

# A COUNTING HOUSE ALMANAC

For the Year of our Lord

## 1824,

BEING BISSEXTILE OR LEAP-YEAR,  
AND  
THE 43<sup>th</sup> AND 44<sup>th</sup> OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE.

### THE PATRIOT

Not for himself, but for his country.

WEDNESDAY, January 7, 1824

In this week's paper we present to our readers the proceedings of a meeting of some of the citizens of Allegheny county, recommending a convention to be held at Huntingdon in March next, to nominate electors favorable to General Jackson as President of the United States. We have also seen the proceedings of another meeting of the citizens of Allegheny county, protesting against the measures adopted by their brethren, and proposing to support General Jackson, or any other man who may be nominated by a Congressional Caucus. This system, they allege, has given us all our late excellent Presidents, and ought not to be abandoned. We would gladly submit their further views upon the subject to our readers, but the paper that contains their proceedings has been mislaid.

It may be proper to remark, that both these meetings are styled "Democratic." Whether such is the fact, we cannot determine. The principles they both hold forth are orthodox; but in our day, professions are but a wretched criterion by which to try politicians. That has been fully demonstrated during the late electioneering campaign for Governor. From our knowledge of the men whose names appear in the proceedings of the Allegheny meetings, we would not pretend to determine which deserves the title they each assume, but would nevertheless state, that some of the men who seem favorable to a Congressional nomination, are, and ever have been, sound and undeviating democrats.

We would not have it presumed that we are unfavorable to the election of General Jackson. We are in favor of the democratic candidate, be he who he may; and whenever that is ascertained, every thing that we can do, shall be done, to promote his cause. If either General Jackson, or Mr. Calhoun, or Mr. Crawford, or Mr. Adams is nominated, we shall cheerfully support him, and we would do so, because we would be complying with the wishes and feelings of the democratic party, and promoting the principles which it holds. There is one thing relative to General Jackson worth mentioning. Almost every Federalist and Federal Editor in Pennsylvania, with one or two exceptions, is his friend, and seems anxious for his election. This is nothing in his favor. It is also alleged that in case of success, De Witt Clinton is to be Secretary of State. Now a man more deservedly obnoxious to the democrats of Pennsylvania does not exist. The Columbian Observer, one of the first of General Jackson's friends, is loud in praise of Clinton; indeed says more for him than for the General. Now the people well recollect that this same Clinton permitted his name to be used in opposition to Mr. Madison, at one of the most critical periods of the history of our country—when the question was, submission, or resistance to British aggression. Such a man never can receive any favors at the hands of a Pennsylvanian. If, therefore the democratic friends of General Jackson wish to advance his interests, they had better keep silence as to Clinton, for they may depend upon it he is no favorite with the people.

#### PRESIDENTIAL QUESTION.

The manner of nominating candidates for President and Vice President of the United States, seems to perplex and distract the democratic party of the Union more than is desirable.

The Federalists are very busy, although we do not hear them, and will have one to whom they will adhere, so sure as there will be an election. The democratic party is likely to have several candidates, which will produce one of two effects: We will either have a Federal President, or the election will be cast upon the House of Representatives. It is believed that the friends of one of the candidates are endeavoring to effect this, believing that he would have a much better chance there than before the people. It ought therefore to be avoided if possible. There would be no difficulty if there were but one democratic candidate; but how is this to be attained? A special convention cannot be held, and a congressional caucus is liable to objections.

If, however, we are to have more than one democratic candidate, we believe the inclination of the people of Pennsylvania will be towards J. C. CALHOUN. Of all those named he is liable to the least objection. J. Q. Adams is supported by Robert Walsh—Wm. H. Crawford has too much "bargain and sale" about him—General Jackson is a worthy, and no doubt a deserving man, but he is too much disposed to "cut the ears" out of the heads of those who will not favour his designs. J. C. CALHOUN is, and ever has been, a thorough-going Democratic Republican; of sterling

abilities, and in the meridian of life. Although not yet 50 years of age, he has merited and enjoyed some of the most important offices in our government, the duties of which he has discharged faithfully and honestly. In addition to this, he is a man of firmness, and will in his relations with Foreign Powers, sustain the dignity and character of our nation.

#### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN MEETING,

At a very numerous meeting of Democratic Republican Citizens of Allegheny County, friendly to the election of ANDREW JACKSON, to the office of President of the United States, held at the Court-house in the City of Pittsburg on Friday evening November 11th. 1823.

CHARLES KENNEY, Esq. of Mifflin township was called to the chair.

Dr. JOSEPH GAZZAM, and Mr. JAMES A. ARMSTRONG, appointed Secretaries

The following preamble and resolutions, offered by R. J. WALKER, were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS,—The election of President of the United States is now approaching, it becomes the duty of the people to express their views on so important a subject. Although it cannot be doubted that the Democratic party of Pennsylvania is almost unanimously in favor of the election of ANDREW JACKSON, to that distinguished station, it is also certain, that insidious attempts are now contemplated by a few designing individuals to repress the voice of the people by means of a congressional nomination; and whereas such a nomination is unnecessary, anti-republican, dangerous and unconstitutional, and whereas the delegation system is deemed the land mark of Democracy in Pennsylvania, vital to its continued ascendancy, and the only method by which the voice of the people can be fairly expressed.

RESOLVED,—That this meeting recommend to the Democratic Republican friends of Andrew Jackson in this state to hold meetings in their respective counties, and elect so many delegates as they are entitled to Representatives in the lower house of the state Legislature to a convention for the purpose of nominating an electoral ticket for the state friendly to Andrew Jackson:

RESOLVED,—That this meeting recommend Huntingdon as the place and the third Monday of March next as the time for holding this convention

RESOLVED,—That all elections in a Republican government should be made by the people.

RESOLVED,—That the right of nominating is also vested in the people alone, and that any nomination unauthorized by them is a gross assumption of their rights, and a palpable violation of Democratic principles.

RESOLVED,—That this meeting disapprove of any nomination of a president of the United States, by our representatives in congress.

BECAUSE, such nomination is anti-republican—a fraud on the right of suffrage, and productive of gross abuses and dangerous intrigues.

BECAUSE it is a violation of the spirit of the constitution, which disqualifies our representatives in congress from serving as electors of President, and if their nomination is to secure the success of any candidate, such nomination would in fact amount to a virtual election.

BECAUSE such a course as is now proposed, not with the view of procuring an amendment of the constitution, vesting the election of President in the people, but with the avowed object of obstructing the operation of its specific provisions.

BECAUSE, however objectionable an election by the states may be, should the people fail to elect a President in the electoral college, it is not so dangerous as a virtual election by congress before the people have been permitted to express their voice.

RESOLVED,—That this meeting pledge themselves to support ANDREW JACKSON, for the office of President of the United States,

BECAUSE, he has ever been a firm and undeviating Democratic republican.

BECAUSE, he was an active and conspicuous Democrat when other pretenders to Democracy were engaged in expressing their confidence in the Federal dynasty of '98.

BECAUSE, he is the only surviving soldier of the Revolution, whom the suffrages of a gratefully people can elevate to the Presidential chair.

BECAUSE, he has devoted his life to the service of his country, and concluded her second struggle with glory and renown.

BECAUSE, he is not only an incorruptible patriot, and intrepid soldier, but an enlightened statesman, no less distinguished in the cabinet than in the

field.  
ON MOTION RESOLVED—That Charles Kenney, Esq. (of Mifflin), Edward Patchell, John Irwin, (of Ross), Ross Wilkins, Esq., Doctor Joseph Gazzam, R. J. Walker, Esq., Andrew Scott, Joseph Cooper, (of St. Charles), Thomas Brown, Esq. (of Moon), David Blair, H. G. Pross, and Samuel Hare, Esq. (of Birmingham), be a committee to correspond with other Democratic Republican committees of the friends of ANDREW JACKSON, and that they be authorized to publish an address, expressive of the sense of this meeting.

RESOLVED—That Edward Patchell, Ross Wilkins, Esq. and John Irwin (of Ross), be requested to attend the convention as Delegates from Allegheny county, and that they be instructed to support a Democratic Republican electoral ticket, favorable to ANDREW JACKSON.

RESOLVED—That these proceedings be signed by the Chairman and Secretaries, and published in the Pittsburg Statesman, and all other Democratic Republican papers in the state and Union.

CHARLES KENNEY  
Chairman.  
JOSEPH GAZZAM  
JAMES A. ARMSTRONG  
Secretaries.

### Proceedings Of the Legislature of Pennsylvania.

IN SENATE.

Monday, Dec. 29,

Mr. Conyngham presented a book to the State Library, from the translator, entitled "Frederick the seventh, or a dramatic Sketch of the recent revolution in Spain." He also presented a petition from the citizens of the 8th Judicial district, praying for an alteration of the law of February 24, 1806, touching the case, to compel judges to deliver their charges to juries in writing, if demanded, previous to the rendering of a verdict.

The Speaker laid before Senate, a letter from the Auditor General stating that he had delivered the usual number of the report of the finances, for the past year.

Mr. Groves reported two bills, viz. A supplement to an act entitled "An act to prevent the practice of wagering or betting on elections."

An act to alter and amend an act entitled "An act to regulate the General Elections within this Commonwealth."

Mr. Conyngham offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the state treasurer be and is hereby requested, on or before the 10th day of January next, to transmit to senate, a statement of duties paid by retailers of foreign merchandize, received in each year, from the treasurer of the city of Philadelphia and of each county.

Mr. Barnard offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the judiciary committee be instructed to enquire into the expediency of so extending the act for holding special courts of common pleas, as to authorize the Presidents of the adjacent district, to try all causes wherein the President of the proper district cannot with propriety act.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24, 1823.

Mr. McClay presented a petition from Elizabeth Seillimer widow of an old soldier, for a continuation of her late husband's pension.

Mr. Hutter presented a petition for aid to a road through Smith's Gap, in Northampton county.

Mr. E. Lewis presented two petitions for extension of charter of Bank of Chester county.

Mr. Reynolds's three petitions for extension of charter of Lancaster Bank.

Mr. Beeson for extension of charter of Monongahela Bank of Brownsville.

Mr. E. Lewis presented nine petitions for a charter to the Farmers' Brewing company.

Mr. Ritner presented a petition from Mary Vanstrand, praying to have certain property, late of her son, who had died without heir, vested in her.

Mr. Sterigere reported a bill, "A supplement to the act entitled "An act to enable the governor to incorporate a company for making an artificial road from the Springhouse Tavern, in Montgomery county, to the borough of Northampton, in the county of Lehigh, and to the town of Bethlehem, in the county of Northampton."

Mr. Ritner read a bill in his place "An act for the relief of Simon Krewson, Joseph Dearman and John Blake, revolutionary soldiers."

Mr. Sullivan read a bill in his place "An act to incorporate a company for making a turnpike road from Butler to the Ohio state line, through New-

#### ECLIPSES.

There will be five Eclipses this year, viz.—1. Of the Sun, on the first of January, at 6 minutes after 3, A. M. invisible—2. Of the Moon, on the 16th of January, visible: beginning at 19 minutes past 2, and ending at 9 minutes past 5 in the morning.—3. Of the Sun, on the 26th of June, at 7 minutes past 7 in the evening; partly visible—4. Of the Moon, on the 10th of July, visible: beginning at 25 minutes past 10, and ending at 53 minutes past 11, in the evening.—5. Of the Sun, on the 20th of December; invisible.

Another year has closed.—Let us enquire of ourselves whether we have closed the labours and duties of it as we ought. Let no one be disposed to say, how short has been the past year, until he has examined whether he has made a wise and suitable improvement of the three hundred and sixty-five days which has been allowed him. Has no part of this time hung heavily upon your hands? Are there no blanks, no wastes to be found in our reckoning since the first day of January 1823? It is to be feared that we have greater cause to regret the mis-improvement, than the shortness of our time.

The fields which but a few days past were clothed in youth and beauty, present to us now, but a dreary prospect. This should make us thoughtful—it is a lesson full of instruction. But even winter and age bring with them their enjoyments and comforts, when the spring, summer and autumn have been rightly improved. This is the season for contemplation, for intellectual improvement, and for repose.—There is nothing better for a man, said Solomon, than that he should eat and drink, and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labour.

He, who is in want of witnesses, in order to be good, has neither virtue nor religion.