

Bradford Reporter

Towanda, Wednesday, Oct. 7, 1846.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER,
WILLIAM B. FOSTER, JR.
OF BRADFORD COUNTY.

Democratic County Nominations.

FOR CONGRESS,
DAVID WILMOT, of Towanda.

FOR SENATOR,
GORDON F. MASON, of Monroe.

FOR REPRESENTATIVES,
JOHN L. WEBB, of Smithfield.

VICTOR E. PILOLET, of Wyoming.

FOR COMMISSIONERS,
JOHN H. BLACK, of Wyoming.

FOR AUDITOR,
LEMUEL S. MAYWARD, of Home.

General Election, Tuesday, October 13th, 1846.

Mr. CHARLES W. CUMMINS is authorized to act as our Agent, in procuring, and receiving advance payments from new subscribers. Mr. C. is also an Agent for Godey's publications.

Wilmot and White—A New Issue.

The last Argus raises a new issue between Hon. D. Wilmot and R. G. White, and federalism, as it existed in the days of the Elder Adams, again puts forth its monstrous propositions of tests and property qualifications. We have always been taught that it was mind that makes the man; but according to the old federal doctrine the Argus, it is "property." Mr. Wilmot is to be stricken down, and why? What has he done to disfanchise himself? Reader, will you believe it! the Argus says "he has not a domicil in the district which he is seeking to represent!" This is then the offence. You are to be denied the glorious privilege of voting for your favorite. Democrats, we will tell you why Mr. Wilmot is thus proscribed by the money chancers—it is because he, so patriotically and eloquently stood up on the floor of Congress in defense of the laboring community, because he hurled defiance with a much effect against that power that would crush to earth the "tolling millions" of our race! And now this same power speaking through the Bradford Argus tells you not to vote for Mr. Wilmot, notwithstanding all the service he has rendered you—BECAUSE HE IS POOR! Oh, shame where is thy blush. The Argus says that "Mr. White's claims are based upon considerations of property" (!) which his opponent (Mr. Wilmot) does not possess!

Now we have no objection to Mr. White's being a very rich man. If Mr. White is rich, and Mr. Wilmot poor, it is their business, not ours. We do not oppose that gentleman because of his wealth, nor will the laboring community permit their favorite Mr. Wilmot, to be humbled to the dust because he is poor. Mr. White has taken his course in the world, he has been employed by the aristocracy—Mr. Wilmot by the masses. The sympathies of Mr. White have been with the few, Mr. Wilmot, with the many. Mr. White is the attorney for the European landholders who are immensely rich and giving great. Mr. Wilmot is the attorney for the Settlers, who are poor and can pay but little.

The Argus has the vile effrontery to come forward now and ask the settlers of the country, the poor men to support Mr. White, because he has drawn money from the landholders to oppress them. Mr. Wilmot must be opposed because he has not amassed a fortune as the attorney of the landed aristocracy of England! Again we say, "Oh, shame where is thy blush!" Fellow citizens we leave the matter with you, but beg for once to prophecy that the Argus will find that its "property qualifications" invested in this congressional election is not good stock. Well have the people of Springfield in a letter inviting Mr. Wilmot to be with them, dated September 15, signed by over one hundred of the intelligent settlers of that township, said "the pioneers of this township know and feel that your sympathies are with them." This spontaneous movement of the patriotic yeomanry of the country has carried terror and dismay into the very midst of the enemy's camp. It has created consternation and alarm in the ranks of those who would make property a test, rather than intelligence and integrity.

Which Is True?

The Argus in attempting to extiricate Gen. Patton from our charge that he procured extras from that office on the morning after the election for President in 1844, to send abroad to his Whig friends, says "This story is all knocked in head by the fact that we issued no slips or hand-bills at the time specified."

Gen. Patton says in his Bradford Settler, over his own signature—"In 1844, the Whig paper happened to publish the election returns before the Reporter did, and I got some slips containing the returns and sent them to a number of the United States Senators."

What a pity the General could not have seen the statement of the Argus, denying daily that it ever published any such slip. It might have given a different face to his acknowledgment that he did procure them at that office to send to his Whig friends. We leave the master to be settled among themselves—and the public will judge who has told the biggest truth.

Coincidence.

Col. Lusk's "Advocate" and Gen. Patton's "Settler," both dated the 3d inst., are almost literal transcripts of each other. The Advocate purports to be published at Montrose—the Settler at Towanda. Yet the articles are the same, the type is the same, and the form the same; and in fact, were both worked off in Col. Lusk's office on the same form, only changing the head. Let no Democrat be deceived by the false, hypocritical pretensions of these enemies in disguise. They wear the cloak of Democracy to cover their hideous deformity, while they are secretly endeavoring to say the foundations of democratic principles, and overthrow the regular nominations of the party. Let them receive no countenance or favor from Democrats. Spurn them from your doors, and let them derive their sustenance only from the hands of their masters—the enemies of Democracy.

Choose Yet!

The papers which advocate the election of Mr. White tell us he is the Attorney of the Binghams estate! the most extensive landed interest in northern Pennsylvania. "We tell you, and the truth of our assertion will not be denied, that Mr. Wilmot refused to be employed by this same estate, preferring to give his services to the settlers. Settlers, choose for yourselves!"

Property Qualifications—White Discrines.

The Federal party in this country, it seems, are never to agree that favorite doctrine—"property qualifications." The Federal creed is that property makes the man, that the possession of property is also a necessary qualification for office. In our own state, the Federalists would not even allow a man to become a citizen unless he is a property holder. This is the old federal doctrine in the United States. Earnestly have they labored to create privileged orders of men founded on the anti-American distinction. The great landholders in England have their tenants, who in fact, are mere serfs, without immunities, and deprived of either personal or political consideration. It is a subject deeply to be regretted, that we should have a political party, or even individuals who are anxious to introduce a system calculated to degrade the poor man in our own country and reduce them to a level with the vassals of Europe. The extreme landholders in England, who are also immense landholders in the United States, would unquestionably rejoice at the "settlers" here in a position of tenants at will; but we had a right to hope that no man entertaining proper feelings as a Pennsylvanian would presume so far upon public credulity as to suggest directly the necessity of property qualifications, in order to make one of our citizens eligible for public trust:

To this tyrannizing process, Democracy offers her solemn protest. It is the voice of democracy that all, the rich and the poor, shall enjoy equal rights and privileges, equal political immunities.

In a national point of view, and indeed in a political point of view, it may be regretted, that Pennsylvania should have parted with so much of her domain to the English aristocracy; men who have no sympathy in common with our people. Aliens to our institutions, in fact and in feeling. Ours is a great agricultural country—it is congenial therefore, with sound political economy that the public domain be converted into farms, by the men whose toil and sweat must elevate it from a rugged wilderness to fruitful fields—whose intelligence, industry and patriotism is to earn for it a character worthy the endearing name of home.

Look into northern Pennsylvania. Look into the borders of our own immediate neighborhood, and see whose toil, whose intelligence and economy it is that has created one of the finest farming countries in the world. There is no difficulty in answering this question. It is the settlers; the ever worthy pioneers of our country; men who are in possession of from one to four hundred acres of land. Their toil, their bone and muscle have given a high character to the country; and are these men, forsooth, because they have not been able to pay the original purchase money for their lands, to be converted into *tenants at will*, and treated like English vassals? We reassert the sentiment of regret that the government of Pennsylvania should have parted with so large a part of her domain, except to *actual settlers*; for it does not comport with the spirit of our free institutions that such immense portion of our soil should be owned by a few aliens. Indeed, it is more congenial that our soil be partitioned into farms and *owned* by those whose honorable employment it is to cultivate the earth. We do not wish to be misunderstood in this matter; in the general view we would inculcate, we believe the grounds we have taken are tenable and will meet the sanction of every intelligent mind.

The doctrine of *property qualifications* in America, is most odious; it is an insidious attempt to effect indirectly here, the same state of things that has so long been the scourge of Europe. To create classes of men founded upon "considerations of property"—to aver that one man is entitled to our respect and suffrage because he has wealth, and that another should receive our opposition because it is his fortune to be poor. Such sentiments are unworthy the name and character of our government, and cannot fail to receive, a stern and overwhelming condemnation and rebuke at the hands of a community of freemen.

We must be permitted to express our astonishment that the friends of Mr. White have seen proper to take grounds so grossly reprehensible, so utterly repugnant to American feelings, and so insulting to every man in the community who cannot boast of wealth. If such doctrines are to prevail, we may bid a long farewell to freedom. If none but men of wealth can be elected to office, we have already outlived the liberties of our country.—

REPUBLICANS! you have to meet, single-handed and alone, all this array of power, of money, and its destructive influence. Truth is mighty, and under its inspiring banner you will go forth to duty and to victory. We rejoice to know that every democrat will be on the ground to meet, expose and confront every devised plan and sacrifice of the enemy, open and cover. The great effort with democrats now, is to see who can and who will do the most on the day of the election for the success of their principles and candidates. All are rallying like men bent on a glorious victory. The triumphant re-election of your Congressional candidate will reflect high credit upon yourselves, and will be hailed by our friends throughout the State and Union, as a proud triumph of the best interests of a common country.

In order to injure Mr. Tracy, the Whig candidate for Senator, the locofocos are circulating the story that he is in favor of David Wilmot for Congress. This is not so. Mr. Tracy is an open and avowed Tariff man, and, of course is in favor of the tariff candidate for Congress.

We clip the above from the Argus, the Organ of the Whigs and Disorganizers.

The *locofocos* are circulating no such story.—It is a game of the enemy—and the cry of "stop thief" is made to divert attention from the tricks they are practicing to delude the honest yeomanry. We have been credibly informed that Mr. Tracy himself, and many of his friends also, have, in their electioneering peregrinations in Democratic neighborhoods, professed to be Mr. Wilmot's friends, and even intimated that they would prefer Mr. Wilmot's election. This we presume the Editors of the Argus knew, and hence, true to their instincts they must misrepresent and deceive—they know that such means have been resorted to by Mr. Tracy's friends, and they know the people know it; so they cry out most loudly, "the locofocos are telling such a story, don't believe it."

Our Representative Ticket.

It is conceded on all hands that Messrs. Webb and Piollet will be re-elected by a large majority. Their course in the Legislature is approved by their constituents. As Representatives, they were industrious, faithful and attentive to the interests of the people they represented. Every important law that was asked for by their constituents, was procured through their influence and skill as legislators; and we know that important measures of reform, vastly curtailing the expenses of the people were introduced and carried by them. In all their legislative labors they studied the people's interest, and labored most assiduously and successfully to accomplish measures for their promotion. And the people will not now abandon them; when experience has confirmed, upon them another qualification to serve them more efficiently. The people seek no change, and least of all, a change from tried, faithful servants, who have the benefit of age and experience, and have proved themselves true to their constituents, for the experiment of sending the young gentlemen upon the Whig ticket.

We have great respect for Messrs. Myer and Fassett as citizens and personal friends. But the office is not for their benefit. It is the people's—The Representatives are the people's servants; and it behoves them in choosing their servants, to select those who are best qualified to carry out their will. In this respect every consideration is on the side of the Democratic candidates.

The Whig candidates are both young men, totally inexperienced in matters of legislation, which, of necessity, embarrass and retard all their efforts, however honestly directed, for nearly an entire session. While the democratic nominees, with more age, and the experience of one winter's service, would be prepared and able to accomplish all their constituents ask at their hands without embarrassment or delay.

There is but one side to this question. The people require the re-election of Messrs. Webb and Piollet, and will proclaim it to the world on Tuesday next.

The Bradford Settler.

We informed our readers last week, that Gen. Patton had sent his printers to Monroe to get out a piratical paper to be called "The Bradford Settler," and cautioned our democratic friends against its false pretensions. The Bradford Settler has made its appearance. We have one before us. It is, as we predicted, filled with "sound and fury" against the Democratic candidate for Congress, and all sorts of falsehoods and misrepresentations to deceive the people and induce them to vote with the Whigs for the opposition candidate.

The Bradford Settler purports to be published in this Borough, which in itself, is a falsehood and fraud upon the people. No such paper has been published here. It was got out in Col. Lusk's office at Monroe, for the special purpose of giving vent to Gen. Patton's venom; and the master requisite to fill up the sheet is the same that appeared in Col. Lusk's paper last week.

The bandit is the illegitimate offspring of degenerate parents, without a local habitation, and on that ground declined going to Harrisburg.—According to my best recollection your name did not occur in my letter; and I know and state unequivocally, that I never wrote to Mr. Cook or any body else, that you and Col. Piollet received or were to receive from Mr. Willard five hundred dollars each. Any such statement circulated over my name or upon my pretended authority, is a FORGERY and FALSEHOOD. H. A. BEEDEE.

Senator.

The Tioga Herald is endeavoring to create a prejudice against Mr. Mason among the Settlers, because he happens to own a few hundred acres of unclaimed lands. If the Herald had correct information on this subject and would keep to the line, we could have no objection to all it might say.

Most of the unclaimed lands owned by Col. Mason are coal and iron lands, purchased by him expressly for the purpose of opening the mines and supplying our market with coal; and at the proper season establishing the manufacture of iron. We hope that neither the settlers or tariff men will object to him on this account.

It is also true that Col. Mason has recently purchased a small tract of land, which is contracted out to settlers. But who complains of this?—Do the settlers on the lands? Who has been injured by the transfer of the title from Philadelphia Landholders to citizen of, and among the settlers themselves? One to whom they can pay much easier than the former owner. One who is ready, and willing to receive their cattle and produce instead of exacting *per cent* in every instance. We believe the settlers on these lands are not only perfectly satisfied with Col. Mason, but dear if fortunate for them and their interests that he has become the purchaser.

We might retort. We might tell of the Judgments and Executions in favor of Henry W. Tracy, on almost all the land in his neighborhood. We might tell of a tale unfold of the many farms he has added to his domain by means of *Sheriff's Sales*, until he owns nearly all the land adjoining him. But let it pass—merely hinting to our Whig friends, that the quicker you can let that subject rest, the better for your candidate.

Beware of Falsehood!

We have received information from a reliable source, that the leaders of the disorganizers in this county, have been for some weeks secretly circulating a story that Hiram A. Beebe, late editor of the Banner & Democat of this county, had written a letter to Mr. McCook, of Bribery notoriety, stating that pending the election of Judge Morris for Congress, in 1838, Mr. Wilmot and Col. Piollet sold themselves to Willard, the opposing candidate.

We have not referred to the subject before, for the reason that we had understood Mr. Wilmot had written to Mr. Beebe on the subject, and we preferred to give his own statement to the public.

We now have the pleasure of laying before our readers, Mr. Beebe's reply, which gives the tie direct to any such imputation, and stamps the whole transaction as an infamous fraud and forgery.

WESTFIELD, Sept. 24, 1846.

DEAR SIR.—I have this moment taken your letter from the Post Office, and hasten to reply.

Mr. McCook had been informed that I was in possession of certain facts which might invalidate Col. Piollet's testimony in the suit against him for bribery; and he desired my attendance as a witness.

I write him that I was satisfied I knew of nothing which would be of any avail or benefit to him, and on that ground declined going to Harrisburg.—

According to my best recollection your name did not occur in my letter; and I know and state unequivocally, that I never wrote to Mr. Cook or any body else, that you and Col. Piollet received or were to receive from Mr. Willard five hundred dollars each. Any such statement circulated over my name or upon my pretended authority, is a FORGERY and FALSEHOOD. H. A. BEEDEE.

Genuine Whig Principles.

Gen. Patton is on the regular Whig track.

He says in his *Pirate*—"We hold to regular nominations, but when the people find that their candidate is opposed to their interests, then the nomination becomes irregular." The people had not time to investigate Mr. Wilmot's course, until after the delegate elections, or they would have opposed his re-nomination.

Exceedingly modest. *The people had not time to investigate Mr. Wilmot's course.* In other words, the people are ignorant, they don't read nor understand what their representatives are doing. It takes the General to enlighten them; and as he did not move until after the election of delegates—but actually voted for delegates for Mr. Wilmot himself—the people were doomed to remain in ignorance, blinded—tied hand and foot, until the General, Sampson-like burst the bands asunder and proclaimed liberty to the captives.

What a comment upon the weakness and presumption of a man, a prey to selfish and unscrupulous passion.

Since Mr. Wilmot returned from Congress, Gen. P. of his own free will and accord, said to him, he should vote for his re-election; but this was before the delegate election—and we presume the General had not had time to investigate his course. At the delegate election the General voted for delegates known as the open and avowed friends of Mr. Wilmot; but we presume he had not then had time to investigate Mr. Wilmot's course.

But the General has awakened from his Rip Van Winkle slumber, and the work of the ignorant delegates who did not understand Mr. Wilmot's course, but voted *unanimously* for his re-nomination, is to be knocked into a cocked hat by his superior intelligence, sagacity and prowess.

County Commissioner.

We understand the Whigs are hoping to elect their candidate for Commissioner by enticing democratic voters to go for Mr. Briggs through sympathy, and because he is a "clever fellow." We hope no democrat will suffer himself to abandon his party principles, or vote against any of its regular nominations on account of personal friendship, or social neighborhood relations. We have a high respect for Mr. Briggs, and would go as far to do him a kindness as any other friend, where it did not compromise principle; but he is now before the people as the candidate of the federal party for an important office, and if elected will in its administration carry out federal principles. The office of Commissioner contains three years, and to place a federalist in it, is to give to him the power to operate during that time for the overthrow of the Democratic party, and the prostration of its principles.

There is, perhaps, no position in the county affording a more efficient field for operations than the one to which Mr. Briggs aspires. We appeal to our democratic friends to abandon him, and leave him to his fate.

I was never party to a Canal contract directly or indirectly but in one instance. That was the contract to build the Calvert on See. 23, taken when Wm. Keefer was Superintendent, and Eliz. Noble, Clerk. When Wilmot was Clerk, Mr. Foster changed the structure of the contract, abandoned my contract, re-titled the work, and the job passed to others.

Gen. P. will please apply his yarwick, and tell us how far this operation tended to make him a Democrat! as I confess myself entirely unable to apply his mode of seeing Democracy.

Canal books are within the reach of Gen. Patton; if I have accused him wrongfully, he has the means of exposing me. If I have not, he would do himself justice, by correcting his error like a gentleman.

Dowell, October 3, 1846.

J. A. BISHOP.

Wright and Gardner have been re-nominated by the Democratic State Convention of New York.

Deception Their Only Weapon.

General Patton is traversing Tioga county, determined to defeat Mr. Wilmot at all hazards—this he knows, can never doubt open and fair issue before the people. Hence he resorts to every species of misrepresentation and falsehood to create prejudices which he knows can not be sustained by truth. Among other things, we are told he represents Mr. Wilmot as opposed to the interest of the Settlers, alleging that he voted in Congress against their rights. Mr. Wilmot needs nothing to shield him against this calumny—but the naked truth. Let the truth be told, as Gen. P. knows it to exist, and it will show that Mr