



Not for himself but for his country.
SATURDAY JULY 31.

Democratic Meeting.

A meeting of the Democratic Republican citizens of Centre county is requested to be held at the Court house in the Borough of Bellefonte, on the Tuesday evening of the next August court, for the purpose of making arrangements for forming a ticket for County Officers to be supported by them at the ensuing general election.

MANY DEMOCRATS.
CHESAPEAKE & DELAWARE CANAL.

The Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, which will open an easy communication with Philadelphia, and which will, consequently, be of vast advantage to those of our enterprising citizens who reside on the west and north branches of the Susquehanna, and their tributary streams, is in rapid progress and will be completed shortly. Fourteen miles have been excavated during the present summer. By the politeness of a gentleman of Bellefonte we are furnished with the 5th general report of the President and Directors of the company which we will gladly commence publishing in our next number. We are persuaded our readers, of this county especially, feel a more than ordinary interest in this great and important public work.

FOR THE PATRIOT.

The editor of the Bellefonte Patriot will oblige his friend, by giving the following observations, in answer to the uncharitable attack upon me, by Thomas Hastings, Jr. Every man's motives, however pure, are liable to be misrepresented; and if it were not that some imputations have been cast upon me, revolting to the feelings of a professor of religion, I would not enter the arena to contend with any BULL OF BASHAN. Disputes of this kind, may excite enquiry in the minds of some religious characters, and induce them to refrain from a practice, of so pernicious a tendency, that has slowly crept upon them, under the specious guise of patriotism. But as it is also calculated to excite irritable feelings, I gladly assure Thomas Hastings, Jr. as well as your readers, that this may be the last time they will hear from

A FARMER

It appeareth that Thomas Hastings, Jr. is much displeas'd with my observations, respecting the profane toast which he presumptuously offered at the celebration of the 4th July. It seemeth also, that he is a candidate for Sheriff, and thinks that my object was to injure him in his election. I disclaim any such grossness of feeling; and it ill-becomes this young man to berate me as he doth. I did hear one of my neighbors say that Thomas Hastings wanted to be Sheriff, but it happeneth that I was totally mistaken in the man. I thought it was Thomas Hastings who formerly kept a tavern in Bellefonte, when I first came to this country, and who relinquish'd that employment shortly after the decease of his wife. So that it is not true that I wish to injure his election.

Thomas says that I ought to have called first upon him, and reproved him for his profanity.

Answer. I have found that a very useless task. I have known some well intentioned men who pursued that mode, but it was productive of no good effects. One of these worthy men told me, that in every instance the person he reproved, commended either a justification, a denial, or an argument with him, and he rarely found any who would acknowledge an offence. The trifling tenor of my own experience, is in strict accordance with that of my friend. On one occasion I reproved a person for profane swearing. He immediately replied that he was not the only person who swore profanely; that he could name several lawyers and doctors of Bellefonte, who pretended to be gentlemen, who swore worse than he did. And thus it is. Reproof in one instance out of ten is of little avail. The argument of example is always brought to the assistance of culprits, and all that well meaning people receive for their labor is abuse.

Thomas Hastings, Jr. is willing to stand between the OFFICERS OF THE DAY who presided over the feast at which he sat, and all danger. This is quite valiant in the young man, but it is a poor compliment to the persons whom he gratuitously wishes to shield. His protection may possibly avail in this world, but when the GREAT JUDGE of all the earth collecteth his Jewels, if it were an offence in these persons to sit by in silence, and hear the misapplication of holy things at a feast of the flesh, it will require more protection than can be afforded by poor frail worms of the dust, to answer them any good purpose. Protection indeed! Ah, my dear friends, let nothing in-

duce such a fallacious hope even in this world. However much men may volunteer to stand between you and public opinion, it matters not. However much self-confidence may induce you to think you have not erred, when in fact you have, let not it carry you into that kind of security, which endeth in ruin. I speak especially to those of my own years, who are, as it were, almost ripe for eternity. The obstinacy of old age, is the worst kind of obstinacy. Time and circumstances, in most instances, softens it into repentance, in those who have a life before them, but, alas! these are refused to those who are blossoming for the tomb.

Thomas Hastings, Jr. need not think to excite my wrath, by saying that I am of "naked deformity." My bible has taught me that by nature "all men are wounds & bruises & putrifying sores, from the crown of the head to the sole of the foot." And although we have the knowledge that when sinners "are born again," they are no longer the "children of wrath" but "heirs of Christ's kingdom," yet I have not the presumption to say that I am one of the number, although I may have the hope. It is not becoming any mere man to say so, nor will I say that I have the hope. This much I confess, that the best of our actions are filthiness in the sight of Deity, and that it is unbecoming, in a high degree, in any man to extenuate those, which, to mortal eye, borders on profanity.

At this eventful period, when the spirit of enquiry is abroad in the world, it is the duty of every friend of religion, truth, and the Redeemer's Kingdom, to lend his aid in the mighty work now going on. He ought not merely to contribute towards those societies, whose immediate & professed object is the advancement of religious knowledge, but he ought to exert himself in the sphere in which he himself moves, in promoting godliness, by reproving those who seem to err from wantonness, or otherwise, and by encouraging others in undertakings similar to those in which he himself is embarked. Of what consequence is it that we send pious missionaries abroad to convert the heathen, if those in our own neighborhood pass unnoticed? It is all right that we persist in our endeavors to enlighten the nations who "sit in darkness," but at the same time, we ought not, & I for one will not, refrain from reproving those who I believe offend against Deity, from the candidate for Governor, including the Register and Recorder, down to every petty candidate for Sheriff in the county. The mere circumstance of their being candidates for office, or in office, shall not prevent me from my duty, or drive me from my purpose. It only serves to me as an additional incentive to the discharge of my duty, for the influence of example does immense mischief. To the professor of religion I would say, in the language of scripture, "go thou and do likewise."

FOR THE PATRIOT.

The custom of celebrating the anniversary of our birth as a nation, and of rendering our annual tribute of respect to the heroes who achieved our independence, justly claims the hearty commendations of every enlightened citizen. It has its origin in the best feelings of our nature; and surely the animated expression of those feelings, cannot but elicit the warm approbation of every lover of his country. We rejoice at the blessings which Heaven has poured upon our Land, and we feel grateful to the men who for the contemplation of the patriot, so nobly fought to procure the religious and political freedom we now wont to be delivered on our national joy. A 'tree is known by its fruit,' and were a cold ingratitude, a listless design, and instead of enforcing the indifference, to usurp the place of that ardor of feeling, which has hitherto prevailed, the patriot would soon have cause to mourn the approaching ruin of his country. No man then, must rejoice at the tide of patriotic enthusiasm which sweeps across our land, upon every recurrence of this joyous anniversary. It fills every heart, expands every bosom, and in a mighty voice, proclaims across the continent, peace and good will and freedom to man. In this state of public mind, it is amusing to observe the individual expression of these feelings. Some, whose untutored mirth knows no restraint, break forth into loud huzzas, expressive of their joy and fearless determination—others with more tempered grace, constrain their thoughts to move in measured and harmony—while some prefer the garb, and steady pace of Oration. Now, although I am not unfriendly to the warbling of the Muse, yet I think with you, Mr. Editor, that the late effusions of some moon-struck wights, are neither very creditable to their own capacities, nor tend to increase the reputation of American genius. The custom of delivering set-orations upon this occasion, is, I think, singularly felicitous, and well adapted to preserve the spirit of freedom in its pristine purity. The orator

has time for forecast and reflection. He can, at will, select the materials of his discourse; can arrange and classify them in the manner most proper for making an impression upon the minds of his hearers. It is his duty to enforce the value and importance of our rights; the sacred nature of their deposit with us; and our obligation to defend and preserve them inviolate. The strictest unity, with regard to these objects, should be maintained throughout his discourse. He should never permit inferior or extrinsic circumstances to usurp the place of more appropriate or important subjects; as they utterly destroy the salutary effect his oration might otherwise produce.

The foregoing remarks have been elicited by the perusal of an oration, delivered in Potter township, upon the occasion of the late anniversary. By whom delivered, I know not, as to me he is a stranger, but the pernicious tendency of his production, it is the duty of every citizen to point out and reprehend. Charity, at first, induced me to suppose that the magnificence or convenience of the, "STUPENDOUS BRICK MANSION," had fascinated the senses of our worthy Boniface, and converted all the effusions of his patriotism into fulsome eulogics upon the virtues of its possessors. But a closer scrutiny led me to deplore the perversity of feeling, which could, on such an occasion, dictate an address, so interested and palpable in its views, from a

Tenant to his Landlord. The talents and virtues of our Statesmen—the bravery and patriotism of our warriors—nay, even the blessings of Heaven itself are forgotten, in the eagerness of our orator, to laud the descendants of the "GENERAL," for their disinterested exertions in making the "CENTRE & KISHACOQUILLAS TURNPIKE ROAD!!!" What a theme for an Orator, upon an occasion so solemn and interesting! When his lips should have breathed none but sentiments of the purest patriotism—when his voice should have swelled to its loudest note, in praise of departed greatness—when his thanks should have ascended to Heaven, for the many blessings showered upon our land—alas! his tongue is employed in the venal celebration of his patron's disinterested exertions in making the "Centre & Kishacoquillas Turnpike Road!!!" What a melancholy field is here presented and we feel grateful to the patriot!

He beholds the orations, which are religious and political freedom we now wont to be delivered on our national joy. A 'tree is known by its fruit,' and were a cold ingratitude, a listless design, and instead of enforcing the indifference, to usurp the place of that ardor of feeling, which has hitherto prevailed, the patriot would soon have cause to mourn the approaching ruin of his country. No man then, must rejoice at the tide of patriotic enthusiasm which sweeps across our land, upon every recurrence of this joyous anniversary. It fills every heart, expands every bosom, and in a mighty voice, proclaims across the continent, peace and good will and freedom to man. In this state of public mind, it is amusing to observe the individual expression of these feelings. Some, whose untutored mirth knows no restraint, break forth into loud huzzas, expressive of their joy and fearless determination—others with more tempered grace, constrain their thoughts to move in measured and harmony—while some prefer the garb, and steady pace of Oration. Now, although I am not unfriendly to the warbling of the Muse, yet I think with you, Mr. Editor, that the late effusions of some moon-struck wights, are neither very creditable to their own capacities, nor tend to increase the reputation of American genius. The custom of delivering set-orations upon this occasion, is, I think, singularly felicitous, and well adapted to preserve the spirit of freedom in its pristine purity. The orator

AGRICOLA,
OF POTTER TOWNSHIP.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT.

FROM THE FRANKLIN [PHIL] GAZETTE JULY 1.

Great Spring, June 25, 1824.

MR NORVELL: The act of congress of the late session, authorising surveys, plans and estimates for roads and canals, will no doubt form an important era in the history of the country. Although it does not authorise the actual undertaking of any specific improvement, yet it is the entering wedge which must cleave asunder the rock of prejudice that has hitherto so effectually resisted the efforts of the most patriotic and enlightened men of the nation to appropriate a portion of the national funds to improve the sources of wealth strength and power, which are to be found in rapid and cheap conveyance from one part of the union to another. While the bill was on its passage through the senate, it was represented by a sagacious member of that body, as being to the opponents of the system of internal improvement what the "woodhorse of the Greeks was to the foolish Trojans." There was some aptitude in the simile, but with this difference, that the bill did not pass with the consent of any of the enemies of the system, nor was its true character at all disguised by its form, whatever representation may have been made by any one of its friends.

No sooner was the bill approved by the President than the attention of the Pennsylvania delegation was directed to improving the advantages which the position of this state offered for opening a water communication with the western states. This is a subject of the deepest interest to the future prosperity of Pennsylvania, and not less so as respects the advancement of the whole system of improvement. Public attention has been directed to the opening of a channel of communication through the waters of the Potomac and Monongahela, which, if completed, in addition to the grand canal of New York, will pass the whole transportation between the Atlantic and western states through channels chiefly without the boundaries of Pennsylvania; and when these works are completed, if we reason from experience and the nature of things, rather than from a blind faith in the constant operation of magnanimity in the government of human actions, we must conclude that the whole numerical force of New York and Virginia, and even a part of our own state, would soon be found, in obedience to their immediate interest, opposed to the opening of any rival communication through the interior of Pennsylvania. Now, therefore, is the time for Pennsylvania to make a strong demonstration in support of her improvement. The states of Maryland and Delaware have a common interest with us in the improvement of the Susquehanna and the western communication with the waters of that river. We may therefore rely upon their interested aid which, added to the general liberality which at present prevails among enlightened men in the Atlantic states, and the common sentiment of attachment to the policy of internal improvement in the whole west, we cannot fail to succeed if we rightly apply our shoulders to the work; but if we suffer the present opportunity to pass until the channels on the north and south of us are opened, and the whole intercourse and transportation shall have taken those directions, our channel may then be regarded as a rival route, and the west, being satisfied with the existing facilities, would rather extend the connecting links of these improvements than spare any portion of the public funds, applicable to this system, to promote a work which will then have become dormant, and consequently of doubtful expediency. It should never be lost sight of, that works of this nature must be put in motion by those most immediately interested. We are not to expect those who have a remote or indirect interest, or at a distance from the scene of operations, to act any other part than that of auxiliaries in works of this nature. It is therefore for us to do whatever is within our power; and to press the subject upon the early attention of the general government. Our success will, as in all such cases, depend upon the proper combination of mind and money; the first to determine positions and digest plans for the proper application of the last.

But I find that I am writing an essay, instead of simply informing you, as I intended when I took up my pen, that after various personal communications with the President and Secretary of War, the delegation of Pennsylvania united with that of Maryland and Delaware in a direct application to the President to cause a survey to be made of the waters of the Susquehanna, and the connecting points with those of the Alleghany and Lake Erie, with a view to a route for a canal. The most satisfactory assurances were received from the Secretary of War, to whom this subject was committed

by the President, that every exertion would be made, which the situation of the engineer corps would permit, to accomplish the object of our wishes; that measures had been taken, immediately after the passage of the law, to employ such of the ablest of that corps as could be spared from other service, and to form a board of civil engineers, by the employment of the most skillful men in that art, in conjunction with United States officers, for the purpose of reconnoitering and surveying the most important routes, and, where found practicable, to form plans and estimates for the work; but as the session of congress was at a close, and the Pennsylvania delegation had become dispersed, the Secretary of War addressed his answer to the Governor of the commonwealth, of which having been furnished with a copy, I enclose it for publication. Its contents are proper for the public eye, and it is of much importance that the public should know what is doing by the general government on this very interesting and important subject.

It may be observed that the route from Lake Erie to the Allegheny will be so far common to the Susquehanna and Potomac routes, as will tend in no small degree to unite these rival interests, which it may be reasonably expected will thus be actuated by a liberality that will secure the completion of both. Neither sound policy nor attention to local interests ought to induce us to regard the Potomac canal as a rival injurious to the interests of Pennsylvania; for independently of the advantages which it would give to the south western part of the state, sentiments of magnanimity in relation to the interests of others are most apt to beget similar sentiments in relation to those of ourselves: All we have to do, is to take care that the Susquehanna route shall not, for the want of exertion on the part of the people of Pennsylvania, be for a moment neglected, or lest sight of, or postponed, until these feelings of reciprocity among neighboring states shall have yielded to stronger motives: In a word, Pennsylvania ought to take care that her canal shall progress by equal pace with that of the Potomac. A due attention to this particular will secure all we ought to desire; but if neglected, we as certainly lose all direct and immediate benefits to Pennsylvania from the future progress of the system of internal improvement by the general government.

I am, very respectfully, yours,
S. D. INGHAM.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, JUNE 8, 1824.

To his Excellency Governor SHULZ, of the State of Pennsylvania.

SIR: The Pennsylvania delegation in congress, previous to the termination of the session, addressed a letter to the President of the United States, requesting that a survey of the Susquehanna river might be made, in order to improve its navigation; and also enclosed an act of the legislature of Pennsylvania, which authorises the Governor of the state to appoint three commissioners to explore the route of a canal between Harrisburg and Pittsburg, and that between the Schuylkill and Susquehanna; and requesting the United States' engineers might aid the state commissioners in exploring these routes. The act of congress authorizing the President to make certain surveys of the country with a view to internal improvement, having passed just before the close of the session, no answer could be given to the request of the delegation before the adjournment; and dispersed as the delegation now is, I have taken the liberty of communicating to you the direction of the President on these subjects, so interesting to the state of Pennsylvania.

The route between Pittsburg and the Susquehanna and Schuylkill is deemed of importance, not only to Pennsylvania, but to a large portion of the community. Thus viewed, the President has directed the board of engineers for internal improvement to co-operate with the state commissioners, if it shall be found to be practicable. The board has received instructions to make a reconnoissance, in the first instance, of the country between the navigable waters of the Potomac and the Ohio, and between the latter and Lake Erie; the performance of which duty will probably require six or eight weeks, at the end of which time they will be prepared to meet the state commissioners at Pittsburg, if you should think it proper to give orders for their co-operation with the board. It would facilitate the execution of this duty if the commissioners of the state should first explore the route from the Schuylkill and Susquehanna to Pittsburg, and return over the route in conjunction with the board of engineers. If your excellency approves of the arrangement, and will apprise this department of your approval, measures will be taken to produce the co-operation on the part of the general government, and you will be apprised, at the earliest period