

Temperance Department.

A writer in the Baltimore Sun gives an account of a Temperance meeting of the Protestants and Catholics, in Washington City.

Mr. Williamson, an honest and worthy mechanic followed; and, with due deference to the talents and eloquence of the two former gentlemen, I must be excused when I say that, in my opinion, his arguments and illustrations carried the deepest conviction to all hearts; but it might have been owing to his being both the attorney and witness in his own case.

It somehow happened that the person that had taken his last cent for the intoxicating draught the night before, (Saturday night) passed himself in rags, and his wife in scanty apparel, on the Sunday following, in their broadcloth, silk and satins.

These experience Temperance meetings are now common in some places; and some of the most effective temperance efforts I have heard of recently in Cumberland county have partaken in part of this character.

GLEANER.

FOURTH OF MARCH CONVENTION.

FRIDAY, March 5, 1841.

Pursuant to adjournment, the President took the Chair at 10 o'clock. The committee appointed to draft a preamble and resolutions, made the following report: Whereas, This Convention assembled, in observance of democratic usages, to nominate a candidate, for the gubernatorial Chair of Pennsylvania, at the ensuing election, has, in discharge of the trust confided to its members by the great body of the democracy of the State, nominated for re-election, with an almost entire unanimity, the present distinguished incumbent: And whereas, believing that the democratic party is now, as it has ever been, when harmoniously united, in a decided majority, and that the loss of the electoral vote of Pennsylvania, at the recent Presidential election, was owing to untoward circumstances, which no longer exist. Be it therefore

Resolved, That the democracy of Pennsylvania has never sustained, and never will sustain, two successive defeats; that possessing a clear and certain majority, and conscious of its strength and its rights, adversity has ever been, and now and again is, the harbinger of that union, moderation and activity, which must lead to renewed and brilliant victory.

Resolved, That in the unanimity with which this Convention has nominated DAVID RITTENHOUSE PORTER, the present Executive of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, for re-election to that responsible and elevated station, we have but followed out the wishes and desires of the great democratic party of the State, by whom is reposed entire confidence in his integrity and abilities, and in the wisdom and firmness with which, during an administration of unparalleled difficulty, he has conducted the government of the Commonwealth.

Resolved, That the people of Pennsylvania recognize in DAVID R. PORTER all the traits which make a safe and desirable Chief-Magistrate in the crisis like the present—a devotedness to the rights of the people, and the honor of the State; an independence that spurs dictations—a fearlessness that disregards personal consequence; a coolness and wisdom in council; and a promptitude and decision in action; which command the public confidence and esteem.

Resolved, That when DAVID R. PORTER assumed the government of the State of Pennsylvania, it was at a period of unprecedented difficulty, with a state debt of thirty-five millions of dollars, and no provision for the payment of either its principal or interest with an overgrown and tottering bank-

ing system, with the public improvements in an unfinished condition, out of repair, and a source of expense, instead of revenue.—That he was the first to tear away the veil from the dangers and corruptions of this system of extravagance and threatened ruin, and make the people aware of the real condition of the Commonwealth. That he has successfully combated with the difficulties thus presented—has exhibited to the people their true situation and duties—and has evinced a bright example of fearless patriotism in reference to the developments of the past, and of statesmanlike sagacity in regard to the future.

Resolved, That the independent and lofty position assumed by Governor PORTER in reference to the public credit of Pennsylvania, and the disposition which she has ever manifested to redeem her plighted faith, commend his administration to the approval, and himself to the confidence, not only of every member of the democratic party, but of every citizen of the Keystone-state to whom her character and honor are dear, and who would shrink from beholding her false to her pledges and promises, and faithfully to those who have confided in her integrity.

Resolved, That a change in the administration of the state government, at this period of deranged currency and commercial embarrassment and distress, would be productive of increased difficulties and disasters; that the policy of the present incumbent's administration has been frankly and boldly avowed, is well known, and has been sustained by the great mass of the people; and that to exchange an executive who has thus acted—and been approved of, for any other whose sentiments are unknown, whose views are an entire mystery, and who is committed to no particular course of policy, would be only to thicken the embarrassments which already prevail; increase the distress that now exists, and delay the returning confidence which, under the administration of Governor PORTER, may with reason be anticipated.

Resolved, That the sentiments avowed by the Democratic State Convention of the 4th of March, 1838, by which the name of DAVID R. PORTER was first presented to the consideration of the people of Pennsylvania as the democratic gubernatorial candidate, are those of this convention: That while the democratic party of the state desires and demands a thorough reformation of the present unwholesome and corrupt banking system, and contends for the eradication of its abuses and vices; it does not seek the destruction of the banks: That it most cordially approves of the doctrines and views of policy which, upon this subject, were communicated to the legislature by Governor PORTER, in his first annual message—and believes that, had they received the legislative sanction, the monetary derangement which now exists, if not wholly prevented, might at least have been made to assume a greatly mitigated form, with every reasonable prospect of a speedy removal.

Resolved, That the democratic party of Pennsylvania has received with enthusiastic approbation the gubernatorial VETO of the vicious and iniquitous bill, dividing that branch of the executive duties which relates to the public works, between the two Houses and the Governor: That the system proposed was one anomalous and monstrous—dangerous in principle, if not impossible in practice: That the patriotism which prompted Gov. PORTER to offer to divest himself of the appointing power of the Canal Commissioners, in order to secure it immediately to the people, is deserving of the highest commendation; and that the shallow artifice of an accidental legislative majority, [elected by an actual popular minority,] to transfer power to themselves, under the pretence of re-creating the executive patronage, when the petitions of the people were that such power should be committed directly to THEM, is perfectly understood and properly appreciated—as are, also, the sagacity which dictated and the nerve that pronounced its rebuke: And that the veto of such bill is the more especially to be commended, when it is a matter of notoriety that, even before its passage, the two Commissioners, to be elected or appointed by the two Houses, had been already determined upon, and were to consist of two members of their own bodies; in utter contravention of the spirit if not of the letter of the Constitution.

Resolved, That, HENRY DUELLER, LOUIS REZLY, A. V. FANSON, JACOB SEILER, WILLIAM D. BOAS, BENJAMIN PARKER, J. B. BRATTON, E. W. HUTTEN, JACOB BABE, MICHAEL BURKE, HENRY A. MUEHLBERG, Reading. JAMES CLARKE, Blairsville. WILLIAM BEATTY, Butler. WILLIAM ENGLISH, Philadelphia. JOSEPH C. NEAL, Johnstown. JOHN B. GUTHRIE, David Lynch, Harrisburg.

Resolved, That a Standing Committee of Correspondence for each of the counties of the Commonwealth be respectively appointed by the several delegations from each county, composing this convention.

Resolved, That defeat and disaster have never been visited upon the democratic party of Pennsylvania, except when its ranks have been distracted by internal divisions and dissensions: That the results of defeat have ever been most disastrous to the great interests both of the party and the Commonwealth; and that, to prevent the unhappy recurrence of such consequences, we most earnestly urge upon the democratic citizens of Pennsylvania the necessity of immediately reconciling all minor differences, if any, and wherever any may exist—and to unite harmoniously, vigorously, and determinedly, in a persevering effort to preserve the pure and cardinal principles of the democratic faith, and to promote the success of the democratic party, and that with a view to the thorough attainment of this great end we recommend the policy of an immediate and effectual organization in each and every county, in the propriety of frequent public meetings in the respective wards, boroughs, townships and counties of the state. On motion of Mr. Brunside, the report was unanimously adopted.

Mr. J. S. Black, from the same committee, reported the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That unpromising hostility to the establishment of a National Bank, is a fundamental rule of our democratic faith as expounded in the school of Jefferson and Jackson.

Resolved, That we have now as heretofore, the same unabated confidence in this part of our creed that we have on all other points of our political faith, not only because we believe the creation of a bank by Congress to be a gross violation of the constitution, but also because the experience of forty years, and the united testimony of some of the greatest and wisest statesmen of the nation, prove that such an institution is decidedly hostile to the principles of republican liberty, pernicious in its effects upon the commerce and currency of the country, and subservient only to the interests of those who profit by fertilizing the rich man's field with the sweat of the poor man's brow.

Resolved, That if any other evidence than our own experience were needed for the purpose of supporting this position, it might be found in the admission deliberately made by the leaders of the federal party, the chief of their forces in the war against Gen. Jackson, and the President of their bank, that the connection of the late National Bank, with the national government was injurious to both and beneficial to neither.

Resolved, That we look upon the re-charter of the present Bank of the United States by the late Federal Administration of Governor Ritner, to be an act of unmitigated folly, if not something still worse than that, upon its subsequent conduct as a stupendous fraud, and upon its pretensions to be the regulator of the currency, the greatest humbug that federalism has played off in these latter days.

Resolved, That while we deplore the principle of an act of unmitigated folly, if not something still worse than that, upon its subsequent conduct as a stupendous fraud, and upon its pretensions to be the regulator of the currency, the greatest humbug that federalism has played off in these latter days.

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those principles which have ever made up the items of our democratic creed in Pennsylvania, and we may also proudly refer to its author as having at all times carried out and redeemed the pledges therein given.—When Governor Porter came into power, he not only found the Treasury exhausted, but a debt of more than thirty millions fastened upon the people, no portion of which he had created, or assisted in creating.

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AWFUL CATASTROPHE.

The New Orleans Bulletin of February 24th, brings us the disastrous information, that the steamboat Creole, Captain Dalman, one of the Red River Packets, on her passage from Natchitoches to New Orleans with a cargo of upwards of 1000 bales of cotton, boxes of specie, bundles of bank notes, merchandise, &c., came out of the Red River at the grey of dawn on Monday morning. When about twelve miles below, she was discovered to be on fire, and a general alarm was given.

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habitants of the neighbourhood relieved their pressing necessities, and enabled them to reach the city.—Amr. Sent.

Correspondence of the N. Y. Evening Post. FIRST STEPS OF THE REFORMERS AT WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, March 8, 1841.

Dear Sir—We have strange reports of the manner in which our self-styled reformers have commenced their work. The fatiguing ceremonies of inauguration having been concluded, our "benevolent" chief magistrats manifested a disposition to repose himself for a season in his new abode, before the entering upon the labors of "reform" which his ambition. He therefore contented himself with filling the vacancies created by the resignations of the late cabinet, and seemed in the enjoyment of his lady-loves and convivial entertainments to have quite forgotten the innumerable and clamorous host, who have filled our streets and market places for many weeks past, and who like the slaughters of the horse-leech, have cried "give! give!" without ceasing. But the latter, it appears, became impatient—their daily expenses were too great to bear delay—they seem to have thought that although this inactive existence might be pleasant to General Harrison, in the White House, it was death to the office-seekers who were living at their own cost. It became necessary therefore to quicken the movement of the new President, and to give a new impetus to the great work of reform.

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