

and villages in the interior of the State. The natives, or Know-Nothings as they are now called, will bring out their great strength in the cities and principal towns. The Know-Nothing organization made its first demonstration during the last election, when it was stated that this party could command five thousand votes. Their work was done entirely in secret, and nothing was known of them except what might be gathered from the lips of some "leaky vessel" who had been, unluckily for them, introduced into the mysteries of the order. Yet, at this time, the natives threatened to derange the plans of both parties, and almost defeated the election of one of the strongest men on the whig ticket—Mr. Blunt—the candidate for the office of District Attorney. The native candidate, Mr. Shaffer, lacked less than a hundred votes of an election, and very few persons were aware that he was to be a candidate until the day of election. There are several native American orders—the Order of United Americans, United Sons of America, Guard of Liberty, and so forth; one of these organizations threw Mr. Shaffer overboard at the eleventh hour, and voted for Mr. Blunt.

Since that time the whig and democratic leaders have been very much puzzled to account for the movements of this new party. It is stated that the order called the Know-Nothings has, in this city, from sixty to one hundred lodges, and they are said to have enrolled from ten thousand to thirty thousand voters. Their meetings are held in secret, the members are notified by means known only to the initiated, and their mode of operations is founded upon one word—silence. By working in this mysterious manner they hope to be able so to organize their forces as to carry every election, in the city at least. In their private meetings, the very existence of which is unknown except to those persons who are entitled to be present, they have long debates and agitating discussions as to the best means to be adopted in order to carry into effect the peculiar principles which they avow to each other, but never in public. It is difficult to find any person who is willing to say that he is a member of this Know-Nothing order, as it is called.

It is, however, a fact that this order is bitterly opposed to Irish and German naturalized citizens, Roman Catholics especially; in fact, the order is hostile to all persons of foreign birth, no matter where they may have originated. There can be no doubt that the native citizens entitled to a vote, outnumber the naturalized citizens—the proportion is three natives to one foreigner. This fact shows conclusively that a combined movement on the part of the natives would carry the city by a sweeping majority, at any election, and produce considerable effect on the State. According to all accounts, if the Know-Nothing party continues to increase as it has heretofore, it will number in the city one hundred or a hundred and fifty lodges, and enrol on its lists thirty thousand or forty thousand persons entitled to vote. This would give them the city. The only party which will be found to make a strong fight against them will be the temperance men, and they will not be able to control many votes in the city, as they cannot bring to bear here the same moral influences which they will find very effective in the country.

There will be a curious and novel scene at the next election in this State. The democrats have two organizations, each of which will act against the other. The whigs will be divided on the temperance question—all the old organizations will lose much of their strength, and it seems highly probable that the new party will catch all the floating material, which will go to swell their vote to an extent that will surprise the old politicians.

Among other curious events of the day, it seems that the Irish and German residents of this city have followed the example set them by the natives, and have organized their secret political associations in every ward, upon the same general plan. The Irish are divided into two parties—one of which occupies Archbishop Hughes' platform, and the members of the other call themselves Young Irelanders. Among the objects of the last named party are these: the incorporation of Canada as part of this republic, a revolution in England, and the liberation of Ireland. The Germans are chiefly agitated about their lager bier saloons, and are very much incensed at the idea that their liberty to drink as much of that beverage, and at any time and place, as they see fit should be in any danger of restriction. Altogether, the position of parties in this State makes up a very curious chequer-board, and the oldest players may well be puzzled to solve the problems presented to them.

What with the various organizations, sub-organizations, managing committees and committees which cannot manage at all, political societies, secret orders, dismembered parties, and disgusted partisans, we have a battle before us which defies ordinary calculations as to results; at any rate, the events will be striking enough to command the undivided attention of the leaders at Washington, and prevent them from agitating the slavery question for a year or two to come.

#### The Newest Political Movements of the Day.

The breaking up of some of the old parties, and the disorganization of others, on account of the treachery and imbecility of their leaders, give an opening for the formation of new parties, with novel principles, novel tactics and novel platforms. And it now appears that the present opportunity is to be improved to the fullest extent.

We have heretofore given a full history of the native American party; and from that statement it may easily be seen that the native party grew up on account of the corruption and demoralization of the old parties; and the temporary success of the natives in this city when James Harper was elected Mayor, grew out of the disgust which a great majority of the voters experienced at the conduct of their former political leaders. This is precisely the case at the present time. The total defeat of the whig party in 1852, when General Pierce was elected President, gave to that party a blow from which it has never recovered. General Pierce has abandoned all the old democratic principles, and he has been abandoned by the democratic party. So the utter demoralization and dissolution of the democratic party, and the Waterloo defeat of the whig party, have left a large number of people without any party at all. It has opened the way for new parties.

The opportunity thus given has not been neglected. We find two distinct parties now in the field, each claiming the favor of voters at the ensuing election. The first of these organizations is the temperance or tee-total party, and the second is produced by the revival of the old native party under a new name. The temperance or tee-total men have founded their party entirely upon cold water principles, and their professed object is to bring about the enactment of a law making the sale of intoxicating liquors a criminal or penal offence. This is a very excellent idea as far as our social welfare is concerned, but one of doubtful expediency when considered from a legal point of view.

The native organization is chiefly composed of old politicians from both parties, who are again struggling for supremacy, supported by young enthusiasts. Their first principle is opposition to the appointment of foreigners to any public office. This party has also gained a large number of adherents by exciting the old feeling of Protestant hostility against Roman Catholic principles and progress.

At this moment both these new political combinations—the tee-total and native parties—are in a state of parturition; and they will owe their birth to the downfall of one of the old parties, and the utter corruption of the other—the latter calamity being brought about by the breaking up of the present administration at Washington. Of the new parties, the temperance organization will probably have the greatest numerical preponderance. The tee-totalers will muster more votes in the small towns