

# THE VOLUNTEER.

John B. Frattton, Editor and Proprietor.

CHARLESTON, THURSDAY, NOV. 23, 1849.

**AGENCY.**  
V. B. PALMER, Esq., is authorized agent for procuring advertisements, receiving subscriptions and making collections for the *Volunteer*, at his office, N. W. corner of Third and Chestnut streets, Philadelphia.

Our friend Cooper, of the *Chambersburg Valley Spirit*, will please consider our best wishes.

The *Perry County Democrat* of last week contained a very able article recommending Hon. James M. McKim, member of Congress from this district, for the speakership of the House. Mr. McKim would, beyond doubt, make a dignified and efficient officer.

**TARGET FIRING.**—The Carlele Independent Artillery—Capt. HUNTER—proceeded to Spring Forge, a short distance from town, on Saturday last, for the purpose of practicing in target firing. Two silver medals were the prizes, the first of which was awarded to private SMITH, he being the best shot. Private DICKERSON, second medal, his shot being the second best. The firing, we understand, was unusually good, and the contest for the medals quite animated. This company is well drilled, and the members deserve great credit for the zeal they exhibit in making themselves acquainted in the various duties of citizen soldiers.

**OUR MARKET HOUSE.**—Our Market House has recently been scoured and painted, and the ceilings whitewashed. It now looks as bright as a new pin, and presents a clean and lively appearance. The painting was done by our townsman, Maj. LANE, and we but speak the voice of all our citizens when we say that he has fulfilled his contract with the Town Council, in a workmanlike and highly creditable manner.

**GENEY'S LADY'S BOOK.**—The December number of this splendid Magazine has been received. It contains more than double the usual quantity of reading matter, and is embellished with twenty-four engravings, some of which are splendid specimens of the art. The publisher promises to make the next volume excel even the one just ended. We shall publish the prospectus for this work soon.

**SARTAIN'S MAGAZINE,** for December, is also on our table. It is a splendid number, and to use an everyday word "can't be beat." The engravings are superior—the fashion plates are numerous and beautiful—and the reading matter is from the most polished writers of our country. We shall also publish the prospectus of this Magazine shortly.

**SABATH CONVENTION.**—In consequence of the appointment by the Governor of Pennsylvania of the 29th inst. as a day of public Thanksgiving, the convention of delegates and friends of the Christian Sabbath, from the counties of York, Adams, Franklin, Perry, Cumberland and Dauphin, already announced in some of the papers, as about to be held in York, will be postponed until Wednesday, December 5th.

**CHARLES DEPOSITS BANK.**—The following named gentlemen were, on Monday last, elected Directors of this institution for the ensuing year:—James H. Graham, Jacob Leiby, William Ke, George W. Shearer, Charles Ogilby, Robert Moore, Jacob Baughman, John S. Sterrett, Henry Logan.

**Mrs. Maria F. Yates, consort of Dr. C. M. Yates, and sister of the Hon. James Buchanan, died at Meadville, this State, on the 2nd inst.**

We learn that E. S. Goodson, Esq., editor of the *Bradford Reporter*, has been appointed a clerk in the Surveyor General's office at Harrisburg, which Judge Lupton is the head. The *State of Bradford* appears to be above par at the seat of Government.

**THANKSGIVING.**—This day week, (Thursday the 29th) is named as a day of Thanksgiving, by the State Executive. The Governors of some ten or twelve States have named the same day to be observed in a similar manner. Such an observance is perfectly fitting in view of the goodness of God in taking from us his devastating scourge, and surrounding us by all the needful elements of health, comfort and prosperity.

The Philadelphia papers complain bitterly against the indolence and frequent use of the pardoning power by Governor Johnston. Convicts who have violated the law repeatedly are no longer lodged in prison than they are turned loose again on the community to renew their depredations. The pardoning power is a high prerogative, which ought never to be used except when the end of punishment has been attained.

**CONVICTION OF OBSCENE PRACTICES.**—After a lengthy trial, some stout preachers named Barker, Kirkland, and Sharpe, were convicted at Pittsburg, on Wednesday, as nuisances, in preaching obscenity in the streets, vilifying the Catholic clergy and sisters of mercy, and others in that city. Excited crowds were thus collected to the danger and inconvenience of the public. They will undergo more than one year's imprisonment.

**FOUR OFFICER REMOVALS.**—We see it stated by a Whig Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia North American, that Mr. Colburn, the Post Master General, has removed two hundred and eighty-four democratic Post Masters from office up to the 30th of October, and established 4009 new Post Offices. The aggregate appointment of 3628 Whigs to office in the short space of 7 months! And all this in the face of Gen. Taylor's pledges of no proscription for opinion's sake!

**APPOINTMENT BY THE CANAL COMMISSIONERS.**—Christopher Mason of Spring Garden, has been appointed Superintendent of the railroad to avoid the Inclined Plane, in place of Henry Petrick, deceased.

**New York Election.**—The official returns are nearly all in, and the result is as follows:—The Democrats have elected the Judge of the Court of Appeals, Attorney General, State Prison Inspector, and Canal Commissioner—4 in all. The Federalists have elected the Secretary of State, Comptroller, Treasurer, and State Engineer—4 in all. In the Legislature the Democrats have a majority of 2 in the House, and the Federalists have a majority of 2 in the Senate, making a tie on joint ballot. Close work, that.

It seems that the Whigs have elected a member of Congress in Virginia. The Richmond *Expositor* attributes the loss of the democratic candidate to an unpopular nomination. This is a miserable excuse, and we hope never again to see it proclaimed. Make good nominations, that's the only way.

**MELANCHOLY PROSPECTS.**—It is felt that the Whig party have little to cheer them by, their own integrity. *New Haven Courier, Whig paper.*  
Nothing but your integrity! You are in a hopeless condition then, and no mistake for it is a well known fact that the Whigs, as a party, have no integrity to lose.

## THE EVENTS OF THE FOUR PAST YEARS.

To the close observer of the times, the recollection of the events and circumstances which have occurred since the year 1845, must afford much for reflection. The scenes which have been enacted since that period have been of the most important character. Seldom, indeed, in the history of our country have four years embraced so many startling occurrences—so many momentous acts, and so many events of such vital import.

In the year 1845, the United States Government, no longer willing nor able to brook the insults and injuries heaped upon it by the insolent Mexican nation, sought anew for reparation for the many grievances it had received from that power. But it was useless and vain to ask for satisfaction, through diplomacy, of a nation that was too domineering to acknowledge the rights of others, and which had too exalted an opinion of its own prowess and ability to think that it would be worsted in a contest, should our Government resort to arms to obtain reparation for the many wrongs it had sustained. Mexico, instead of yielding its desired satisfaction, not only renewed her insults to our Government, but assumed a hostile attitude, and declared her intention of invading Texas, to avenge the supposed injury she had received by the annexation of that territory to the United States. Prior to this period, President Polk, with that far seeing sagacity and profound judgment which characterized him, had dispatched Col. Taylor to the banks of the Nueces to protect the frontier of Texas. The threatening attitude which the Mexican nation was assuming, attracted the attention of the President and his cabinet, and instructions were immediately issued to Col. Taylor to proceed to the western boundary of Texas, (the Rio Grande), and resist Mexico, should she attempt to carry her threat into execution. Here, then, commences an important era in the life of Col. Taylor.

But a short time elapsed after his arrival at the Rio Grande ere American blood was shed upon American soil. This was the breaking out of hostilities, and it was here Col. Taylor commenced to act a very conspicuous part. Heretofore but a Colonel in command, he was now promoted to the rank of General. With a decision and promptitude, highly commendable, he at once demanded satisfaction for theagrant outrage which had been committed on our soil, and failing to receive it, he determined to use the only prerogative left, and compel them to make full amends. The battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma followed, and Taylor and the American troops were victorious. The news of these victories was heralded forth, and all classes—save a very few—rejoiced. The name of Taylor was wafted on every breeze. His praise was sung by every tongue. He was lauded to the skies by every voice. All parties united in bestowing upon him the praises and admiration due his consummate skill and unequalled bravery. Troops were sent to his assistance; and with a heart made light and courageous by the approbation and aid he had received from his countrymen, he marched into the interior of the enemy's country, and again fought, stormed, and conquered at Monterrey. Here it would appear Taylor's cup of glory and usefulness was full. An entire nation was willing to pay him homage. Foreign countries complimented him upon his ability, his prowess and his exertions. Our own Government, to assure him that he still possessed their confidence, raised him to the highest post of the army, that of Major General, and voted a vote of thanks to him for his inestimable services.

But, after the battle of Monterrey, Gen. Taylor was destined to share a different fate than that which had hitherto followed him. Henceforth he was to receive the opposition of a part of his countrymen, and that opposition was to be one, which, if possible, would ruin him. Henceforth he and his brave companions in arms were to be the mark for a strong party press to spit their venom upon. Henceforth he was to be assailed and insulted by a new enemy, and one which was to be more dangerous than that which he had triumphed over at Resaca and Monterrey. This party opposed the administration in every measure which had for its object the prosecution of the war. The very man who had sanctioned, by their votes, the declaration of war, now denounced it, as unwholly, unrighteous, and unjust. They exerted every nerve and made every effort to cripple the power of the administration, and prevent the designs it had in view. They heaped the choicest epithets upon the noble band who had struggled and fought so bravely, and who were now asking for assistance; Taylor himself was charged as being the chief of murderers, and an adroit scoundrel. His private as well as his public character was assailed; it was asserted that he furnished "a virgin for the 'hells and brothels of New Orleans.'" Every thing was said and done which could in any way lessen the ruin they desired to bring upon him. Prior to the battle of Buena Vista, when General Taylor was in the most critical position of the campaign, and when assistance was so much needed and desired, they not only refused the aid that was asked, but they threatened to deny him any further supplies. And although these threats and these sentiments carried a sickening sensation to the hearts of our soldiers, and made their blood chill in their veins, yet in reality they had nothing to fear. They had the sympathies and assistance of the Democracy; they were backed by the party of Progress, and by the advocates of liberal principles; they were supported by the same party that sustained the Revolutionary struggle of '76, and the administration of Madison in 1812. The assistance which Federalism would have denied them was cordially extended to them by the Democracy.

Made desperate by the insults which they had received from their countrymen, and anxious to assure the administration that they were thankful and not unworthy of the support and encouragement it had given them, they met the enemy on the battle field of Buena Vista, and after fighting with a courage and desperation which could not be surpassed, they were once more victorious. The news of the victory of Buena Vista was a damper to the hopes of Corwin, Dolano, Mc'Gaughey, and their followers. They had expected and prayed for the annihilation of Taylor and his band of patriots, but they were mistaken, and grieved to find that he not only survived the shock of Santa Anna and the horrors under him, but that he came off victor of the field. It was vain to make another effort to destroy the old hero; they found he was not only invulnerable to their attacks, but also those of the Mexicans.

A year past away of inactivity; during which time Gen. Taylor had his attention attracted to a new field. He had been solicited on different occasions to give expression to his views in regard to the several questions of national policy, and had been asked repeatedly if he would accept of a nomination for the Presidency. At first, Gen. Taylor, with that honesty which made him brave and fearless on the battle field, answered these questions with a decided negative. In regard to his opinion on political questions he had none—he had never formed any—he was perfectly unacquainted with any of the questions which made the dividing line between the Democratic and Whig parties. The idea of the Presidency astonished him, and he declared emphatically that he would not consent to be a candidate under any consideration—that he was incompetent, never having cast a vote in his life. The true friends of Gen. Taylor admired his honesty and simplicity, and rejoiced to find that the hero who had essentially resisted the attacks of traitorous countrymen and

## CRIMINAL COURT.

The following cases were disposed of at the last Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace for this county, commencing on the 19th inst., to wit: Commonwealth vs. William Johnson—Larceny. True bill at the August Term, quinquennial. Defendant was charged with stealing a coat, the property of Jacob Tates, of the value of \$6. Defendant pleaded guilty and was sentenced to three months imprisonment in the county jail. Smith for Commonwealth, Henderson for Defendant.

Same vs. Benj. Long and Benj. Peffer, Jr., Supervisors—Neglect of Duty. True bill at August Term; continued. Defendants were Supervisors of the roads, and highways of Dickinson township. The prosecutor, Mr. J. McCullough, complained of the road not being opened of a sufficient width, or the width required by law, near his residence and that of Mr. Krogo. The case was an important one in relation to the rights and duties of Supervisors, and also as affecting the roads and highways throughout the county. The defence consisted principally in the fact, as alleged, on the part of the Defendants, that the increased width of the road should be made on Mr. McCullough's side, and not on Mr. Krogo's. This was controverted, as a matter of fact, by the prosecution, and two several surveys were exhibited to the court defining the lines and boundaries. These surveys were made before the present Supervisors were in office. When Mr. McCullough called on the Supervisors in relation to opening the road to the width required by the order of the court laying out the same, they demanded of him to get the County Surveyor to show them the line, or that if they would not open the road as desired by him, he should state the jury as a matter of fact that the prosecutor was not bound to go to the expense of getting a surveyor to fix the line, nor was he bound to indemnify them as public officers for the discharge of their duty—that any expense incurred by them in opening the road, ascertaining lines, &c., must be borne by the township. It was admitted that the road in this case was not more than 26 or 27 feet wide, and that the order of the court called for said road to be 33 feet wide. The road had been opened to the width complained of for some twenty or more years. Verdict, guilty. The court, in this case, not deeming that the defendants had acted from improper motives, but from mistaken views of their rights and duties, imposed a mere nominal fine upon them. Defendants were sentenced to pay a fine of 6 cents and the costs of prosecution. Miller and Smith for Commonwealth, Graham for Defendants.

Same vs. John Keller—Larceny. Not a true bill. Prosecutor, Christiana M. Seidel. The Defendant was charged with taking the wood of the prosecutor, who resided in the Defendants house. Christiansa was found of force and detested to keep it up during the winter. It was fortunate for her that the Grand Jury had not the power of placing the costs of prosecution upon her, else she might have found such a "fire in her rear" as would have cured her of her strong predilections in favor of litigation. There were no probable grounds for the commencement of this prosecution. Christiansa, however, like Gen. Scott, "has seen some service," and is a true soldier.

Same vs. Jacob Bester—Larceny. Not a true bill. Prosecutor, Mr. Spidle. The Defendant was charged with stealing an iron pot.

Same vs. John Shiner—Fornication and Battered True bill. Defendant not arrested.

Same vs. Lena Wagoner—Fornication. True bill. Defendant not arrested.

Same vs. Elizabeth Wilson—Fornication. True bill. Defendant not arrested.

Same vs. Henry Feltes—Larceny. True bill. Jacob Vensland prosecutor. The defendant was charged with stealing a bag and a hoo. The jury in this case after being out 24 hours returned a verdict of "guilty." Sentenced to 3 months in county jail. Biddle and Smith for Commonwealth, Bonham for Defendant.

Same vs. Jacob Tates—Assault and Battery. True bill. Prosecutor, Mr. Lee, of New Cumberland. Defendant pleaded "guilty." The difficulty out of which this prosecution originated occurred in the store of Mr. Prowell, of the above mentioned place. The defendant went into said store and assaulted the prosecutor in a violent manner by striking him with his fist and with a poker. Mr. Lee thought it was something more than poking fun at him, and therefore instigated this prosecution. Defendant was sentenced to pay a fine of \$3 and the costs of prosecution. Smith for Commonwealth, Adair for Defendant.

Same vs. Jacob Landis—Assault and Battery. True bill. David Whistler prosecutor. The prosecutor and defendant were at a ploughing frolic at Mr. Fahnestock's, in Millin township. Mr. Landis, the defendant, and some others, were slightly excited from looking down the neck of a long bottle called "black Betty." Part of the company were jiggling a well for water in the field where the ploughing was, but the part to which the defendant especially belonged were looking for something a little stronger. The defendant commenced calling the prosecutor names; some altercation also occurred on the subject of the building of a partition fence. The defendant showed fight and was anxious that his friend Fahnestock should "hold him." Fahnestock did "hold him" for a little while and then told him to "go at him." After knocking the prosecutor down across his plough, Fahnestock interfered again to take Landis off, but quietly told him in an undertone to "give him a few more." It was fortunate for Mr. Fahnestock that he was not included in the information and bill of indictment as he appears to have been equally as gully as the Defendant himself. The prosecutor (Mr. Whistler) seemed like a peaceable, orderly citizen, and had evidently been brutally maltreated by the Defendant, and still bares the scars on his face inflicted at the time of this occurrence, which took place about the middle of September last. Verdict, "guilty." Sentenced to pay a fine of \$10 and the costs of prosecution. Bonham and Smith for Commonwealth, Adair for Defendant.

Same vs. Wm. S. Ramsey—Assault and Battery. Not a true bill, and the prosecutor, John Boles, to pay the costs of prosecution. This occurrence grew out of a dog fight, of which we will have occasion to speak hereafter, in the prosecution in which said Ramsey is prosecutor, and said Boles is defendant.

Same vs. David F. Miller—Libel. True bill. Prosecutor, Snider Ruple. The offence complained of in this case was the writing and publishing a communication in the *Carlele Herald & Expositor*, on the 10th of October, in relation to a military encampment held in the borough of Newville, (in which both prosecutor and defendant reside) commencing on the 17th and terminating on the 20th of September last. Mr. Ruple is the keeper of a public house in that place, and in this communication the Defendant took occasion to speak of it in very disparaging terms. The body of the communication appeared to be aimed at the encampment itself and the impropriety of holding such gatherings. It was throughout exceedingly severe upon the conduct of the military officers assembled, and also upon the character of Mr. Ruple's house, calling it an "infamous hole," "curse place," "roggery," and such like names, and stating in addition that you "might smell the stow of tobacco smoke and run hops at the distance of one fourth of a mile," from the said house. There were two counts in the bill of indictment—one respecting the said issues, and publishing it by handing it over in the written form to Mr. Deaty, the editor of the

## WHIG HARMONY.

Immediately after the election of 1848—when the Federalists were about departing, marching and harrying over their success—made the prediction that their rejection would be of short duration. We told our readers that there was not adhesive power enough in the dissenters to hold such a heterogeneous mass of corruption together. Our words have been realized sooner than we expected. The Federalists are already split up into factions. It is found to be impossible to provide them all with office, and as a matter of course the disappointed applicants are bitter in their denunciations of those who have obtained such offices. The following brief extracts from Taylor papers, will show the state of feeling among the members of that party:

From the *Albany Evening Journal*—Taylor.  
Neither Gen. Taylor, nor his Cabinet, possess that personal knowledge of public men, which enables them to select, for prominent positions, individuals in whom self-interest and political ambition are united. The most important Federal offices have, in too many instances, been bestowed upon political partisans—men of a past and obsolete school; without association or sympathies with those who now teach and guide the political masses.

This is manifestly unjust as it is unwise, and cannot fail to exert a paralyzing influence over the working masses of the Whig party.

From the *N. Y. Mirror*—Taylor.  
We let the above significant extract from the *Albany Evening Journal*, pass without comment, further than to remark, that the very best Federal office in this State was bestowed upon a "political anti-talented" through the able wire-pulling of the editor who makes the above confession.

From the *N. Y. Courier and Enquirer*—Taylor.  
From Main to Louisiana, we have seen several complaints, that the recipients of office have filled subordinate places in their gift with their sons, brothers, nephews, and family connections of every conceivable degree of consanguinity.

From the *N. Y. Herald*—Taylor.  
But the worst mischief behind; if there be any truth in the political horoscope, the November elections in New York will not leave this unfortunate *plus ultra* cabinet a hook to hang a doubt upon. Will the tide never rise? Will it never be dry?

From the *Albany Knickerbocker*—Taylor.  
Having no faith in the political integrity of Mr. Greeley, believing him to be a huzzering demagogue, who makes politics a trade, we decline submitting to his direction, or acting as his echo. We belong to "a party of Whigs," who have no fellowship with political knavery, and who denounce most heartily the canting hypocrisy which puts money in his purse.

From the *N. Y. Mirror*—Taylor.  
Thousands of "Independent Taylor men," moderate Democrats, and men who call themselves "Whigs," but are really Whigs, "have drawn their allegiance from the Administration, because they think the Whigs have not been sufficiently liberal to their allies. We are all willing to face the truth, and to state the facts as they have turned up in the recent elections.

A PLEASANT SURPRISE.—We received the following letter from a subscriber a few days since—a noble, whole-souled fellow, who is not in the habit of forgetting the editor. Our "astorism," meant was great, but yet we soon recovered from its effects, and in returning thanks to our Democratic friend for his favor, we embrace the opportunity to remind them in arrears that we shall not be at all offended if they "astonish" us in the same way. But, to the letter:

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## PERSONAL RECONTE OF POLITICIANS.

We learn from the *Mendville papers* that an affray occurred on Tuesday of last week, between Mr. James E. McFarland, editor of the *Crawford Democrat*, and Mr. B. Lowry, Esq. The difficulty grew, incidentally, out of the burning of the latter in grey a few weeks ago, and subsequent personal abuse, through the columns of the *Democrat*. Lowry was the aggressor, and received, as he deserved, the worst of the battle, having had one of his eyes placed in visible mourning. The editor received a few scratches on the face.

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