New York & Balt. Adv's.

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The Cambridge Democrat

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MISCELLANEOUS.

[Written for the Cambridge Democrat.]

Sketches of Travel.

BY JOE, A JERSEY MUTE.

Our vacation is drawing to a close. Sorry we are for it. Every thing must end, though that belongs to the earth. The pronoun "we" which I have used above, refers to me and Lizzie, who, surrendered all into my keeping, i. e. married me on the ever-to-be-remembered eighteenth day of July. Our bridal tour is not without incident, vide the following:

We met our friend Mr. Officer, the principal of the Deaf and Dumb Institution in Illinois, and his wife at the United States Hotel at Harrisburg, as we were returning home from Lewistown, where we had been pronounced man and wife. Mr. Officer is an excellent teacher. His wife is an intelligent woman, clever, and every one who knows her admires her elegant address.

We went to Philadelphia, and from thence to New York, to take the steamboat for Hartford, Conn. We slept all night on the bosom of the sea, or river, I am not sure which. The next morning, at daybreak, we reached Hartford, and took our apartments at the Eagle Hotel. Our stay in that city was limited to three days, in consequence of the inclement weather; but we saw enough of the city and surrounding country to form a correct estimate of the caracter of the people. We visited Deaf and Dumb Asylum, and at that time had the good fortune to see a handsome featured gentleman in company with his wife, the latter Deaf and Dumb, who had just come from New York.—This gentleman is a son of the late Rev. Thos. Gallaudet, L. L. D., the founder, and for several years headmaster of the Hartford Asylum. Besides being an assistant teacher in the New-York Deaf and Dumb Institution, he employs himself in preaching to the mute portion of the community on Sundays. We also saw one of the three mute teachers, who has committed matrimony since our visit to the Asylum, after having "reigned monarch of all he surveyed" for about forty years. I must not omit to state that the conductors of the Asylum published a quarterly periodical "*The Annals of the Deaf and Dumb*," devoted exclusively to the "art and mystery" of deaf mute instruction.

We left Hartford for New York, passing another night on the surface of the water; and after a day or two's stay in the Empire City, we travelled to Keyport, a delightful bathing place on the shore of New Jersey. We remained there a week and a day. Keyport is a rather small town, containing two first class, and three second class hotels.

We returned to New York; Lizzie having more than once expressed a wish to see more of that city. This time our stay was distinguished by no incident. Let us pass over the other towns which we have visited, until we come to Burlington, a beautiful town situated on the Jersey side of the Delaware river. It was near this place that one of the most awful disasters that the annals of railroad traveling has recorded, occurred on Wednesday forenoon, Aug. 29, on the line of the Camden and Amboy Railroad company, by which twenty-four persons were killed, and about sixty wounded. One man had his body cut completely in two, each leg and the trunk being some distance from each other. Two persons from Maryland were among the killed. The cars came in contack with a wagon, and were dragged off the track, and the consequence was the great loss of life. The citizens and physicians of Burlington rendered every service in their power to the afflicted. I visited the scene of the disaster in the afternoon, and saw several wounded persons lying in the rooms, surrounded by people from the city and vicinity. I counted twelve coffins in the City Hall, containing the bodies of the dead with the names of their inmates marked at the top. The readers of the *Democrat* have read all about the railway calamity, so I need not particularize.

We were honored with a visit from a married couple, both mutes, two weeks ago. They were classmates of Lizzie. They came from Philadelphia. They have been married three years. They had the misfortune last July, to lose the prettiest baby that I ever beheld. The husband is by trade a house and sign painter.

I almost forgot to say that while in Keyport we became acquainted with Mr. Henry Morford, editor of the "*New Jersey Standard*," which paper was the first New Jersey paper which published our marriage. He is a perfect model of manly beauty.

☞"One extreme follows another," as the little dog said, when he flew round after his tail.

☞The gentleman who kissed a lady's "snowy brow" caught a severe cold, and has been laid up ever since.

POLITICAL.

[From the Clearfield (Pa.) Republican.]

Know-Nothingism Exposed.

THE following communication from a highly respectable citizen of this county, is published at the request of the author. The statement is voluntarily made, and we hope will put to rest the doubts heretofore existing in some minds as to whether this secret organization were bound together by *oaths*. All who are acquainted with Thomas Mahaffey, Esq., in this county, will bear testimony to his high moral worth as a citizen. It will be useless for the members of the order, longer to deny its obligations, or attempt to screen themselves from reproach! This exposure fastens upon them two things; first that they have let themselves to a level with membership in it, and secondly that they have falsified the truth when they demand it. Let it pass round. Read it, we say, and then if any man can be found mean enough to advocate such an order in a free country, and under a Republican form of Government let him speak. He will deserve credit for his bravery if not for good sense.—Tnink, however, while reading, what kind of men they must be, who will suffer themselves to be bound by, and adhere to such obligations.

Who will deny the truthfulness of the following statement? Is not the word of an honest man sufficient? Other political parties, we have no doubt, will be satisfied with it; every association, except that of the Know-Nothings alone, will be satisfied with it. We submit the statement without further comment, however, assuring our readers that the position and character of the author entitles him to respect and confidence:

A CARD.

BURNSIDE TOWNSHIP, Feb. 21, 1855.

MESSRS. MOORE & WILSON—*Gentlemen:*—I must ask the liberty to appear before the public, for the first time in my life, in the columns of a newspaper. To vindicate my own character, and to expose the corruption of a secret oath-bound political combination in our midst is my only object. I have all my life endeavored to keep my obligations with my fellow man, and intend to do so in the future, wherever sound morality bids me so to do. I regret, that duty to my conscience and my country, compel me thus publicly to renounce an obligation taken without knowing its intent or its character. I mean the obligation imposed upon the members of the order of the "Star Spangled Banner" as it has been recently called, but more familiarly known as the order of "Know-Nothings." I became a member of the order previous to the last election, and took the two first degrees. The order to which I belonged was called the "New Washington Council," No. 261, and held its meetings in the town of New Washington, Burnside township, Clearfield county, Pa. The meetings were always held after night, in a secret manin some out-house or uninhabitated building with windows darkened, and made secure from observation. One of their meetings was called in my wagon shed, being able to find no better place where the Council could meet without fear of detection. The instruction to the members, was, always to approach the place of meeting alone, and to leave in this manner for fear of exciting suspicion. I must here confess that I always felt a degree of meanness in going to and returning from those places, that I had never before felt, and the more I knew and learned of their secret organization, and their movements, the more I became convinced that no *honest, upright, conscientious* man could, without great violence to his feelings, and an entire surrender of all self-respect, and dignity of character, continue in their ranks. I had always before felt the proud consciousness of being an honest man and a freeman. I had never known what it was to shrink from the gaze of any man or set of men. I had always felt and feel now, that it is a high privilege for a "freeman to express his thoughts," on all subjects. I have been taught that an "honest man is the noblest work of God," and my highest ambition through life has been to occupy among my fellow men that exalted position. I soon found, however, that I had been decoyed into a secret society, that claimed from me a very different character. A society that not only asked me voluntarily to *falsify the truth*, and to act the knave, but actually imposed upon me an *oath* in advance by which I was bound to *lie* at their bidding. Having without proper reflection assumed these oaths and become a member, I concluded for a while to remain with them and learn what I could of them. I have now left them and forever! I shall no more meet in their secret midnight conclaves, and no longer hear their impious oaths administered. I rejoice to feel that I am a freeman! Those whose conscience will allow them to remain in their ranks can do so. Doubtless ere this I have been expelled from their Council, for my denunciation of the order, and if so our obligations are dissolved by "mutual consent."

The question here arises in my own mind—have I done my whole duty in merely freeing myself from their unhallowed influences? Do I not owe it as a duty to my fellow men to expose this combination, and to warn them against what I conceived to be the most dangerous political movement that has ever existed in this country? I know there are those who will think and say, that I am violating a high obligation if I attempt to expose the doings of these midnight orgies, but I shall content myself with the belief that they are not those for whose opinions I have much regard. I have thought long and anxiously upon this subject. My conscience approves the subject. If the judgment of the public is rendered in my favor I shall feel glad; if not, I shall be supported by the purity of my own motives. I firmly believe the oaths administered to be immoral in their tendency, and corrupt in their influences. Having sworn to become *dishonest* and to practice *falsehood*, am I bound to keep that oath? Having sworn, if needs be, to perjure myself in a court of Justice, will the Almighty hold me responsible for the violation of such an obligation? Believing as I do, that my duty, both to my God and my country demand at my hands a full renunciation of all such obligations, can I hesitate? Certainly not! Every impulse of my heart approves the course I have adopted, and my friends will allow me alone to be responsible for the consequences. I shall settle that account before a tribunal far above the reach of Know-Nothingism, and before which neither their favors nor frowns can effect me. One thing I know, I should not be alone if others were not afraid to go with me. There are hundred in their ranks, whose outraged feelings dictate the same course, and who if they can summon to their aid sufficient moral courage will soon follow in my footsteps. I shall therefore proceed to unmask the monster and expose its iniquities to the public gaze.

The organization of the secret society to which I allude, is after the following form. In the beginning it was called a society of "Know-Nothings," and I may be allowed to say the name was peculiarly appropriate. So soon, however, as that name became generally known, they changed it for another, and then another, until during the short period of this existence they have been known by several appellations, the last of which known to me was the "Sons of the Star Spangled Banner." There is a "Grand Council" for the United States, the President of which has a superintendence and control over all the "Councils" the United States. There is a subordinate "Grand Council" for each State, with a President who controls the "Councils" in the different counties of the State. The "Grand Council" for Pennsylvania, is in Philadelphia, and the President thereof appoints an "*Instructor*" for each county in the State, who has charge of the "Councils" in the different townships in the county. The "*Instructor*" for the county is sole dictator and settles all questions arising in the "Councils." He orders when their meetings shall be held for making political nominations, and if the nominations do not please him, he may order another to be held, and so on until they are satisfactory. He also appoints for each "Council," a "Deputy Instructor," who acts for him and under his advice and directions. Each "Council" is bound in everything to the strictest obedience to its superior. This arrangement first alarmed me. I joined the order, because I had been induced to fear the "Pope." But when I learned that the President of the "Grand Councill" had more power than is even attributed to the Pope of Rome, that he was constituted for the purpose, and willing to use his power to further the designs of the basest political demagogueism, I could not close my eyes to the fact, that he was a more dangerous enemy to the civil institutions of our country than I had before thought the Pope. I fear now that my worst apprehensions will be realized. H. BUCHER SWOOPE, of the Borough of Clearfield, is the "Instructor" of Clearfield county, and directs the movements of all the "Councils" in it. He is understood to be among the first members of the order in the county. In Burnside township there are three "Councils," one held in New Washington, one near Patchins, and one called the "Crooked Run Council." Dr. JAS. M. DUNN, is the "Deputy Instructor," under Swoope, for the New Washington Council, and those who know that *individual* best, can judge of the character of the instruction he would be likely to impart. I am sure they will not charge him with much *moral* instruction or many long *prayers*. In a recent instance in our township after a regular nomination had been made and ratified by a vote of the Councils for township officers, these instructors, H. Bucher Swoope and Dr. Dunn, ("a pretty pair,") orders a new nomination to be made, and the Councils as in duty bound had to obey. How humiliating to the old inhabitants of the county, who were "pioneers," in its early settlement, and who have had a voice heretofore in its political welfare, to be obliged to bow before the dictation of one who has not resided two years in the county. Let those who are opposed to "Foreign influence," condemn at the same time this kind of "foreign interference," and I am with them. No matter how great a profligate, or how corrupt the man may be, the "Council" must yield implicit obedience to their "Instructor." He may be a gambler, a drunkard, a blasphemer of religion, and fresh from the scourges earned by his infamy, and yet, the By-Laws of this secret oath-bound society requires better men to surrender, not only their own judgement, but their sense of right and wrong to blindly follow such a leader. Such is Know-Nothingism, and such its votaries know it to be.

The meetings, so far as I attended them, were generally occupied in initiating members. They have no object as far as I can learn, but that of controling the politics of the country, and grasping the offices. The President for each Council, calls the meetings together by a written notice unintelligible to any except the initiated. He takes the chair and presides during the evening The general topic of discussion in the Council, before the election last fall, was how to best decoy the Democrats into their ranks, and generally how to augment their forces, and gain the ascendency. Their hope is to ride into power, on the popular prejudice against the Roman Catholic church, and indeed they are making rapid strides towards effecting their object. I could go with them in an honest effort against any political power attempted on the part of that church, and with that object in view many joined their ranks. But when I saw that bad men of all parties had joined them, and were willing to prostitute the association, to the basest political purposes to obtain power, I could no longer see and hope of accomplishing the original object. They are now composed very largely of the ignorant, who are to be pitied—the bigoted sectarian, who is more designing than foolish; the broken down and disappointed politicians of both parties; the demagogues who love spoils more than party, and who fancy they can see a glimmer of hope ahead; a part of the clergy in some of the Protestant churches, who are longing for power, and who carry with them more or less of their members; the floating population of the country, with no fixed principles either moral or political, usually denominated "majority men," or men who vote on the strong side if they can find it. If these classes of men combined have the numercial strength they will succeed. The order hopes to be able in 1856 to hold in their hands sufficient power to secure the election of a Know-Nothing President, and by obtaining the reigns of government to perpetuate their power. A desperate effort will be made; perhaps such a one as this country never witnessed. In my opinion, if *virtue, intelligence and honesty of purpose* is in the ascendency in this country they will be defeated, if not they may triumph. For my own part I have heretofore always been a whig, and have always gloried in the triumph of whig principles, but even to accomplished that object the sacrifice is too great.

The following is a copy of oaths, an examination which every member must undergo, and subscribe to before becoming a member, as nearly as I can recollect. That they are substantially true, I pledge myself to prove in a court of justice if the opportunity be afforded me. They are contained in a book, one copy of which is furnished to each Council. The "Instructor" has possession of it, and administers the oath from it, but the members are not allowed to have it. I suppose for the same reason that Roman Catholic Priests refuse to let their members read the bible, because they are too ignorant to read and understand it. I thought it strange that they as an order should adopt a course they so much disapproved in others.

The candidate is first proposed, by a member of the Order, to the Council without his knowledge. The negative votes black balls him. If elected he is secretely requested to present himself in the anti-room of the Council, when an officer appears from within and administers to him the following oath:

I——, do solemnly swear upon this sacred volume (or cross) before Almighty God and these witnesses, that I will not divulge any question proposed to me here, whether I become a member of the Order, or not, and that I will never under any circumstances whatever, mention the name of any persons I may see present during any of the proceedings, or that I know such an order to be in existence, and that I will give a true answer to any question asked of me, so help me God.

Which being taken by the candidate, the officer proceeds to propound the following interrogations, before reporting to the Council his fitness for initiation:

1. What is your name? 2. What is your age? 3. Where is your residence? 4. In your religious belief are you a Roman Catholic? 5. Where were you born? 6. Where were your parents born? 7. Is your wife a Roman Catholic? 8. Did either of yonr ancesters take part in the American Revolution? 9. Are you willing to use all the infinence you possess in favor of Native born American citizens, for all offices of honor, trust or profit in the gift of the people; and do you promise to vote for them to the exclusion of all aliens and foreigners, and Roman Catholics in particular, for all State and Government officers? 10. Who invited you to be present on the occasion?

If the candidate's answers are satisfactory to these questions, he is taken in the Council by two officers, led up to the President of the Conncil, who administers the following oath in the first degree:

"I——, voluntarily and freely do solemnly promise and swear before Almighty God and these witnesses around me assembled, that I will not under any circumstances whatever, divulge or make known to any persons, either directly or indirectly, or to any human being other than those I shall know to be good and true members of this Order, the name, secrets, mysteries, or objects of the same, or cause to allow the same to be done by others, if within my power to prevent the same. Binding myself under the no less penalty than that of being excommunicated from the Order and having my name posted and circulated throughout the different Councils of the Order, as a traitor and perjurer to both my God and country, as being unworthy to be employed, entrusted, countenanced, or supported in any business transaction whatever, and as a person totally unworthy of the confidence of all good men; and one at whom the finger of scorn shall ever be pointed. I furthermore promise that if I should hereafter be expelled from, or voluntarily leave this Order, I will consider this obligation as binding out of it as in it. All of which foregoing I voluntarily and freely subscribe to, so help me God!"

The President then addresses the new mem bers as follows:

"My Brothers—The Order which has now received you as members, may with all propriety be considered a secret organization. It is so secret in fact that if you were placed before a legal tribunal, and there sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, you could not for your lives reveal the name of that band of brothers among whom your name now stands enrolled; and further than this, when you retire from this meeting, you will return to your family and friends as ignorant as when you came, so far as the name of this order is concerned.

"In common with ourselves you "Know Nothing," and let it be your stern resolve thro' life, to "Know-Nothing" that will at all conflict with the high and exalted duties you owe to your God, your country and yourselves, so far as regards the preservation of American liberty, which alone can be secured to ourselves and our children by the entire and absolute exclusion of all foreign influence in those matters which appertain to our government policy."

After the delivery of this address, the candidate is referred to the Instructor, who teaches him the signs and grips and in what manner to obtain entrance into the Council. He is then Master of the first degree, and signs his name to the register, after which the following oath is taken:

"I——, do solemnly promise and swear before Almighty God, and these witnesses that I will not under any circumstances, divulge or make known the name of this Order, or its objects, to any person or persons in the world unless to those whom I may know to belong to this Order, in good and regular standing.

"And I furthermore promise and swear that I will neither write, print, paint, cut, carve, engrave, emboss, stamp, stain, or mark any secrets of this order on anything moveable or immoveable on the earth or the sea, whereby said secrets, or any part thereof, the name of the order, its operations, the names of its officers, or the names of sts members or its places of meeting, may become known to those who have not received the first and second degrees of this order in due form; nor will I cause or permit the same to be done, if within my power to prevent the same.

"And I furthermore promise and swear that I well always conform to the will of the majority of the members of this order, in the selection of candidates to fill every office of honor, profit or trust, within the gift of the people: provided such candidates shall have been born on American soil, and shall have been educated in American institutions, and that I will ask all the influence I may possess to elect all such candidates whom I may know to be opposed to all foreign influence. Popery, Jesuitism, and Catholicism, without any hesitation on my part whatever. And I furthermore promise and swear that I will strictly conform to and abide by the oath I have now taken, and that I will pay strict obedience to the constitution, laws, rules, ritual and edicts of the honorable Grand Council of this order, of the State of Pennsylvania, and to the by-laws of the Council No. 261, to which I now belong, or to those of any other Grand Subordinate Council from which I may hereafter hail, binding myself under the no less penalties than are attached or belong to those who violate the oath of the first degree of this Order. All the foregoing I voluntarily and freely subscribe of my own free will and accord, so help me God."

I have thus given the forms as far as the second degree. I never went further. It will be a matter of regret all my life that I ever went so far as I did. I have now, however, done all I can to atone for it.

I may add before closing this communication that the exposure published in the Pennsylvanian last summer, is substantially correct, and was so considered at that time in the Council. I was then a member, and heard it discussed. Yours Respectfully,

THOMAS MAHAFFEY.

[From the Henderson (Texas) Democrat.]

SENATOR RUSK OF TEXAS ON KNOW NOTHINGISM.

NACOGDOCHES, June 30, 1855.

My Dear Sir:—Your favor of tha 20th inst. has been received. At the time it reached here I was away from home, or it would have been answered earlier.

The attempts which you mention as having been made to produce the impression that I favored the Know Nothing movement, are entirely erroneous and without foundation. I have regarded their efforts, from the beginning, as intended to secure office and political power, without any other means to be used than so far as they were likely to sscure the object.

The ostensible hostility to Catholics and foreigners, as well as the loud professions in favor of the Union, doubtless proceed upon the same principle that actuated General Scott when he was so chained with the "rich Irish brogue" and the musical "German accent." This is sufficiently proven by the forty odd votes to admit the Catholics in the Know-Nothing Convention recently held in Philadelphia.

That a few patriotic Democrats have joined them I have no doubt, but a large majority are disappointed aspirants for office, Whigs and Abolitionists.

Their secrecy is highly objectionable. No party can be safely trusted with power who do not openly and distinctly avow their principles. The oaths which it is understood they take are illegal, tyrannical and at open war with the fundamental principles of our Government. They are a direct encroachment upon the personal liberty and individual responsibility which is the very ground-work of our free institutions. It is the highest privilege as well as the sacred duty of every American citizen to vote for measures and men under the guidance of his own best judgment.—How can he surrender that right to a midnight Council, and bind himself by oath to carry out what they may dictate, and fulfill his obligations to himself, his country, and his God as a freeman? The thing is absurd! He must, in the very nature of things, frequently go against either his judgment or his oath; and that, too, in cases where the most vital interest of his country may be involved.

I, however, regard the Know-Nothing party as already broken down. They have been signally overthrown in Virginia, where they boasted of great strength. Many of the leading patriotic Whigs, especially in the Southern States, have not only refused to join, but have made war upon them. At the North, as all the elections show, they are Abolitionists. At the South they profess to be Pro-Slavery men. How can such a party succeed? The Whigs are disorganized if not disbanded; no one can mistake the rock on which they split.

The field is therefore open to the Democracy, and our course and policy, in my judgement, is clear and unmistakable. If we desire to succeed as a party, and to secure the best interests of the country, we must drive out of our ranks that cursed faction of Free-Soilers and Abolitionists, who, determined to rule or ruin, have distracted, jeopardized the Union, and brought defeat upon our party. We cannot get along with them. Mr. Polk kept a number of them in office; they showed their gratitude by keeping up confusion in the ranks, and then caused the defeat of Gen. Cass. Gen. Pierce no doubt with good intentions, placed many of them in office. The result has been disastrous; they have brought confusion and distrust into the ranks of the party, and serious injury to the Administration.

They may threaten, if driven out, to defeat the Democratic party. I do not believe they have the power, but if they have, I would prefer defeat to my share of the victory, with such men. If we were free from this incumbus, many talented, influential and patriotic Whigs would join us, and true men everywhere would rally to our standard.

I think it is a great mistake to suppose that the Free-Soilers can control the Northern and Western States; my judgement is, that if the Democracy will sustain, as they ought to do, such men as are not tinctured with this heresy at the North and West, the true Democrats will soon put down the Abolitionists in most of the non-slaveholding States.

I have no desire to conceal my opinions. You can speak of them as you think proper, but my letter has been written in a hurry and without leisure for revision, and not with a view to publication. I regard the battle with Know-Nothings over and the victory won, and to come out now and publish a letter might look like I wished to appropriate to myself the credit justly due to others.

Truly your friend,

THOS. J. RUSK.

M. N. ECTOR, Esq.

SOLON BORLAND.

We clip the following from the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, it talks of Mr. Borland after the fashion of the Whig press before his conversion to Know-Nothingism:

"Mr. Solon Borland, editor of the *Little Rock* (Ark.) *Gazette and Democrat*, has taken a formal leave of the Democracy and joined the Know-Nothings. Every Democrat in the Union will rejoice over his apostacy, and say 'good riddance to bad rubbish.' Borland is the drunken blackguard who disgraced his State, his party, his station and his country by his pugilistic encounters in the United States Senate, of which body he was a member a few years ago. His unbecoming and indecent behavior in the Senate made him a most notorious character. Afterward he was sent to Central America as Minister, and by his imprudent conduct got the Government into difficulties at Greytown, if the opposition press was to be believed. He came home, took the charge of a bogus Democratic paper, and very naturally relapsed into the sewer of Know-Nothingism, which is purifying the Democracy of its most unworthy members.—Foote, of Mississippi, Borland, of Arkansas, and Clemens, of Alabama, were all in the Senate of 1850, and did more to disgrace that body than all the individuals who were ever in it, from the formation of the Government in 1789 down to the present time. They are now all Know-Nothings, and rank among the leaders in the Southern and Western States, of that infamous faction. As Texas repudiated Houston, Alabama the traitor Clemens, Tennessee the traitor Donelson, so will Arkansas *spew out* the apostate Borland."

☞A notorious mean man having offended a down east Yankee, was addressed by the latter in a long trade which concluded in the following caustic terms: "Your little soul would have as much play in a mustard pod as a pickerel in Lake Erie, and would rattle like a kernel of corn in a barn.

☞Why are horses in cold weather like meddlesome gossips? Ans.—Because they are *the bearer of idle tails.*

LETTER FROM CAVE JOHNSON ON KNOW-NOTHINGISM.

Mr. Polk's Postmaster General having been taxed with being a member of the order of Know-Nothings, has written a letter to some "inquiring friends," in which he denies all connection or sympathy with the order. It concludes as follows:

I cannot but believe that the hostility of this new party against them (Foreigners and Roman Catholics) will be found in the fact, that having suffered in the countries from which they came from legislation for favored interests and classes, by which the labor of the country was oppressed, to promote the interests of the capitalists, they naturally took sides with that party in this country, which opposes all such legislation here. Had they voted the Whig ticket, we should have heard the cry that "America as must rule America."

How has it happened that we never discovered the great danger to our country from Catholics and foreigners until this new party sprung up? You have but to look around you to see that nearly every important office is now and have been filled by native-American cltizens; the two most important exceptions within my recollection, were the appointments of foreigners to be Secretaries of the Treasury, by Gen. Wasington and Thos. Jefferson.

The new party proposes a change of the naturalization laws, so as to require a residence of twenty-one years. The first naturalization law, approved by Gen. Washington, required a residence of five years, and proof before our courts of good moral character, and attachment to our institutions. Many and serious evils may grow up under the disfranchisement for twenty-one years, even if the law should only be made to apply to those coming hereafter. If immigration continues as heretofore, we should soon have a million or more of men, residents in the country, performing all the duties of citizens, and yet deprived of the estimable right, and necessarily discontented with such conditions.

They would learn the republican maxim, that representation and taxation go together—even your own constitution, that deprives free persons of color of the right to vote, at the same time exempted them from a poll-tax and the performance of military duty in time of peace. Could we be justified in placing respectable foreigners on a footing than our free negroes? Could we expect so large a body of men ro remain quiet under such a deprivation for such a period? It would be far better to exclude them altogether, but this is not proposed by the new party.

I hear another objection occasionally urged, that the new emigrants go into the free States and will swell the abolition vote against the South. The postponement of naturalization for twenty-one years could have no influence upon that question. If admitted, and they go to the free States, at the taking of each census, they are counted as so many inhabitants, and increase the power of the free States, according to their numbers, whether they vote or not. Gen. Scott thought service in the army for one year should entitle them to citizenship; why not in the civil walks of life, if accompanied by good conduct and attachment to our county? I am of opinion that the sooner foreigners of good character can be admitted to all the rights of citizenship, after a reasonable time for them to become acquainted with our institutions and laws, the better for them and the country.

I have briefly stated my opinion of this new party and their principles, leaving the discussion of them to the candidates for office, who are better qualified than myself to do them justice. I cannot, however, conclude this letter without the expression of my solemn conviction that, if the rights of conscience, our personal security and religious liberty secured to us by the constitution, are to be intrusted into the keeping of clandestine lodges under the control of oath-bound political hucksters and unscrupnlous demagogues, that our boasted right of self-government, our glorious institutions which have so long protected us, and given us so much character in the eyes of other nations, will be no longer worth preserving.

Your friend, C. JOHNSON.

What is a Hindo?

New York is famous for names to political parties. The Whigs are classified as "Silver Grays" and Woolly Heads," the Democrats as "Hards" and "Softs," and the Know-Nothings as "Hindoos." The following explains the reason:

The Thugs of Hindoostan are an association who believe it is their duty to exterminate all who do not belong to their order. They meet in secret lodges, and are sworn with solemn oaths. They lie in wait for unsuspecting passers-by, and attacking them suddenly, and without warning, strangle them. The higher the position and character of the victim, the greater is supposed to be the merit of the act. The Thug who strangles the highest number of victims in the course of a year is rewarded with the title of Grand Thug of the Council, and invested with despotic power. If any Thug refuses to yield unquestioning power to the commands of the Grand Thug, they make an image or effigy of him, which they burn, at the same time stoning and cursing it. This is supposed to visit him with all manner of misfortunes. After this any Thug who meets him is bound to stab him to the heart, provided he can do so without risk of detection. Every member of the order is sworn to deny his connection with it, and when interrogated to say he knows nothing about it. When apprehended and brought to justice, they claim to be persons of the greatest morality and virtue, and justify their acts by saying that they only wish to establish the true religion, (viz: their own,) and prevent foreigners, (viz: all who are not Thugs,) from getting control of the country.

The points of resemblance between the Thugs of Hindoostan and the Know-Nothings of this country, are, it will be seen, many and striking; with preference, on the score of merit and fair dealing, slightly in favor of the Thugs.—*Maine Age.*

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