seasonable fruits and vegetables; also Hams, Flour, Lard, Butter, Eggs, and Choice Teas, very cheap.

New line of bird cages just in at Richardson & Co.'s Queensware Store. 307 Main street.

N. ANDREWS.

The great boot and shoe man, invites every one to call and examine his mammoth stock, he can suit the most fastidious, and has weekly arrivals of new goods, call and see him, he holds forth at no. 505 Main street.

Canned Fruits at reduced prices at Wright & Kaufman's.

All agree that H. S. Richardson & Co. have the finest display of Silverware in the city, and at reasonable prices.

P. Kornman's barber shop, at cor. Fifth and Main, will be open every Sunday morning from 7 a. m. to 12 m.

Call for the Havana Whips at Katzenbach's.

Havana Whips---a new brand of Cigars.

New and elegant line of Silverware just received at Richardson's Queensware Store, 307 Main street.

Havana Whips, clear Havana, only 5 cents.

Complete stock of Straw and Summer Hats at Syke's hat store 419 Main street.

STRAWBERRIES,

GREEN PEAS,

RADISHES,

LETTUCE,

ONIONS,

GREENS,

Vegetables of all kinds can be had at

W. W. CLIVER & CO.'S.

Coal Dealers.

J. A. MORGAN, COAL DEALER, 523 OHIO STREET.

Leather and Hides.

L. A. BURNETT, DEALER IN Leather and Hides, No. 115 South Fourth Street, Terre Haute, Ind. First Store North of Market House.

Miscellaneous.

JOS. H. BRIGGS.

Produce and Commission MERCHANT, Corner Fourth and Cherry streets, TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA.

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Livery, Sale and

FEED STABLE!

COR. THIRD AND WALNUT STS.

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Palace of Music,

213 OHIO STREET,

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA.

Oldest music house in Western Indiana. Always the largest stock on hand kept in the city. Pianos and organs rented so the rent will pay for them.

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AT EMIL BAUER'S

Wholesale and Retail Millinery Store. The largest stock and lowest prices.

Hosiery! Hosiery! Hosiery!

NEWEST STOCK,

Largest Variety of Colors

Greatest Assortment of

Styles, and now

THE LOWEST PRICE.

Lisle Thread and

Lace Top Glove

Parasols and Fans,

Buttons and

Jet Trimming

Silk Fringes and

Sash Ribbons

ALL REDUCED TO A

CASH BASIS

Don't fail to price them before purchasing elsewhere.

J. F. Jauriet & Co.

Cor. Fifth and Main