

power of *granting dispensations*, and the Constitution was with equal dexterity and ingenuity construed to mean when it says, "no religious test shall ever be required," as binding only agents, and giving license to the actual parties to the compact to apply any test they pleased to whoever they pleased. Their numbers thus augmented, the party triumphed, and Know-Nothingism is dominant now in Maryland, "Tell it not in Gath; publish it not in the streets of Eshkalon!"

Maryland, in an especial manner, hitherto the chosen seat of liberty, civil and religious,—Maryland, where first shone forth and peered above the horizon after the darker ages the bright star of man's deliverance from the horrors of religious persecution,—Maryland, the founders of whose dominion and the authors of whose glory extended of yore the hand of fellowship and the invitation of fraternal love to all, of whatsoever clime or creed, where oppression was felt, to come and abide in peace and freedom within her borders,—where, too, shines and will for ever shine on her statute book of 1649, with the calm lustre of purity and truth, the solemn enactment, "that no man professing to believe in Jesus Christ should ever be in any manner TROUBLED, MOLESTED OR DISCOURAGED ON account of his religion,"—placed there, too, by the members of the now proscribed Catholic Church. Maryland is delivered over to the fell spirit of bigotry, and the unholy creed of the proscription of a religion and of strangers.

But it has been asserted, if these things were, they are not now. Would that it were so; but no sufficient evidence of that fact is seen. On the contrary, there still exist *councils, lodges*, and all the paraphernalia and machinery of the same party organization; oaths are still in print, and it does not appear that they have been rescinded, repealed or annulled; by their terms it appears they were intended to be preserved and observed *through life* inviolably. It is known that a certain Grand Council published, no very long time since, a platform which purported to grant plenary *indulgence* and general *absolution* of and for oaths violated or lesser secrets divulged, and full liberty was given to all to speak of things already pretty generally known, and to divulge secrets which could no longer be kept, because before disclosed. The license was specific, and of necessity, therefore, does not include things not specified. There is an old legal maxim to this effect, "*expressio unius est exclusio alterius.*" There is something then, yet, and it may be much and important matter, locked in the *sanctum sanctorum* of "the order," which vulgar ears are not allowed to hear nor vulgar eyes permitted to look upon.

A distinction is now taken between this Know-Nothing party and what is called the American party. The name of Know-