

Bradford Reporter

TOWANDA, BRADFORD COUNTY, PA., OCTOBER 1, 1844.

to the Public.

The unprincipled efforts of Mr. Bull to calumniate and impeach my character, and by the most infamous frauds and falsehoods to defeat my election and secure his own, must find an apology for appearing before the public at this time. In the history of political campaigning, for one candidate to come out over his own name, with a long series of falsehoods and slanders against his competitor; but when D. M. Bull takes the field, fraud and falsehood assume a bold front, and meanness finds ever depths into which to descend. I am charged by Mr. Bull with his hand-bill, re-published in the Argus, with having in 1838 entered into a bargain with Willard, to effect his nomination for \$500. In support of this charge, what purports to be a letter from Wm. B. Storm, is adduced.—I know what purports to be a letter from a man who could make so unwarrantable a use of names as did Bull of those of Brownson and Grantee; would not hesitate to put forth a letter as coming from Storm, when in fact no such letter was ever received. If, however, Storm put his name to any such letter as appears, it was concocted between Bull, Patton and himself on his recent visit at Towanda during the second week of our late court. If it was obtained from Storm, I know not—whether by bribes of money, or promises, or by threats to prosecute him for his repeated falsehoods while Cashier of the Towanda Bank: but one thing I do know, that every insinuation made or implied in it, is absolutely and unqualifiedly false. If Willard left money with Storm to buy votes, it must have been such as Bull himself who supported and voted for him, not men who like myself opposed him from first to last. If I had been disposed to defeat the nomination of Morris, it was fully within my power to do so. After the nomination of the conferees from Tioga, who were Willard, my voting with them, would effectually have prevented the admission of the Morris conferees from Potter and McKean; as it would also have made it impossible for the conferees to nominate Morris. On the contrary, every vote which I gave in that conference, was with the friends of Willard, as is shown conclusively by the statement of Abiram Pierce, my colleague. I am truly, has the color and complexion of selling myself as the agent of the United

States Bank, as Mr. Bull now speaks of his friend Willard, for whom he voted. Mr. Bull alleges on his own authority, in corroboration of the pretended letter from Storm, that I was engaged in a plot to defeat Morris by sending out an extra sheet with Willard's name raised to the democratic candidate. It is unqualifiedly and absolutely false. The first knowledge that I had that such a thing was contemplated, was given me by Guy Tozer, on Monday the day before the election. I drove in town about noon from Monroe, and was met by Tozer and told what was on foot. I got out of my wagon, and tying my horse in front of Bartlett's tavern, went immediately with Tozer into the office, and then we both reproved Mr. Beebe in severe terms for his course. He became quite angry and left the office, saying that he would have nothing farther to do with the paper. Then for the first was there any suspicion that the tickets had not been sent to all of the townships, and that afternoon I started and carried tickets to Aaron Chubbuck, or Orwell, and then employed a man to carry them that evening into Herrick. This is fully substantiated by the statement of Mr. Chubbuck. I have not seen Mr. Tozer since Bull's hand-bill made its appearance, but have no fears that he will contradict a single fact stated by me. Again Bull in his utter disregard of truth, charges me with attempting to defeat the nomination of Sherwood for state Senator. The falsity of this is fully proven by the statement of the conferees from this county who were in the conference that nominated Sherwood. But what cares D. M. Bull for falsehood?—His whole hopes rest upon the coolness and recklessness with which his falsehoods are manufactured and promulgated. Again the statement of J. F. Means and Ira H. Stephens give Mr. Bull the lie direct in the charge he made of my voting in favor of Thomas in violation of the instructions to vote for Stephens. And again Mr. Bull is met and another infamous falsehood nailed to the counter, by the statement of Charles Stockwell and E. W. Morgan. What new charges this unprincipled and reckless falsifier of the truth, and low slanderer, may bring against me when too late to be met and refuted, I know not. That he is capable of anything, the public must be fully satisfied, when he would presume to use the names of men as connected with a meeting which was never held, and without

their knowledge or consent, he did in the case of Wyllys Brownson. That a new edition of falsehoods will be sent afloat on the very eve of the election is perhaps to be expected from the base and unprincipled character of the man who is at work, aided and encouraged as he is by a few whigs in Towanda, who have ever pursued me with a spirit of malignity that could find a parallel in the heart of a fiend. I make not this charge against the whigs generally, nor against a respectable majority in this borough. It applies with truth, only to a few of the self-constituted leaders, who have made Mr. Bull the candidate of their party; and I verily believe would feast with a vulture's appetite upon my ruin, could they effect it. They are the men who have belted me at every step, who have heretofore as they are now doing, slandered and traduced my character, by innuendoes and insinuations, whispered in the ears of every man whose mind it was thought could be biased against me. They are the men who employ and set to work such infamous hypocrites as Santee, to preach about the country that I am a Catholic. They are the men who procure the affidavits of such characters as Minerva Sage, which although once rejected by the Argus, will yet doubtless be published and sent to the other counties for circulation. They are in short the men who have for several years past, controlled and directed the course of the Argus in the slanders and falsehoods against me, with which its columns have been filled. Whether I shall be sustained at the polls, by the full majority which this district can unquestionably give or not, rests with the party whose candidate I am. However deeply my feelings may be embarked in the contest, from the nature of my position as a candidate, yet the issue in its bearings upon myself, are of minor importance. DAVID WILMOT.

Base Forgery!

PEG BEATTY AFFIDAVITS!—Some week or two since, we were informed that the notorious Santee, who has been busily engaged slandering our candidate for Congress, had obtained an affidavit from one Minerva Sage, charging Messrs. Wilmot and Sanderson with having offered her ten dollars, to charge upon Santee an attempt at intimacy with her. This vile falsehood of a simple, half-idiot girl, and notorious prostitute, was got up by some of the whigs, at the instance of Santee, and brought to town for publication. The whigs of our town, professed to be indignant at so vile and infamous a proceeding, and refused to publish it. We suspect however that it will be sent out just before the election in the more remote parts of this county, and in Susquehanna and Tioga. They will not make their appearance in this quarter where the girl is known. We heard that Santee read this affidavit at a meeting in Ulster. We give below a statement of Mr. Sanderson touching this most infamous attempt to injure Mr. Wilmot. I am told by individuals, who have seen the affidavit, alluded to above, that my name is used in it, in connection with that of Mr. Wilmot, and the gross charge contained in it is intended to implicate us both. The whole story is FALSE, and is unqualified perjury, in every respect a legal sense. A transaction in which it seems to me that Mr. Santee is as deeply implicated as the miserable wretch who has been persecuted and prevailed upon to make the affidavit. G. SANDERSON.

We understand that the federalists have put in circulation of a story, that Mr. Wilmot had, or was about to decline, the nomination for Congress. Deceitful, what for? He will bear D. M. Bull \$500 in Bradford and 2000 in the district. Mr. Bull is out trying to coax the Irish votes into his support, while his allies here, are abusing Mr. Wilmot, and accusing him of playing the demagogue, and catering after the Irish votes. This is only the Adams and Bull honesty.

PROOFS POSITIVE

Against D. M. Bull's no proof at all!

Dr. M. Bull charges in a handbill from the whig Argus Office, inserted also in the Argus; that David Wilmot, Esq., for a bribe of the paltry sum of \$500, undertook to secure the election of William Willard to Congress in 1838 and his proof is first as to the nomination. Mr. Bull writes to Wm. B. Storm that he is "informed by a credible source that in 1838, an agreement was entered into by William Willard, late of Tioga county, and David Wilmot, Esq., of this county—that the latter was to receive \$500, in the event that he could procure the nomination of the former, for a seat in Congress, and that the money was actually placed in your hands, by Mr. Willard, in pursuance of the agreement with Mr. Wilmot—to be paid over immediately on his return from the Conference at Covington, provided Mr. Willard received the nomination." W. B. Storm is represented as saying in reply that he supposed that matter a secret; that he did not feel justified in saying what he might say of the arrangement referred to; and that there are circumstances where promises are made which should not be broken. This discovery (of promises not to be broken) is one which, if really made at last by W. B. Storm, ought to astonish him as much as the people of this district. If the charge insinuated by him had been stated directly, or sworn to, not a man in the three counties would have hesitated to pronounce it false; as it is, some hope is evidently indulged of credence by hinting a charge and affecting a return to veracity. No innuendo herein contained goes farther than to imply that Willard employed Storm to bribe Wilmot to procure his nomination and that he, Storm, failed in his attempted villany; for the facts are notorious through the five counties, then in the district, that Wilmot voted to exclude the Potter conferees friendly to Willard; that this was the test vote in the conference, deciding the result against Willard, and that Wilmot voted for Morris, against every effort to swerve him in favor of Tioga's pretension to bring forward Willard improperly. The idea of impeaching David Wilmot upon the testimony of Wm. B. Storm is so preposterous as to make us feel the degradation of noticing it; David Wilmot, than whom there is not a more honorable man in the three counties; Wm. B. Storm! Cashier of the Towanda Bank brought up to prove that Wilmot sold himself to the U. S. Bank! Wm. B. Storm! a man now bound over, according to the police reports of Philadelphia, to take his trial for a States prison crime, a man who foreswore himself here, and acknowledged it, by making sworn returns of a keg of cents as a keg of silver, though he did not acknowledge who had the benefit of the change; and who has escaped an indictment for perjury only by public forbearance; a man so gross in his outrages as to have been obliged to leave a public room, when last in this borough to save his ears! This is the man D. M. Bull brings as a witness to prove a bribe upon an honest man.

The other point in the proof is that Wilmot tried to defeat the election after the nomination. This is well known to be false. We will only submit the statements of Aaron Chubbuck, of Orwell, Piethonary, and some of the best citizens of our borough, to the people of Towanda, Sept. 28, 1844.

Messrs. Ebrons.—In answer to inquiries in reference to the course of Mr. Wilmot at the late election of Judge Morris to represent this district in Congress, I would just state, that late in the day on Monday previous to the election, Mr. Wilmot called on me at my residence, in Orwell, and informed me that he had come on purpose to ascertain whether the tickets for Judge Morris had been distributed in the eastern townships; being

coming satisfied that they had been distributed in all the eastern townships except Herrick, and fearing that no tickets for Judge Morris were there, he employed a man at his own expense to carry some to that district the same evening. He said that a great effort was being made to defeat Judge Morris, and that it would be necessary to make every proper and honorable exertion to prevent his defeat. Respectfully yours, &c. AARON CHUBBUCK.

The subscribers, Democratic citizens of the borough of Towanda, recollect distinctly that on the day of the General Election in 1838, David Wilmot Esq. took an active part for Samuel W. Morris the democratic candidate for Congress and further, that we have no knowledge of any attempt by Mr. Wilmot to cast off the name of Mr. Morris and foist that of William Willard at the head of the paper in place of the regular nominee, and we wholly discredit such an imputation. E. S. Goodrich, D. F. Barstow, David Casti, E. W. Baird, Geo. Sanderson, D. Bartlett, T. B. Overton, J. F. Means, D. Vandercook.

I was the colleague of David Wilmot in the conference which met at Covington in the fall of 1838, and placed in nomination Samuel W. Morris as a candidate for Congress. There were double sets of conferees from Tioga, Potter and McKean. One set from each of these counties, who were in favor of Morris, and another, who were in favor of Willard. There was much dissension and contest as to who should be received and admitted into the conference. The conferees from Susquehanna, Wm. Hartley and Asa Dimock, and those from Bradford, Mr. Wilmot and myself, organized and proceeded first, to the consideration of the contested seats from Tioga, and by a unanimous vote admitted the two Willard conferees from that county. We then in order, disposed of the contested seats from Potter, and McKean, admitting from both of those counties the conferees friendly to Samuel W. Morris. The two conferees from Tioga, the friends of Willard, protested against the proceedings, and retired from the conference; after which Mr. Morris was unanimously nominated. Throughout the whole of the proceedings, and on every vote, Mr. Wilmot acted uniformly with the friends of Mr. Morris. I regard any attempt to throw doubt over his position in that conference as groundless and unjust. I acted with him on all questions, as did also Dimock and Hartley, and if he showed in that conference, any partiality for Willard, we must have been guilty of the same, for at no time were we divided in our actions. ABIRAM PIERCE, October 1, 1844.

The undersigned was in Towanda on the day before the election of 1838, and recollect distinctly of learning that Wilmot and Tozer had put a stop to a paper which Beebe had attempted to issue in favor of Willard. I saw and conversed with Mr. Wilmot, and he appeared to be anxious for the success of the regular candidate, Morris. He started that day East with tickets for Morris for fear they had not been sent, and I took tickets for my own township. JOHN LAPORTE.

I was present in the store of Goodrich & Bull, on the day of the general election of 1838, when David M. Bull started for the polls to vote, taking with him his tickets; and remarking in reference to the Congressman, that he would have to vote for his friend Mr. Willard, though he had cheated him out of \$300. E. O'MEARA GOODRICH.

The subscribers, now and in 1838, citizens of Monroe township, where Gen. Patton has never been a citizen, have seen an affidavit in the Bradford Argus signed W. Patton, exculpating himself unaccountably from a charge against David Wilmot and others, carefully named, in relation to the Congressional election of 1838, in which he has volunteered the following statement that no one had told him what the plan was, and the first intimation he had of it was his discovery of the substitution of the name of Wm. Willard on the printed sheets of tickets in Monroe township, and that he cut off and burnt the tickets for Willard, and wrote tickets in the place of these sufficient to supply the democratic voters of Monroe township, and distributed a large portion of them among the voters of that township with his own hands. It is distinctly within our remembrance, that Col. G. F. Mason brought

to the polls of Monroe township, in good season, the proper quota of votes for Morris; that we and others distributed them "with our own hands"—that all who would take them; and that there was no lack of regularly-printed Morris votes for all on the ground, the whole day. H. S. SALSBUURY, G. F. MASON, A. L. CRANMER, E. MASON.

The charge by D. M. Bull that David Wilmot Esq., voted as a delegate in the County Convention for Chester! Shows in violation of the positive injunctions of his constituents to vote for Ira H. Stephens "is known to the undersigned, who was defeated at the delegate election on this question as Stephens' friend, to be a gross misrepresentation." Sept. 28, 1844. J. F. MEANS.

I fully concur in the above statement and beg to add, that I believe Bull's further charge that Wilmot attempted to get Chester Thomas on the ticket for Sheriff under a bargain and sale arrangement by which he was to be benefitted to a large amount "a wholly unfounded slander." I. H. STEPHENS.

The undersigned, who, as conferees from Bradford met conferees from Tioga to nominate a Senator in the fall of 1843, when Mr. Sherwood was nominated, pronounce the charge by D. M. Bull that David Wilmot Esq., attempted to defeat that nomination wholly unfounded. GEO. SCOTT, STEPHEN PIERCE, Sept. 27th, 1844.

The subscribers, conferees from Bradford co., to meet conferees from Tioga for the selection of a Senatorial delegate to the Convention for nominating a candidate for Governor in March 1844, declare that they carried out the views of their constituency, to the best of their ability and that the charge by D. M. Bull against David Wilmot Esq., of this successful attempt to deprive John W. Guernsey Esq., of a seat in the State Convention universally conceded by Bradford to Tioga "is in all particulars false." CHAS. STOCKWELL, E. W. MORGAN, Sept. 28, 1844.

CONGRESSMAN.

The Congressional elections in Pennsylvania are full of interest to the people of this State and Union. Under the new administration of the general government the grave and important questions must be settled and adjusted. It therefore becomes the imperative duty of the democracy of this Congressional district to make an effort commensurate with the importance of the measures involved in the struggle now going on.—David Wilmot Esq., has been unanimously nominated for Congress by the republicans of this district. This nomination has received a cordial and enthusiastic response from the people. At no previous time has the democracy of Bradford County stood forth with so bold an array of strength, as is now presented in support of Mr. Wilmot. His personal character is above reproach. The shafts of federalism which have been so abundantly showered around him, have fallen harmless at his feet. The puny efforts of D. M. Bull to reach the personal and political character of Mr. W. renders him (Bull) as much the subject of pity, of scorn and contempt. His efforts are scattered to the winds; and he himself has fallen below the notice of honorable men, in his vile and unworthy efforts to present himself to the people as a candidate for Congress. Whether the federal party in Bradford will pick up Mr. Bull and make him their Congressional candidate, we have not the means of knowing; nor is it a matter of any consequence to the democracy of this district, what disposition the whigs make of this unfortunate man. The democracy will rally with united energy upon their own candidate—the man whom they nominated by acclamation. The man who is eminently entitled to their confidence and gallant support. To the polls then, republicans, and by your votes admonish apostates that honesty is the best policy. In a word of caution, we say to our friends in Bradford, Susquehanna and Tioga, pay no regard to any representation made by D. M. Bull or his federal allies, in relation to the Democratic candidate. The Republican party are in high spirits, and are prepared to elect Mr. Wilmot by such a majority over D. M. Bull, as will constitute the feelings of a man of common sensibility, and triumphantly annihilate the hopes of federalism in this Congressional District.