

Shawnee State University

Digital Commons @ Shawnee State University

Scioto Valley Post (Portsmouth, Ohio),
1840-1843

Historic Portsmouth Newspaper Collection

1-24-1843

Scioto Valley Post (Portsmouth, Ohio), January 24, 1843

William P. Camden

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.shawnee.edu/scioto_valley_post

Recommended Citation

Camden, William P., "Scioto Valley Post (Portsmouth, Ohio), January 24, 1843" (1843). *Scioto Valley Post (Portsmouth, Ohio), 1840-1843*. 43.

https://digitalcommons.shawnee.edu/scioto_valley_post/43

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the Historic Portsmouth Newspaper Collection at Digital Commons @ Shawnee State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Scioto Valley Post (Portsmouth, Ohio), 1840-1843 by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Shawnee State University. For more information, please contact svarney@shawnee.edu.

Scioto Valley Post

W. P. CAMDEN,

DOWN WITH MONOPOLIES, AND ALL SPECIAL LEGISLATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FEW AT THE EXPENSE OF THE MANY.

\$3 00 per annum, in advance.

VOL. 2

PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, JANUARY 24, 1843.

NO. 46

MISCELLANY.

Debby Wilder, THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER.

BY SEBA SMITH.

There lived a few years ago in the interior of one of the middle States, a sturdy farmer, well to do in the world, by the name of William Wilder. He had wandered away from Yankee land in his younger days, to seek his fortune, and having been employed by a respectable Quaker to work on his farm, he had contrived with true Yankee adroitness to win the affections of the old man's daughter, and had married her. His wife having espoused one of the world's people, contrary to the rules of her order, was "read out of the society"; but William loved her none the less for that; if any thing, he felt a little rejoiced at it, for he thought it seemed to bring her a little nearer to him. He had no particular objections to "them theeing and thousing sort of folks," he had always found them a pretty good sort of people, but he had no idea that she should ever join them herself, and therefore felt a sort of a relief—a something that he could hardly describe—when he was told that his wife was "read out."

Mrs. Wilder, however, never overcame, and perhaps never tried to overcome, the habits which had grown up with her childhood and youth; she always called her husband William, and continued through life to speak the Quaker dialect. But this from her lips was never ungrateful or unwelcome to Wilder's ears, for one of the sweetest sounds that dwelt on his memory, was when he asked her a certain question, and her answer was, "William, there's my heart, already, and my hand shall be thine whenever thee may please to take it."

William Wilder was a thrifty and stirring man; in a few years he found himself the owner of a good farm, and was going ahead in the world as fast as the best of his neighbors. Nor was the whole sum of his good fortune being stated yet. He was blessed with a daughter, a bright, rosy-cheeked, healthy, romping girl, full of life and spirits, and, in his eyes, exceedingly beautiful.

This daughter, at the period which is now more particularly to be described, had reached the age of eighteen years. Her complexion was naturally fair, but a little browned from exposure to the sun, for she had been accustomed from childhood to be much in the open air. If this, however, had detracted from her beauty, it was more than compensated by the vigor and elasticity it had imparted to her frame, and the bright and deep lustre it had brought to her dark hazel eye. She was an object of engrossing love to her parents, and of general attraction in the neighborhood.

"There's that Joe Nelson alongside of Debby again," said Mr. Wilder to his wife rather pettishly, as they came out of church one warm summer afternoon, and commenced their walk homeward. "I wish he would not make himself quite so thick."

"Well, now, my dear, I think thee has a little too much feeling about it," returned Mr. Wilder. "Young folks like to be together, thee knows, and Joseph is a clever and respectable young man; no body ever says a word against him."

"Yes, he's too clever, to be worth anything," says Wilder, "and by and by he'll take it into his head, if he hasn't already, to coax Debby to marry him. I've no idea of her marrying a pauper; I've worked too hard for what little property I have, to be willing to see it go to feed a vagabond, who never earns anything, and never will. I don't believe Joe will ever be worth a hundred dollars as long as he lives."

"Well, now, my dear, I think thee a little too hard upon Joseph," said Mrs. Wilder; "thee should remember he is but just out of his time. His father has been sick several years, and Joseph has almost entirely supported the whole family."

"Oh, I don't deny but he's clever enough, and kind enough to his father and mother," said Mr. Wilder; "but as I don't like to see him so thick along with Debby. How should you feel to see him married to Debby, and not worth hardly a decent suit of clothes?"

"Well, I should feel," said Mrs. Wilder, "as though they were starting in life very much as we did when we were first married. We had decent clothes, and each of us a good pair of hands, and that was about all we had to start with. I don't think, William, we should have got along any better, or been any happier, if thee had been worth a hundred thousand dollars."

This argument came down with such force to Wilder's own bosom, that he made no attempt to answer it, but walked on in silence till he reached his dwelling. Debby and Joseph had arrived there before them, and were already seated in the parlor. Seeing Joseph as they passed the window, Mr. Wilder chose not to go in, but continued his walk up the road to the high ground that overlooked some of his fields, where he stood ruminating for half an hour upon the prospect of his crops, and more particularly upon the unpleasant subject of Debby and Joe Nelson. The young man had become so familiar and so much at home at his house, that he could hardly doubt there was a strong attachment growing up between them. He had always been so fond of his daughter, and her presence was so necessary to his happiness that the idea of her marrying at all was a sad thought to him; but if she must marry, he was determined it should be, if possible, to a person of some property, who would at once place her in a comfortable situation in life, and relieve him from the foolish anxiety, so common in this world, lest his own little estate should be dishonored by family connection, not equal to it. While he remained here in this musing mood, he recognized Henry Miller coming down the road, and he resolved at once to take him home to supper. Miller was a dashing business young fellow, who kept a store about a mile and a half from Wilder's, and was reputed to be worth some five or six thousand dollars. He had heretofore been a frequent visitor at Wilder's house, and there was a time when his attentions to Debby, were such as to cause Mr. Wilder to expect that the thrifty young trader would become his son-in-law. Debby, however, was not sufficiently pleased with him to encourage his attentions; and for some time past, his visits had been discontinued.

"Good afternoon, Mr. Miller," said Wilder, presenting his hand; "glad to see you; how do you do this fine day this?"

"Yes, fine day," said Miller, "excellent weather for crops; how are all at home?"

"Quite well, thank ye," said Wilder. "Come, you must go down to the house with me. Why have you been such a stranger lately?"

"Oh, I've generally been pretty busy," said Miller, coloring a little, "I don't get much time to visit."

"Well, you must go down to the house with me now, and stop to supper," said Wilder, "you can have nothing to prevent you to-day, I'm sure."

Miller colored still deeper; said he did not think he could stop; he only came out to take a bit of a walk, and did not think of going any further than the top of the hill where they now stood. Mr. Wilder, however, would not take no for an answer, and after considerable importunity, he prevailed upon Miller to accept his invitation, and they descended the hill together and went into the house.

"Debby, here is Mr. Miller," said Wilder, as they entered the parlor.

Debby arose, handed a chair, and said good evening; but her face was covered with blushes, and she returned again to her seat.

As Miller seated himself in the chair, he glanced across the room and recognized Joseph Nelson. The two young men nodded at each other, and both seemed somewhat embarrassed.

"Where's your mother, Debby?" said Mr. Wilder.

"Mr. Miller's going to stop to supper."

"At this moment Mrs. Wilder entered the room.

"How does thee do, Henry?" said Mrs. Wilder, presenting her hand; "I am glad to see thee; I hope thy mother is well."

"Very well, indeed," said Miller, and after a few more remarks, Mrs. Wilder retired to superintend the preparation for supper.

"Excuse me, Mr. Miller, a little while," said Mrs. Wilder; "I want to go and show Joseph that field of corn of mine we were looking at back of the hill. According to my notion, its the stoutest piece there is in the town. Come Joseph, go up and look at it."

"I think it is the stoutest piece I've seen this year," said Joseph; "I saw it about a week ago."

"Oh, its gained amazingly within a week," said Mr. Wilder; "come, go up and look at it."

Joseph was altogether unaccustomed to such attentions from Mr. Wilder, and he looked not a little confused as he took his hat and followed him to the door. They went up the road, and Mr. Wilder took him all round the field of corn, and examined hill after hill, and looked into the other fields, and found a hundred things to stop and look at, and talked more to Joseph than he had before for six months. Joseph suspected that this walk was undertaken by Mr. Wilder for the purpose of leaving Miller and Debby in the room together, but he bore it all patiently, and approved all Mr. Wilder's remarks about his crops and his fields with apparent interest, for he knew too well the state of Debby's feelings, both towards himself and towards Miller, to feel any uneasiness. At length Mr. Wilder concluded supper must be nearly ready, and they returned to the house. On entering the parlor, they found Miller alone, reading a newspaper. Mr. Wilder looked vexed.

"What! all alone, Mr. Miller?" said Mr. Wilder; "I should not have stayed so long, but I thought Debby would amuse you till we got back."

"Miss Debby had some engagement that required her attention," said Miller, "and asked to be excused; but I found myself quite interested in this newspaper."

Wilder went out and met his wife in the hall, and asked her how long it had been since Debby left Miller alone in the parlor.

"She left in three minutes after thee went out," said Mrs. Wilder, "and I could not persuade her to go back again. She said she knew thee went out on purpose to leave her and Henry alone there together, and she would not stay. It's no use, William, these things always will have their own way, and it is no use trying to prevent it."

The supper passed off rather silently and rather awkwardly. Mr. Wilder endeavored to be sociable and polite to Miller, and Debby performed many little silent acts of politeness towards Joseph, and Mrs. Wilder, as usual, was mild and complaisant to all. But an air of embarrassment pervaded the whole company, and when they arose from the table, Henry Miller asked to be excused, and said it was time for him to be returning homeward. Mr. Wilder endeavored to persuade him to stop and spend the evening, but Henry was decided and said he must go. After he had gone, Joseph and Debby returned again to the parlor, where they were joined a part of the evening by Mrs. Wilder; but Mr. Wilder, after walking up and down the dining room for an hour or two, retired to bed; not, however, to sleep. His mind was too deeply engrossed with the destiny of Debby to allow of repose. He counted the hours as they were told by the clock, till it had struck twelve. Mrs. Wilder had then been two hours asleep, still he had not heard Joseph go out. After a while the clock struck one, and a few minutes after that, he heard the outer door rather softly opened and closed; and then he heard Debby tripping lightly to her chamber.

"Ah," thought Wilder to himself, "it is as my wife says; these things will have their own way. This stopping till one o'clock looks like rather serious business."

The next day Debby had a long private interview with her mother, and after dinner Mrs. Wilder wished to have some talk with her husband in the parlor.

"Well, my dear," said she, "Debby and Joseph are bent upon being married. It seems they made up their minds to it some months ago; and now they have fixed upon the time. They say they must be married week after next. Now, I think we had better fall in with it with as good feelings as possible, and make the best of it. Thee knows I have always said these things will have their own way, and when young folks get their minds made up, I don't think its a good plan to interfere with them. As long as Joseph is clever, and respectable, and good to work, I think we ought to feel contented about it, although he is poor. It seems to me that there are as many folks that marry poor, that make out well in the world, as there are that marry rich."

After a little reflection upon the matter, Wilder came to the conclusion that his wife had nearly the right of it, and told her he would make no further opposition to the match; they might be married as soon as they chose.

"Well, my dear," said Mr. Wilder, "Debby needs a little change to get some things with, this week, in order to get ready to be married."

"How much will she want this week?" said Mr. Wilder.

"If thee can let her have fifteen or twenty dollars," said Mrs. Wilder, "I think it will do for the present."

"Well, now I've no money by me," said Mr. Wilder, "except a hundred dollar bill, and it is impossible to get that changed short of sending to the bank, a distance of ten miles. I tried at first, but she said she would not let me go, and I could not succeed. I shall be too busy to go myself to-morrow, but if Debby has a mind to get on the old horse in the morning, and take the bill to the bank and get it changed she may have some of the money."

This proposition was soon reported to Debby, who said she had just as lief take the ride as not. The matter was thus amicably arranged with Mr. Wilder, there was nothing to hinder going forward with comfort and despatch in making preparations for the wedding. Debby was in excellent spirits, turned off the work about the house with remarkable facility, and evinced unusual solicitude in her attentions to her father, answering all his wants almost before he had time to name them. And on the other hand, was in unusual good humor towards Debby. Having at last brought his mind to assent to the arrangement which he had so strongly opposed, his feelings were now in a state of reaction, which caused him to regard Debby with uncommon tenderness. His eyes followed her about the house with looks of love, and a tone of kindness breathed in every word he uttered. The next morning the old gray horse was standing at the door and eating provender, full two hours before Debby was ready to start; and Mr. Wilder had been out half a dozen times to examine the saddle and bridle to see that every thing was right, and had lifted the horse's feet one after another all round, to see if any of the shoes were loose. And when at last Debby was ready, he led old gray to the horse-block and held him till she was well seated in the saddle, and then he handed her the bridle, and shortened the stirrup-leather, and buckled the girth a little tighter to prevent the danger of the saddle's turning, and when he had seen that everything was right, he stepped into the house and brought out his small riding whip and placed it in her hand, and giving her a hundred charges to take care of herself and be careful and not get a fall, he stepped up on the horse-block and stood and watched her as she turned into the road and ascended the hill, until she was entirely out of sight.

Debby trotted on leisurely over the long road she had to travel, but she was too full of pleasant thoughts and bright anticipations to feel weary at the distance or inhospitable the solitude. The road was but little travelled, and she met but two persons in the whole distance, one about a mile from home, and the other in the long valley of dark woods about mid-way her journey. Had she been of a timid disposition, she would have felt a good deal of uneasiness when she saw this last person approaching her. His appearance was dark and ruffianly—they were two miles from any house, and in the midst of a deep silent wilderness. But Debby's nerves were unmovable; she returned his bow in passing, and kept on her way with perfect composure.

She reached the end of her journey in due time, hitched her horse in the shed at the village hotel, and enquired of the waiter at the door, the way to the bank. When she reached the door she found it closed, and learnt from the bystanders that the bank, from some cause or other, was shut for the day. In her exceeding disappointment, she stood silent for some time, uncertain what she should do.

"Is it anything, miss, that I can help you about?" said a gentleman at the adjoining shop door.

Debby replied that she wanted to get a bill changed at the bank.

"O, I'll change it for you," said the gentleman, "if it isn't too large; come, step in here."

She accordingly stepped into the store, and giving him many thanks, handed him the bill.

"O, a hundred dollars!" said he; "I can't do it; I haven't half that amount in the store. But you go across there to the apothecary's, I think likely enough he may do it."

Debby thanked him again, and went across to the apothecary's. Here she made known her wishes, but with no better success. The apothecary looked at the bill, and opened his pocket book, and then discovered that he had paid away all his small bills that day, and could not change it. As she turned to go out, she encountered a man behind her, who seemed to have been looking over her shoulder. She looked at him, and recognized the tall man with black whiskers, whom she had noticed at the hotel. Leaving the druggist's shop, she discovered a large dry-goods store, and thought she would try her luck there. Still she was unsuccessful. As she was leaving the store she met the tall man with the black whiskers again. He looked smilingly upon her, and asked her to let him see the bill, for he thought it probable that he could change it. After looking at it, he returned it to her again, observing, if it had been a city bill, he would have changed it. But he did not like to change a country bill.

Having tried at two or three other places without effecting her object, Debby found she must give it up, for she was now told that probably it would not be possible for her to get it changed before the bank was opened the next day. Nothing further remained therefore that she could do, and she concluded to return immediately home. As she rode out of the hotel yard, she observed again the tall man with the black whiskers, standing at the corner of the house, and apparently watching her movements. She could not but think he had considerable impertinent curiosity, but she rode on, and was no sooner out of his sight than he was out of her mind, for her own perplexing disappointment engrossed all her thoughts. She passed over the first two miles of her homeward journey almost unconscious of the distance, so busily was she turning over in her mind various expedients to remedy the failure of her present undertaking. She sometimes thought she must return again next morning; but the journey was rather more of an undertaking than she had anticipated, and she shrank a little from the idea of a repetition of it. She thought of several of their neighbors, of whom she presumed it might be possible to borrow a few dollars for a short time. But then she knew her father was so strenuously opposed to borrowing, that he would

on no account allow it to be done, and would never forgive her, should he find out that she had done it without his knowledge or consent. She might get trusted for the most of the articles she wanted, but several of them of the most importance were at Henry Miller's store, and she would not ask to be trusted there, if she never obtained the article.

Her reveries were at last broken off by the sound of a horse coming up at rather a quick trot behind her. She looked over her shoulder, and there was the tall man with the black whiskers, mounted on a large and beautiful black horse, within a few yards of her. She uttered a little cry at first, at the idea of having his company through the woods, but as he came up he accosted her with such a bland smile and such gentle and easy manners, that she soon recovered from her trepidation, and rode on with her wonted composure.

"Rather a long road here, miss," said the stranger, looking at the dark woods that lay in the great valley before them. "How far do you go, miss?"

"Seven or eight miles," said Debby, hesitating a little.

"I am happy to find company on the road," said the stranger, "for its rather lonesome riding alone. I trust you will allow me to be your protector through the woods."

Debby thanked him, and said she was never lonesome and never afraid. Still in a lonely place it was always more agreeable to have company.

"Did you make out to get your bill changed?" said the stranger.

"No," said Debby, "I tried till I was tired, but I could find no one to change it. I don't know but I shall have to come back again to-morrow, for it is impossible to get it changed in our neighborhood."

The stranger made himself very agreeable in his conversation, and Debby began to think that her feelings at first had done him injustice, and she tried what she could to make amends by being so kind and agreeable in her turns. A couple of miles more had been passed over in this way, not unpleasantly, and they had now reached the deepest and darkest part of the valley through which the road lay. The heavy woods was above them and around them, and not a sound was to be heard except the murmuring of a little brook, over which they had just passed. The stranger suddenly rode close to her side, and seizing the rein of her horse, told her at once she must give him the hundred dollar bill.

"Now this is carrying the joke too far," said Debby, trying to laugh; "in such a place as this, too, it is no joke at all," said the stranger; "we go no further till you give me the hundred dollar bill."

Debby trembled and turned pale, for she saw something in the stranger's eye that looked as though he was in earnest.

"I'm sure you don't mean anything," said Debby, trying to pull the rein from his hand. "It's too bad to try to frighten me so here."

"We must not dilly about it," said the stranger, holding the reign tight; "you see I am in earnest by this,"—drawing a pistol from his pocket and pointing it at her.

"Oh! mercy!" said Debby, "you may have the money, if you will let me go."

"The money is all I want," said the stranger, "but there must be no more dallying; the sooner you hand it over the better."

Debby at once drew forth the bill and attempted to hand it to the stranger, but her hand trembled so, it dropped from her fingers just before it reached his, and at that moment a little gust of wind whirled it back gently towards the brook. The stranger leapt from his saddle and ran back two or three rods to recover it. Debby was not so far gone in her fright but that she had her thoughts about her; and seizing the rein of the stranger's horse, she applied the whip to both horses at once, and was instantly off upon a quick canter. The man called to her to stop in a loud threatening tone, and at once fired his pistol at her; but as she felt no cold lead, she did not stop or turn even enough to give him a farewell look. The remaining five miles of her journey were soon passed over: and as she came out into the settlement and passed the dwellings of her neighbors, many were the heads that looked from the windows and doors, and great was the wonderment at seeing Debby riding home so fast, and leading such a fine strange horse.

Her father who had seen her come over the hill, met her some rods from the house, exclaiming with looks of astonishment, "what upon earth have you here, Debby! Whose horse is that?"

"Why Debby, what has thee been doing?" said Mrs. Wilder, who was but a few steps behind her husband; "thee doesn't look well; what is the matter?"

"As soon as they were seated in the house, Debby told them the whole story, and Mrs. Wilder's eyes were full of tears during the whole recital. When she had rested a little, and the gust of feeling began to subside, Mr. Wilder felt so rejoiced at his daughter's escape, that he began to feel in excellent spirits. He led the strange horse to the door and began to examine him.

"Well, Debby," said he, "since you have got home safe at last, we may begin to talk about business a little now. The hundred dollar bill is gone; but I'm thinking after all, you have not made a very bad bargain. That is the likeliest horse I have seen this many a day. I don't think it would be a very difficult matter to sell him for two hundred dollars. At any rate, I'll take the horse for the hundred dollars, and you may have the saddle for the twenty dollars you were to have out of it."

"And the saddle-bags too, I suppose!" said Debby, feeling a little disposed to join in the joke.

"Yes, and the saddle-bags too," said Mr. Wilder; "no, stop! we will see what is in them first," he continued, untying them from the saddle. "O, here's lots of shirts and stockings and handkerchiefs, and capital good ones, too. Yes, Debby, the saddle-bags are yours; these things come in very good time for Joseph, you know."

Debby colored, but said nothing.

"Now William," said Mrs. Wilder, "there is a little too full of thy fan."

"No fun about it," said Mr. Wilder, replacing the articles in the leather bags. "Here Debby take 'em and take care of 'em." Debby took the saddle-bags to her chamber, not a little gratified with the articles of clothing they contained. She emptied the contents upon the bed; and on examining to see if every thing was out, she discovered an inside pocket in one of the bags. She opened it and drew therefrom an elegant pocket-book. On opening the pocket-

book, she found it contained a quantity of bills. She counted, and counted, and he heart beat quicker and quicker, for before she got through she had fifteen hundred dollar in good bank money.

Debby kept her own counsel. In a few days it was rumored that Joseph Nelson had purchased an excellent little farm in the neighborhood, that had been offered for sale for some months at a thousand dollars, and was considered a great bargain.

"Joseph," said Mr. Wilder, the next time they met, "I am astonished to hear you have been running in debt, for a farm in such times as these, I think you ought to have worked three or four years and got something beforehand, before running in debt so much."

"But I haven't been running in debt," said Joseph. "Haven't you bought Sanderson's farm?" said Wilder.

"Yes, I have," said Joseph.

"At a thousand dollars," said Wilder.

"Yes," said Joseph, "but I paid for it all down. I don't run in debt for any thing."

Mr. Wilder was too much astonished to ask any further questions.

Joseph Nelson made an excellent farmer and respectable man; he was industrious, and got rapidly beforehand, and Mr. Wilder was always proud of his son-in-law. It was some ten years after this, when Mr. Wilder was sitting one day and trotting his third grandson upon his knee, that he said—

"Debby, I should like to know how Joseph contrived to purchase this farm at the time you were married."

Debby stepped to the closet, brought out the old saddle-bags, and opened them, pointed to the inner pocket, saying, "the money came from there, sir."

WESTERN WATERS.

In all the principal places on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, movements have been made for bringing the subject of the removal of obstructions to their navigation more particularly before Congress, with an urgent appeal to that body for the immediate adoption of the necessary measures. As by the States apportionment of Representatives among the States, and the increasing strength of Iowa, Wisconsin, and Florida, indicating a readiness soon to enter the Union, it is apparent to all that the weight of political power is fast rolling to the west, the East, which has ever held all power in its own hands, and used it for its own purposes, may with a view to conciliate the West, and purchase favors when she shall rise in her destined strength, consent to appropriate a sufficient sum for the removal of obstructions in these rivers. It is known to all that while millions have been expended in building harbors and the erection of light houses on the Atlantic coast and Eastern waters, the commerce of the West has been left to take care of itself. Every appropriation granted to the West, for whatever purpose, has been considered by members of the East as a gratuity, rather than an act of justice, for which they think we are placed under many obligations.

Now is the time to press the matter. If our requests are granted, the advantage to the west will be immense, and if denied, the west may see how far and how long the east is determined to exercise its power in withholding justice from the west.

Millions have been lost on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, where the expenditure of a few thousands would have saved all. And aside from losses by accidents, the delay in crossing the rapids annually cost the people, in high freight, half enough to open a channel through them.

We hope, now that we have the assistance of almost every western State, that something will be done, and it is especially the interest of States bordering on these rivers to be active in urging the improvement of their navigation, as unless it is soon done, the trade and travel from the upper Mississippi will be independent of the lower Mississippi and Ohio. Such is the price asked for goods in St. Louis, for which the terms of payment are very liberal, and the high freights usually required in consequence of the obstructions of the rapids; that many dealers have concluded to trade at points on the Lake, bringing their goods across in road wagons, and sleighs. It is an undeniable fact that on the Lake our produce, &c. bears a better price, and our goods can be purchased on so much better terms that it is to the advantage of the upper country to deal on the Lake. If this be now the case, how much will the construction of a railroad, connecting the river and the Lake together, add to the advantages of the trade? A railroad or a clear water communication we soon must have.

—Iowa Herald.

ALL THE DECENCY.—The N. York American is not only the head of the federal press in New York, but he is recognised as being the pink of "good Society" and "all the decency." As a sample of the matter which fills its columns we give the following:

"Mr. Tyler, to day, sent in another of his miserable little mock-veto messages, in relation to the Distribution Bill, and the Contested Election Bill, which he meanly pocketed last session. It was received with unanimous contempt. The poor creature can hardly get himself even the honor of a loud laugh from the House now. He has settled into a hopeless and helpless quietude of infamy, from which nothing will disturb him till 1845. Nobody cares what he says, or does, or thinks. He can do us no hurt; and he can do the loco-focos no good. No gentleman in Congress calls on him; and he is left to the companionship of the very scavengers of a licentious press. He is already a wholesome example to all traitors and ingrates.

"Despised, abused, denied, and almost spit upon, by those for whose unmeaning and deceitful promises he renounced good faith and truth; and abhorred by the good for his folly—a more pitiable instance of self-punished crime was never seen by an astonished world. His present elevation is a mere pillory to him."

After this specimen of vulgar abuse, we should like to know where the "scavengers of a licentious press" can be found, who can compare with the American in this filthy work. Yet, such men talk of a "want of decency," with as much cool impudence as it is possible for the imagination to conceive.

—Ball, Republican.

Mike Walsh gives it as his opinion that the greatest men are only great in their happy moments. If a man were continually brilliant, he'd set fire to himself, and if his thoughts were continually expanding, his head would burst.

EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY OF SCIOTO COUNTY.

We call the attention of our readers to a notice in our advertising columns to-day, for a meeting to be held at the Public School-house, on Saturday, the 28th inst. The above society has been recently established, and bids fair to give an impetus to education in this section of country, which has never been experienced heretofore.

Education, as a means of improving the moral and intellectual faculties, is, under all circumstances, a subject of the most imposing consideration.

Various plans have been devised for the organization and establishment of Common Schools in different States, and all, we believe, are more or less defective.

There are thousands who are extremely favorable to education, so long as it is education in general terms, but who will oppose, so soon as any definite plan is agreed upon for promotion.

To frame a system of education which must directly affect every citizen in the State, and so to regulate it as that it shall obviate individual and local discontent, and yet be generally beneficial, is a task at once perplexing and arduous.

And shall any one, who may chance to take up the business of teaching, be entrusted with the formation of the character of American youth? Should not a class of men be set apart, trained, prepared, educated for these high purposes?

The profession is necessary that we may have a class of men set apart for the high purposes of education. It is perhaps enough here to say that, throughout our country, (for we would not write alone for Kentucky,) teaching is now a temporary business.

The action of such a profession is necessary to produce correct public sentiment on educational subjects. When a canal is to be made, engineers are consulted. When the people want to learn about law, they ask the lawyers; and physicians and divines are deemed the only persons competent to treat of their several causes.

In the State Legislatures as well as in Congress, where the "Coon-Skin Virgin Heifer" party are in opposition to the highest officers in power, they are always seeking to get up articles of impeachment against them.

Botts, the great leader of the "Virgin Heifer" party, is dead! How strangely local is fame: this is an announcement which our readers will receive without regret, and yet a way up in Coon Island, the sentence will sound heavily, and give a quiver to the hearts that only respond to the reverberation of the dying squalls of a coon.

DROWNED.—On Sunday last, a colored man, a fireman, on board the steamboat Ashland, while lying at our wharf, accidentally fell overboard, and was drowned.

A resolution was introduced in the House of Representatives, on the 14th inst., by Mr. Gordon, of Cincinnati, instructing our Senators and requesting our Representatives in Congress to use their influence to obtain an appropriation for the improvement of the navigation of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers.

WELL DONE, MASSACHUSETTS!—Marcus Morton is elected Governor of Massachusetts.

The brig Echo, arrived at New Orleans on the 4th inst., from Kingston, Jamaica, having on board \$8,240 in specie, consigned to Messrs. Campbell & Rickarby. The brig Commerce, from the same port, brought 375 doubloons to Mr. Howell.

JOE SMITH, the greatest prophet of the age, has been examined before the Circuit Court of the United States for some high crime, and honorably acquitted.

J. B. WELLER will please accept our thanks for his kindness in forwarding us valuable public documents.

VAN BUREN AND DEMOCRACY.

A great Mass meeting was held on Saturday, the 7th inst., by a large number of the Democrats of the city and county of Philadelphia, favorable to the nomination of Martin Van Buren, of New York, as a candidate for the Presidency of the United States in 1844.

Resolved, That while we rejoice in those occurrences of the last two years which have fortunately protected our country from the impending danger of a restoration of a National Bank, we can only look to a security against such a curse, in the elevation to the executive chair of a President holding upon this subject the sentiments avowed by Martin Van Buren.

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend to our Democratic brethren throughout the Union to lose no time in organizing themselves for the coming contest—to select at an early day, trusty and able individuals to represent them in a Democratic National Convention, and to move on in that spirit of "union and harmony," accompanied by such determined and vigorous action as will present to the foes of Democracy a resistless front, and secure their triumph.

Resolved, That as it is the opinion of this meeting, that the election of Delegates to the National Convention should be directly from the people, and the ratio one from each Congressional District; that a special committee of fifteen be now appointed to take the matter into consideration so far as regards the city and county of Philadelphia, and suggest the same course to our friends throughout the State and Union, and that the officers of this meeting be Executive Committee to correspond with our friends in the several counties of this State, and throughout the Union, and the said committee have power to add to its number.

Resolved, That while we will willingly submit in our individual opinion to a majority of our Democratic brethren throughout the Union, we think this a proper occasion to suggest that the Democratic National Convention for the nomination of candidates for the offices of President and Vice President ought to meet on the Fourth of July, 1843; and we would also suggest the propriety of its assembling in the Hall of Independence in the city of Philadelphia—a spot endeared to the friends of liberty and of those sacred principles which seek to protect, in political institution, the equality and rights of man.

OVERLAND MAIL TO THE PACIFIC.

This subject, so particularly important to the shipping interest of our country, as well as to the Government, in a national point of view, has been brought before Congress by a memorial from our worthy Consul, Seth Sweetser, Esq., who is well known to many of our merchants and who has resided for a number of years at Guayaquil. The more we look at the scheme, the more favorably we are impressed with its object.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS.

A bill to divide the State of Ohio into Congressional Districts, introduced into the Senate by Gen. Lahn, from the joint select committee on that subject, and now under consideration in that body, makes the following

- Districts: 1. Hamilton county, 2. Butler, Preble and Montgomery, 3. Warren, Clinton, Green, Fayette and Madison, 4. Miami, Clark, Champaign, Logan and Union, 5. Clermont, Brown and Highland, 6. Adams, Pike, Jackson, Hocking and Ross, 7. Scioto, Lawrence, Gallia, Meigs and Athens, 8. Fairfield, Pickaway and Franklin, 9. Perry, Morgan and Washington, 10. Muskingum and Guernsey, 11. Monroe, Belmont and Harrison, 12. Jefferson, Carroll and Columbiana, 13. Trumbull, Ashtabula and Lake, 14. Geauga, Portage, Summit and Medina, 15. Cuyahoga, Lorain, Huron and Erie, 16. Wayne and Stark, 17. Holmes, Coshocton and Tuscarawas, 18. Licking, Delaware and Marion, 19. Richland and Knox, 20. Crawford, Seneca, Sandusky, Ottawa, Wood, Hancock and Hardin, 21. Lucas, Williams, Henry, Paulding, Putnam, Van Wert, Allen, Mercer, Shelby and Darke.

RESTRICTIONS ORIGINATING IN ERRONEOUS NOTIONS AS TO THE PRECIOUS METALS—BALANCE OF TRADE.

It may appear like a truism to state, that wealth does not consist in the abundance of gold and silver, but in the abundance of the various necessities, conveniences, and enjoyments of human life. But though this be now universally admitted, the contrary opinion was long acted upon; and of those who allow that gold and silver are nothing but commodities, there are many who still think that their importation and exportation are determined by peculiar laws, and are productive of very different effects from the importation or exportation of any other species of produce.

The notions so long prevalent as to the paramount importance of the precious metals, naturally grew out of the circumstance of their having been almost everywhere selected, at a very early period, to perform the functions of money. Being used both as standards by which to determine the value of commodities, and the equivalents for which they were most frequently exchanged, they acquired, in consequence of this double function, an adventitious importance, not in the estimation of the ignorant only, but in that of persons of the greatest discernment.

It would be worse than useless to take up the readers time by proving, what is now universally admitted, that gold and silver form only a very small portion of the wealth of every civilized country, and that it is in every respect necessary to take any extraordinary measures to force their importation, or to retain them at home after they have been imported.

The proper business of the wholesale merchant consists in carrying the various products of the different countries of the world, from places where their value is least to those where it is greatest; or which is the same thing, in distributing them according to the effective demand.

So far from an excess of exports over imports being any criterion of an advantageous commerce, it is directly the reverse; and the truth is, notwithstanding all that has been said and written to the contrary, that unless the value of the imports exceeded that of the exports, foreign trade could not be carried on.

AFRAY AT SMITHLAND.

Running off with a steamer.—A fatal affray took place at Smithland, Ky., on the 31st December, which resulted in the death of an innocent individual. It seems that while the steamer Princeton, Capt. Keys, was lying at the wharf there the Sheriff of Smithland came on board with the intention of seizing the boat for a debt. He was resisted by the Captain and crew of the Princeton, and in the scuffle Capt. Keys was wounded in the arm by the Sheriff. He fired at the Sheriff in return, missed him, but unfortunately killed a young man named Bewster, a clerk for Oliver King, who was standing upon the shore watching the fight.

A poor little, soft-hearted, good natured friend of ours who has got a furious scold of a wife, with a double-edged sword of a tongue, applied to us the other day, with tears in his eyes, to know if she couldn't be prosecuted and punished, under the law against carrying concealed weapons!—Picayune.

From the Nashville Union. GEN. JACKSON'S LETTER.

National Intelligencer.—Extract from the Letters of 'A Kentuckian,' on Martial Law.

SIR: I have received from a friend the National Intelligencer of 12th December, containing a lengthy publication under the above caption. The statement in that publication, so far as it regards myself, being a tissue of falsehood and false coloring, I have felt myself compelled to reply to it, lest my silence should be construed into an acknowledgment of its truth.

1st. It is positively untrue that I either thrust the members of the Legislature out of their hall, or that I kept them out by an armed force. On the 28th December, 1814, when the troops under my command were engaged with the enemy, and I was passing along the line to give orders, Mr. A. L. Duncan, one of my voluntary aides de camp, came to me in great haste, with a message from the Governor, that the Legislature were about to surrender the city, and that he waited my orders. I replied 'I cannot believe them guilty of so traitorous an act; but say to the Governor—examine strictly into the matter, and if it is true, blow them up.'

2d. Louallier and Judge Hall were both arrested on the 4th of March. On the same day I was told by the Marshall, that in order hereafter to show that I had imprisoned the Judge before he had interfered with the police of my camp, the Judge had sent for the clerk, and had altered the record from the 5th to the 6th. I immediately sent for the clerk, Major Claiborne, and on the evening of the same day on which Louallier and Hall were arrested, viz: the 5th of March, he produced the record, on which plainly appeared the alteration from the 5th to the 6th.

I would like to see the testimony by which this anonymous writer would prove that I ordered the arrest of Lewis and Dick. Judge Lewis was a soldier in Capt. Bell's company of riflemen, and on all occasions, from the beginning of the siege to the declaration of peace, was meeting or ready to meet the foe, and defend his country. Dick, if my recollection does not fail me, was one of a company of cavalry under command of Captain Peter Ogden. It is not to be supposed that either of them would attempt to interfere with, or resist the order of his General. Had such interference or resistance been attempted, they would certainly have been treated similarly to Judge Hall.

On the subject of Louallier's arrest, it should be known, that he secreted himself from the issuing of the order for his arrest until he had made arrangements with Judge Hall for the habeas corpus, and when arrested and delivered to the Colonel of the provost guard, being told that I had given directions for his good treatment, he replied with thanks that it was unnecessary as he would be there but a short time.

3d. It is positively false that Judge Hall was confined until the militia was discharged. The moment the official announcement of the ratification of the treaty reached me, the order of martial law was revoked and the militia discharged. I have never before heard of any publication made by Judge Hall, such as this veracious Kentuckian asserts was made, nor do I believe it to be the fact; certain I am that I have never seen or heard of it before, and it would have been well for him to have stated where Hall's publication could be found as long as he could wield a bayonet unless he was liberated by my order.

4th. It is positively untrue that I ever made application to me to join my corps. The city being under the command of my aid, Thos. L. Butler, a veteran corps of ancient date had been raised for its protection, and among them Judge Hall might have enrolled himself had he thought proper. Instead of doing this, he applied for a written exemption from the rule laid down in the details of the order promulgating martial law and having obtained it from me, he, the same night, violating the confidence I had reposed in him, by it, passed my guards and fled from the city; to which he never returned until after the battle of the 8th. His flight induced many to believe that I was unable to defend the city and by creating despondency in them, did great injury, and occasioned applications from numerous individuals for permission to remove their families.

THE USURER.

Bereft of pity there he sits, His heart clad in a coat of mail, He robs the children of their bread, Nor needs the weeping mother's wail. Throw open the portals of his breast, The heart's as black as hell within, Avarice holds her empire there, And steeps the wretch's soul in sin. His peace of mind, and hope of heav'n, To hell is sacrific'd for gold, Look! with what strange tenacity He grasps the price for which they sold. Contending passions rend his breast, Urged and impell'd by innate force, Is there no hell reserved for him? No hell for him? His hell's remorse. Usurer, what's thy wealth to thee? Can gold a heaven for you procure! A vice responded from the grave—"Hell claims its own! my victim's sure!" W. S. H.

Hall was not arrested until he gave evidence of his combination with those conspirators who had excited mutiny in my camp, and of his union with those also who were endeavoring to bring the civil and military power in conflict. He was present when the necessity of imposing martial law was discussed, and on the morning it was promulgated, heard it read in my office, and immediately afterwards with uplifted hands exclaimed, "Now the country may be saved; without it, it was lost!" Yet, this anonymous writer, who has no name, or is ashamed of it, declares that Judge Hall denied ever approving martial law. I say he did, and call for the proof of his denial. The assertion, I have no doubt, had its origin in the fertile brain of the writer, and altogether with the rest of his publication, was coined and brought forward at this particular time when Congress, at the instigation of several States, has the subject under consideration, for the purpose of casting a dark shade over my fame. The statement which he gives on information which he says he received from Gen. Adair, I pronounce positively false. I do not believe that Gen. Adair could be guilty of making a statement so utterly devoid of truth. The moment I received official intelligence of peace, I annulled martial law, and on the day after addressed the troops and discharged them.

This I think was on the 13th and 14th of March but as I wrote from memory I will not be positive. I obtained from the Bank \$10,000 for their subsistence, &c. and the whole of the Kentucky militia immediately left the city for their homes. I never had an interview with Gen. Adair from the day I discharged the troops in New Orleans until I left it and my belief is, that he had left the city before the court had finally acted on the subject, which was on the 31st March, 1815. Officers of high rank had secretly joined this association to produce mutiny and insubordination, because I would not bestow laurels on those who did not deserve them, and do injustice to those who did. Hence the secret workings of Judge Hall to annoy and injure me; but neither Judge Lewis nor the brave and patriotic Louisianians who nobly risked their lives in defence of New Orleans, could be induced to unite with them. I deny positively, that Gen. Adair ever had any conversation with me as the writer asserts, and I hope that if any time hereafter this 'Kentuckian' should ever undertake to expound martial law under his own proper name he will be more careful of his facts unless he desires the lasting infamy of a 'fool-mouthed slanderer' attached to his name.

But he complains of the treatment of the French. Will this well read jurist point to another instance of so much forbearance to a foreign Consul as to permit him to remain in camp when besieged by the enemy? The moment New Orleans became my camp, delicacy ought to have induced him to leave it, but if he did not do so I should have ordered him. I, however, suffered him to remain until his conduct became injurious and insulting and then I directed him to leave the city; but none of the brave men who faced the foe and fought at the lines were ordered away. I add, were I to defend New Orleans again under similar circumstances, I would adopt the same means, for they alone enabled me to defend it successfully.

I am respectfully, Your obedient servant, ANDREW JACKSON. Hermitage, 23d Dec., 1842.

Florida Indians.—By a letter in the Tallahassee Floridian of the 31st ult., dated at Cedar Keys on the 25th, it appears that Gen. Worth has at last determined to secure the few remaining Indians with which the frontier settlements have been infested, at all hazards, as well as all that may by any means come within his power.

An order was given by Gen. Worth to secure all the Indians at and in the vicinity of Tampa Bay, and bring them to Sea-Horse Key. Accordingly on the 24th ult. a steamboat arrived at Cedar Keys, with Ocatatchie and his people, consisting of 28 warriors and 42 women and children. These added to Tigertail's party—amounting to 19 warriors and 19 women and children, already here in safe custody—make a total of 108, whose power to do any further mischief is at an end, whatever their disposition or intentions. From the best information obtained, Holpatta has gone to the south, with the intention of joining Sam Jones. Besides this party, there remains out three of Tigertail's, one of whom had been employed as a runner to discover Holpatta and induce him to return. With these exceptions the country is now evidently clear of Indians, from Georgia line to the region in the southern extremity of the peninsula occupied by Sam Jones and the Prophet.

MAIL STATISTICS.

The editor of the Baltimore Commercial Journal, has derived the following information from the report of the Postmaster General, recently made to Congress:

- Number of Postmasters and clerks, 13,733. do Contractors and agents, 2,243. Mails conveyed through the year, 34,835,991 miles. Whole length of mail road, 149,732 miles. Of the above there are of railroad 3,091 miles. Whole cost of mail transportation, \$3,057,796. Of the above, that by railroad cost \$432,563. Amount of postage accruing, \$3,546,246. Increase since 1841, \$166,925. Gross expenditure of the Department, \$4,627,717. Exceeding the amount derived from postage, \$18,470. Whole number of free letters conveyed, about 3,000,000. The Postmaster General remarks, that since the reduction of postage upon letters in England, the number of letters mailed in the United States has greatly increased.

For the Scioto Valley Post.

Bereft of pity there he sits, His heart clad in a coat of mail, He robs the children of their bread, Nor needs the weeping mother's wail. Throw open the portals of his breast, The heart's as black as hell within, Avarice holds her empire there, And steeps the wretch's soul in sin. His peace of mind, and hope of heav'n, To hell is sacrific'd for gold, Look! with what strange tenacity He grasps the price for which they sold. Contending passions rend his breast, Urged and impell'd by innate force, Is there no hell reserved for him? No hell for him? His hell's remorse. Usurer, what's thy wealth to thee? Can gold a heaven for you procure! A vice responded from the grave—"Hell claims its own! my victim's sure!" W. S. H. Portsmouth, Jan. 16, 1843.

From the Circleville Watchman Extra.

The voice of "Old Pickaway."

GREAT MEETING OF THE DEMOCRACY.

Pursuant to notice previously given, a large and respectable portion of the Democracy of Pickaway county convened at Circleville, on Saturday last, January 14th, 1843, at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of taking under consideration the present embarrassed condition of the country, and to give a free expression of opinion as to the best mode of relief. The meeting was organized by appointing the Hon. WILLIAM GILL, President; WILLIAM C. TAYLOR and JOHN STOUT, Esqs., Vice Presidents; and Samuel Pike, Secretary.

The meeting having been called to order by the President, it was, on motion,

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to draft and report to this meeting a preamble and resolutions expressive of the sense of the democracy of this county upon the subject of the currency, and other matters connected with the interest, prosperity, and general welfare of the people. Whereupon, Messrs. D. Griswold, Col. C. K. Drew, A. L. Ferrill, William McLaughlin, and Jonas Specht were appointed said committee.

On motion, the meeting then adjourned to meet again at 1 o'clock, P. M.

1 o'clock, P. M.

The meeting convened, pursuant to adjournment. Whereupon, Dr. Griswold, Chairman of the committee appointed for that purpose, reported the following preamble and resolutions, as the sentiments of four out of five of that committee; which were read, and a motion made that they be adopted.

We have assembled at this important crisis in the affairs of our State, to express our opinions as freemen, upon what course of policy the majority of our present Legislature should pursue, upon the subject of the currency. We stand before the world, as a party, battling for a few years past for a reform of that system of uncontrolled banking which has flooded our State for the last ten years. Have we any cause to change the ground, upon which we have stood for years? A small minority of the democratic party of our Legislature have changed the ground they occupied before the late election, from bank reform, to entire opposition to all banks; while the great majority of the democratic party are striving to establish a reformed system, which shall ensure safety to the bill holder and a fair profit to the capitalist. Shall we then rally around and uphold our Legislature in their efforts to establish a safe and sound banking system.

The scarcity of money, the depression of the wages of labor and produce, the difficulty of collecting debts and paying taxes, would seem, at the present time, to call loudly for an increase of the circulating medium, if it can be done with safety to the people. Therefore,

Resolved, That, as we have contended for several years for bank reform, and not for bank destruction, we see no reason at the present time to change our ground, or desert those whom we have elected to effect that reform, but would still throw our banner to the breeze, with the blazing motto, "Bank Reform," until we have a safe and sound system, or specie.

Resolved, That in the election of our worthy delegates in the Legislature, the question was directly understood that they were to go for bank reform, and not for bank destruction.

Resolved, That we have contended for a safe and sound banking system, with paper issued upon actual specie basis, and rendered secure by individual and other liabilities, sufficient to make the bill holder safe, we will most cheerfully uphold our worthy Senator and Representative in their arduous efforts to establish the same.

Resolved, That we have every confidence in our worthy Governor, Wilson Shannon, and believe him a faithful friend to the people, and a sound and sagacious Statesman; and hope that the policy recommended in his Inaugural Address upon the currency may be carried into immediate effect.

Resolved, That that species of legislation, lately pursued by a union of the whigs and a few ultra democrats, which tends directly to diminish the amount of absolute capital stock in our own State, is deeply to be deplored by every well-wisher of his country; as the diminution of actual stock in any State or county always lessens the price and amount of labor, while it increases the profit of stock and the interest of money.

Resolved, That we cannot uphold that legislation which tends to drive actual stock from our State, as it lessens the price of labor, increases the value of money, and contravenes every principle of equality and justice, by making the rich richer and the poor poorer.

Resolved, That we believe the bank bill reported by Dr. E. B. Olds, chairman of the currency committee, as far as we have been able to examine its details, a safe, sound and practicable system, and one which our Legislature ought to pass forthwith; and we would therefore require our worthy Senator and Representative to do their best to pass the same.

Resolved, That we believe the principles contained in said bill are the same contended for before the election throughout the State; and we know them to be the democratic principles of his constituents, and that individuals who denounce him as a traitor and hypocrite are worthy of their new alliance.

Resolved, That we recommend the democracy of Pickaway county to hold meetings, in every township, and express their opinions in regard to Olds' bank bill.

Resolved, That Henry Rudy, Peter Row, T. T. Vanmetre, Geo. Bennett, Esq., Dr. W. Griswold, C. K. Drew, be appointed a committee to inquire into the right and expediency of the proposed half gates upon the Circleville and Washington Turnpike, whose duties it shall be to report the result of their inquiries for publication, and instruction for our Senator and Representative.

Resolved, That it is not true that Dr. Olds, as has been charged, has changed his often expressed opinion in regard to a banking system, and that we are fully satisfied with his course and that of his colleague in the Senate, Mr. Franklin—thus far we heartily tender them our welcome of "good and faithful servants."

WILLIAM McLAUGHLIN, Esq., then made a minority report, the adoption of which was also moved; when Dr. Edson B. Olds being called for, arose and enchaind the attention of the immense concourse by one of his most masterly and inimitable speeches upon the subject of banks and banking; in which he "defined his position" so clearly that all doubts were expelled from the minds of his hearers as to the imputations which had been made against him by Messrs. Byington and McNulty in the House of Representatives, and reiterated by some few kindred spirits of this county.

Dr. Olds having concluded his speech, was followed by Mr. McLaughlin, in support of his minority report and resolutions; to which the Doctor responded in a scathing and sarcastic speech, during the delivery of which he was repeatedly interrupted by loud cheering and bursts of the most enthusiastic applause. Mr. McLaughlin again commenced speaking, but was unable to conclude his remarks, in consequence of the loud and reiterated calls for—"the question! the question!"

The question was then taken on the adoption of the minority report, (Mr. McLaughlin's) which being again read, was lost, only five gentlemen voting in the affirmative.

The report of the majority being then read a second time, was adopted almost unanimously, only ONE gentleman (Mr. McLaughlin) voting in the negative.

On motion of Col. C. K. Drew,
Resolved, That we cordially approve of the course pursued by our Senator and Representative, and pledge ourselves to stand by them as long as the Old Ship of State has a plank, or a piece of canvas left. We greet them to-day—"Well done good and faithful servants."

On motion of Mr. Specht,
Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the officers of the same and published in the Circleville Watchman and the Ohio Statesman.

On motion, the meeting then adjourned sine die.
WILLIAM GILL, President.
W. C. TAYLOR, } Vice Presidents.
JOHN STOUT, }
Samuel Pike, Sec'y.

From the Statesman.

Col. Miller's Resolutions.

We deferred these resolutions yesterday, to accompany them with some remarks, but are again prohibited from the crowd of other matter. Col Miller is himself an old Editor, and whose heart is in the right place. The Postmaster Gen. has himself recommended to Congress, proposition in relation to letter postage. We hardly expect to see all the recommendations here proposed, carried out at first, but a commencement, will, in the end, lead to important improvements.

RESOLUTION

Of Instruction to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, on the subject of Newspaper postage.

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Ohio. That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be requested to use their efforts to have the post office law so altered as

That the newspapers shall not be charged with postage in the Congressional district in which they are printed;

That the newspapers published in Washington City shall not be charged with postage during the session of Congress;

That newspapers, printed at the seat of government of the several states, pass free of postage during the sessions of the legislature in which they are published;

That documents, printed by order of the legislature of each and every state, within the United States, shall not be chargeable with postage within the state in which they are ordered to be printed;

That the rates of postage on letters be changed, and made to correspond with the coinage of the United States.

Resolved, That the Governor be requested to forward a copy of the above resolution to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

JOHN CHANEY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JAS. J. FARAN,
Speaker of the Senate.

January 6, 1843.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE,
Columbus January 7, 1843.

I do hereby certify the foregoing is a true copy of the original, on file in this office.

J. SLOANE,
Secretary of State.

From the Richmond Enquirer.

J. M. BOTTS.

Presumptuous, ignorant, and by consequence arrogant, he has pursued his own selfish and vindictive purposes, utterly regardless of the approval or disapproval of his political friends, or of the feelings or sensibilities of his political opponents. He has built up for himself a notoriety fruitless and unavailing assaults upon the reputation of those immeasurably superior in every quality of head and heart to himself, in the vain hope of erecting a fame upon the ruins of their fallen reputations. He has charged a Democratic President with "four lies," and has attributed to another President every species of crime which crowds the long catalogue of human depravity. He has sought the alliance of the Northern interest, by sacrificing one of the most dear and most vital of the Southern principles. He has made the supposed degeneracy of our good old Commonwealth the subject of his coarse lamentations, poured into the ear of a Northern audience. He has held up the cherished tenets of our political faith to the scorn and ribald jesting of the federal party of the North. He has pursued his political adversaries with the untiring hate and relentless ferocity of a sleuthhound. And this he to whom the Democratic party are asked to be generous! magnanimous! forbearing! To spare him in dictating the State!

It is to be regretted that his friends did not permit him to meet his inevitable doom, with Roman firmness or savage indifference. This fortitude would have been in keeping with his fiery career. A gallant death oftentimes retrieves, in some degree, the errors of a misspent life. But, when an arm is interposed to avert the blow, and the voice of entreaty is heard, pity sinks into scorn, and the victim suffers without a sign of sympathy. As well ask mercy for Bluebeard, or magnanimity for Santa Anna. The fate of J. M. Botts is sealed, and no earthly power can arrest his doom. The Democratic party will greet him with none of

"That stern joy which warriors feel
In foemen worthy of their steel!"

But they will crush him as a venomous reptile in their political path, and leave no trace of his existence. If there was a political death whose tortures "longest rack and latest kill," any which resembled the "prates" mode, of tying the dead and the living together, and giving them one common grave, that death he abundantly deserves. Let him remember that he has heretofore said bitterly, that he would not trust the Democratic party; that they were vile, corrupt and profligate. This he knew was false.

—"but let some augurs rue,
Their words are omens insult renders true."

NATIONAL DEBT.

Whatever else we may choose to deny to Mr. William Cost Johnson, we cannot refuse him the meed of praise for coming out boldly and openly with his project for the assumption by the general government of the debts of the States. It is almost the only favorite feature of whig federal government which was left unopposed at the famous session, and he must have the thanks of the democracy for enabling us to complete the list of measures which the aristocracy deem necessary towards the establishment of a perfect system of government.

In the flush which naturally followed their extraordinary success in 1840, we were not much surprised at the successive developments of the scheme of a National Bank, incorporating the wealth of the country to act against the people or the government, as occasion might require—of the project for dividing among the States the revenues derived from the sales of lands, to relieve property from taxation, break down the independence of the States, and make them mere stipendiaries of the general government—of the plan of a high protective tariff, to replace the money abstracted from the general treasury, by additional taxes upon the necessities

of life, and incidentally protecting the gains of the rich derived from the labor of the poor—and finally of the general bankrupt act, as a fitting accompaniment to the others, and rendered necessary to satisfy the demands of those who had followed their camp as the only party who could by any possibility be sufficiently profligate to enact it. We were not much surprised at this, but we confess we are surprised that there is not an individual left, of all the Tippecanoe party, of sufficient temerity to get up in his place in the House, and solemnly propose a measure which would be sufficient of itself to destroy that party, even if it had not been already completely routed and dispersed by the attempt to fasten upon the country its previous measures. Its Bank projects have been defeated by their own accidental (!) President; its distribution scheme has defeated itself, by its own provisions; the general sense of the people condemns its protective policy; and its own authors admit its defects; its Bankrupt law of the first session, it endeavored at its second session to repeal by an overwhelming vote of the House; and it now seeks to cap the climax of its legislation, by solemnly proposing to shoulder a debt of two hundred millions.

There is scarcely a man of any party outside of the political bedlam where the farce is enacting, who troubles himself in the least upon the subject of this last fantastic trick of the expiring Tippecanoe Congress. If it should not happen to meet with an accidental veto, or defeat itself by one of its own provisions, we should look with confidence for its repeal, upon the first suggestion, that the country expects it as a last closing act. It is not due to Mr. Cost Johnson and Mr. Botts, for all attempts to head Captain Tyler have failed, that the proposition be speedily clothed with all the forms of legislation, in order to enable them to head themselves by its immediate repeal, and break up in a blaze of glory.

But seriously, once more we thank Mr. Cost Johnson for putting on record this last article of his party creed—an act which would sanction and adopt the wildest and most unequal schemes of internal improvements on the part of the States, an act which would afford a precedent by which the States could in all future times borrow the general government into unlimited debt—and act which hitherto has had no public sponsor but James Watson Webb.—Plebeian.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The Legislature of Pennsylvania met at Harrisburg on the 3d inst. In the Senate, Benjamin Crispin was elected Speaker by 17 out of 31 votes. In the House, Hendrick B. Wright received 56 out of 97 votes, and was accordingly elected.

We copy the following abstract of the Governor's message from the U. S. Gazette:
The message commences with a notice of the difficulties of the times, and the remark that there is a consolation that these are the bitter fruits of a rash and impolitic legislation of a single year, and that none of the responsibilities rest on us.
His Excellency thinks that before long, times will improve, and the great body of the people will be relieved. He denounces, with severity, those who declare that Pennsylvania will ever refuse to acknowledge her debts, and to pay them when in her power.
The Governor thinks that a tax of a few cents a ton upon coal and iron will pay all the interest, and soon meet the principal of the State debt. Our situation is now far preferable to what it was at the close of the last war, and then how soon we rallied.

The whole amount of the suspended debt of the State is \$37,937,788 24; of which \$30,533,623 15 were for canals and railroads. The value of public improvements—30½ millions—bank stock, &c., at cost, is \$37,685,647 16.

The interest of the public debt has always been promptly paid until August last. It now becomes the duty of the Legislature to provide for that and what will become due in February and August next.

No acceptable bid for the public works has been received.
The revenue upon the public works has diminished only \$159,396 91—small, considering the times. The receipts for the year exceeded expenses for nine months, \$530,452 72.

The Governor recommends that the State no longer pay the expenses of repairing bridges across the public works.
Reforms in the management of the public works are looked for though many have been made.
As a means of withdrawing relief notes (a measure strongly recommended) it is suggested to sell the stock in bridges, banks, &c.

Attention is called to the situation of the Bank of Pennsylvania. It is recommended that in no case should private stockholders have the entire management of its concerns.
Attention is directed to the erection of Congressional Districts in this State, and the apportionment of members of the Legislature; and cautions against the course pursued in 1836.

He suggests that some further means are necessary to protect the purity of the jury box.
Amendments are required to the bill abolishing imprisonment for debt; and he calls attention to the undefined powers of Aldermen and Justices.
He draws attention to the morbid feeling sprung up in favor of criminals.

It is recommended that the measures be adopted for publishing the reports of the late geological survey.
As a measure of economy, it is recommended that a State printer be appointed.
The Governor remarks that this is the first opportunity that he has had of addressing a Legislature with both branches with the same political party with himself. He felicitates himself, and recommends a consideration of the rights of minorities.

ANCIENT MECHANICS.

Tradition has scarcely preserved a single anecdote or circumstance relating to these meritorious men, with whom any of the useful arts originated, history took a station in the temple of science, her professors deemed it beneath her dignity to record the actions and lives of men, who were merely inventors of machines, or improvers of the useful arts; thus nearly all knowledge of those to whom the world is under the highest obligations, has perished forever.

The scholar mourns, and the antiquary weeps over the wreck of ancient learning and art—the philosopher regrets that sufficient of both have not been preserved to elucidate several interesting discoveries, which history has mentioned; nor to prove that those principles of science, upon which the action of some old machines depended, were understood; and the mechanic inquires in vain for the process by which his predecessors, in remote ages, worked the hardest granite without iron, transported it in masses that astound us and used them in the erection of stupendous buildings, apparently with the facility that modern workmen lay bricks, or raise the lintels of doors. The machines by which they were elevated are as unknown as the individuals who directed their movements. We are almost as ignorant of their mode of working the metals, of their furnaces, crucibles and moulds, the details of forming the ennobling statue, or the use

ful skillet or cauldron. Did the ancients laminate metals between rollers and draw wire through plates as we do? or was it extended by hammers, as some specimens of both seem to show?—On these and a thousand other subjects much uncertainty prevails. Unfortunately learned men of old, deemed it a part of wisdom to conceal from the vulgar all discoveries in science. With this view they wrapped them in mystical figures that the people might not apprehend them. The custom at one time became so general, that philosophers refused to leave anything in writing explanatory of their researches.

HYMENEAL

MARRIED.—On the 5th day of Jan. 1843, by J. J. Holmes, J. P., Mr. Charles Rawlins of Lawrence county, Ohio, to Miss Susan Thompson, of Scioto co. Ohio.

Educational Association of Scioto County.

The next meeting of this Society, will be held at the Public School House in Portsmouth, on Saturday, the 28th inst., commencing at 2 o'clock P. M. Mr. W. R. Holmes, a professional teacher, will deliver an address before the Association, the Rev. A. Williams, will report on the best method of teaching reading.

The question of the number of hours during which, a pupil should be detained in the school room, or rather be made to "sit on a bench," will then be before the Society for discussion. A question involving in itself, not only the health and proper physical development of the body, but life itself.

A general attendance is therefore requested of all who feel any interest in this common abuse of Children. Portsmouth, Jan. 24, 1843.

Commercial Bank of Scioto.

A SPLENDID mahogany Side-board, nearly new, and of Eastern manufacture, will be sold for paper of the above Bank. Apply at

DAVID SCOTT'S,
Cabinetmaker.

Notice.
ALL persons indebted to the late firm of Stuart & Jones, will please call and make immediate payment to me, at the old stand. Longer indulgence cannot be given in any case.

S. CLARK JONES, Atty.
for Sam'l W. Black, Assignee of said firm.

Jan 17—Sw.

LOOK AT THIS,

W. H. BELL, respectfully informs his friends and the public in general that he has opened a RECESS in John Clark's Basement, where he will be happy to accommodate all those who may favor him with a call, in the greatest variety of refreshments and eatables of any other house in the place, and will be served up at all hours of the night—such as Chickens, Ducks, Squills, Quails, Fresh Oysters, Pigs Feet, Tripe, Beef, Mutton, Veal and Venison Steaks, Fresh Fish, &c., and all other refreshments of the country afford.

Portsmouth, Jan. 17, 1843.—d

To Let.

A LARGE ROOM fitted up with seats, suitable for any public performance or exhibition.

Jan. 17, 1843. W. H. BELL.

Administrator's Sale.

PURSUANT to an order of the Honorable Court of Common Pleas for Scioto county, State of Ohio, I shall offer for sale at the court-house, in the town of Portsmouth, on the 11th day of February 1843, part of In-Lot, number two hundred (200) in said town, being the West part of said lot, fronting sixty-two and a half feet on second street, by one hundred and sixteen feet deep, appraised at fifteen hundred dollars.

TERMS OF SALE.—One-third of the purchase money to be paid down—two-thirds in six months, and one-third in twelve months from the day of sale.

JAMES KEYS, Administrator.
Portsmouth, Jan. 10th 1843. 44—4w

Fire! Fire!

The members of the Fire Engine Companies are hereby notified to attend a meeting of the company on the first Saturday in February next. A full attendance is requested, as there will be some important business to transact. By order of the Captain.

Portsmouth, Jan. 10, 1843. 44—4w

A BOW TO THE HUMAN RACE.—"Discover what will destroy life, and you are a great man."
"Discover what will prolong life, and the world will call you an impostor."

"There are faculties, bodily and intellectual, within us, with which certain herbs have affinity, and over which they have power."

Dr. B. Brandreth's External Remedy, or Liniment, which, by its extraordinary powers, abstracts pain or soreness; thus sprains, stiff sinews, white swellings, rheumatic pains or stiffness, stiffness of the joints, tumors, ungular hardness, stiff neck, sore throat, croup, contractions of the muscles, scrofulous enlargements, tender feet, and every description of injury affecting the exterior of the human frame, are cured or greatly relieved by his never to be sufficiently extolled remedy.

The following letter from Major General Sanford, as to the qualities of the External Remedy, speaks volumes:

New York, February 9, 1842.
Dear Sir.—Will you oblige me with another bottle of your excellent liniment? It is certainly the best of the kind I have ever seen. It has cured entirely my son's knee, about which I was so uneasy, and I have found it productive of immediate relief in several cases of external injury in my family. A few evenings since, my youngest child was seized with a violent attack of croup, which was entirely removed in 20 minutes, by rubbing her chest and throat freely with the External Remedy. I think you ought to manufacture this Liniment for general use, instead of confining the use of it, as you have heretofore done, to your particular acquaintances.

Dr. B. Brandreth, 341 Broadway N. Y.

For sale at my office on Third street, between Main and Walnut.
Portsmouth, Dec. 10, 1843.—44m6.

AMERICAN HOUSE.

PORTSMOUTH OHIO.

A. & B. J. VAN COURT,

FORMERLY OF HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA. AND LATE OF ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS.

ANNOUNCE to the public, that they have rented the above House of Mr. McCoy, and are ready to receive guests.
This house is on Front street, and central to the Steam and Canal Boat Landings, and also to the business part of the town.

Their LONG EXPERIENCE as Land Lords and the superior character of the House and Furniture, induce them to believe, that the Travelling Community will find themselves as comfortable at the AMERICAN HOUSE, as at any other House in the West.

Their STABLES are extensive, in good order and well provided. A good CARRIAGE, in all times ready to convey Travellers to and from Boats &c. A daily line of Stages, leave this House for Cleveland, Sandusky, Wheeling and Cincinnati.

ALEXANDER VAN COURT,
BENJAMIN J. VAN COURT.

—0—

C. McCoy, in retiring from the American House, takes occasion to return to the Public, his thanks for the Patronage, so long and so generally extended to him, while keeping the House. He also feels confident, that MESSRS. VAN COURT will continue to render the AMERICAN HOUSE, a most desirable and comfortable stopping place for Travellers.

Portsmouth, September 14th 1841. 5—4f.

Dr. Christopher Goodbrake,

Office one door west of the Collector's office, Front Street, Portsmouth, Ohio.

SPECIE STANDARD.

BANK NOTE LIST.—Jan. 24th 1843

Corrected weekly by E. Kinney & Co. Exchange Brokers, Front Street, Portsmouth.

OHIO.—Ohio Life and Trust Co. on demand	par
Commercial Bank of Cincinnati	do
Franklin Bank	do
Lafayette Bank	do
Mechanics and Traders' Bk	2 dis
Bank of Cincinnati	no sale
Exchange Bank of Cincinnati	75 dis
Bank of Circleville, (new)	do
Circleville	par
Chillicothe	10 dis
Cleveland	75 dis
Gallipolis	broken
Geauga	par
Hamilton	40 dis
Massillon	do
Marietta	do
Mount Pleasant	do
Norwalk	do
Sandusky	do
Steubenville	broken
West Union	broken
Wooster	par
Xenia	do
Zanesville	do

Belmont Bank, St. Clairsville	do
Clinton Bank, Columbus	do
Columbian Bank, New Lisbon	do
Commercial Bk. of Lake Erie, Cleveland	40 dis
Commercial Bk. of Scioto, Portsmouth	do
Dayton Bank, Dayton	par
Farmers Bank of Canton	broken
Farmers & Mechanics Bk. Steubenville	par
Frank Bank, Columbus	par
German Bank of Wooster	broken
Greenville Alexandria Society	do
Lancaster Ohio Bank, Lancaster	30 dis
Lebanon Miami Bank, Lebanon	broken
Manhattan Bank, Manhattan	broken
Muskingum Bank, Putnam	par
Urbana Banking Company, Urbana	75 dis
Washington Bank, Mansburg	broken
Western reserve Bank, Warren	par
Small notes of good Ohio Banks	do
KENTUCKY.—Bank of Louisville	do
Bank of Kentucky	do
Northern Bank of Kentucky	do
Savings Bk. of Louisville, (Ois. Arnold & Co's Checks)	no sale

INDIANA.—State Bank of Indiana	par
King & Woodburn's checks, Madison	do
New Albany Insurance Co. New Albany	50 dis
Charlestown Savings Institution	do
Indiana Scrip, \$5's (1840-'41, dates)	50 dis
" " " " " "	50 dis
ILLINOIS.—State Bank of Illinois	70 dis
Bank of Illinois, Shawneetown	70 dis
Bank of Cairo	do

MICHIGAN.—Bank of St. Clair, (endorsed by J. O. Smith & H. Smith.)	do
Other Michigan Banks	no sale
PENNSYLVANIA.—United States Bank	70 dis
Philadelphia City Banks	1 prem
Country Banks (generally)	5a 10 dis

DELAWARE.—New York City Banks	par
New York Country Banks	par
NEW ENGLAND BANKS	par
MARYLAND BANKS (generally)	par
VIRGINIA, Eastern	par
Wheeling	par

SOUTH CAROLINA	8 dis
NORTH CAROLINA	40 dis
ALABAMA	90 dis
TENNESSEE	12 a 10 dis
GEORGIA	no sale
ARKANSAS	no sale
LOUISIANA, New Orleans	2 cent. prem.

Exchanges on New York, 3 per cent. prem.	do
" Philadelphia, do do do	do
" Cincinnati, par to do	do

SESSION OF THE STATESMAN.

We again present our prospectus to the public for a Session of the Statesman; and as the approaching Legislature will be one of great interest to the people, we propose putting our paper at a price that will accommodate itself to the times. It is very desirable at a time like this, that the people are in the habit of looking to Government for more than government is able to give, no reflecting man of either party, can longer doubt, but it is necessary to the people that the people should be well informed of what public men do, or of their reasons for not doing what may be expected of them. Let no democrat, at least, fail to exert himself to spread truth and intelligence by every means in his power, for it is upon these he can rely for success.

First rate Reporters are engaged, and all the acts of the coming democratic Legislature will be spread before the people as extensively as possible. The last message of Governor Corwin—the Inauguration of Governor Shannon, which will be looked for with great interest—and important reports and speeches will be promptly issued, as well as the earliest general news. No paper at the seat of Government gives as full reports as the Statesman.

The proceedings of Congress will also be regularly reported by an able and industrious correspondent.

Any person who will procure six subscribers shall have a copy sent him for his trouble.

</

