

## MONTROSE DEMOCRAT.

MONTROSE, Thursday, Oct. 2, '51.

### A Picture Faithfully Drawn and True to the Life.

Hon. C. R. BUCKALEW, the talented Senator from Columbia county, in a speech made at Bloomsburg, on the 11th of August last, when referring to the arrogant pretensions of Gov Johnston and his friends in the claim set up by them that his Excellency had projected and started a Sinking Fund peculiarly his own, and that he is paying off the State debt, most clearly exposes the fallacy. He strips the Governor of his borrowed plumeage, and with a half prophetic vision exposes the pomp and parade which would accompany the Governor's first proclamation on this subject. That part relating to the "large type" and "great seal" have actually come to pass. The proclamation which was required by law in an official duty, is paraded in all the Whig organs, under the extended wings of the American eagle, in glowing capitals, with hands pointing to its head, as if the whole public debt has become extinguished F. through the great financial skill of Wm. F. Johnston alone, and that nothing now remained but to read the Governor's proclamation of his great and marvellous achievements. Fancy yourself out of debt with no taxes to pay. Eat, drink and be happy as long as the delusion lasts. But we set out to give an extract from the Senator's able speech, to which we will now introduce the reader:

Why then does the 4th section of the act of 1849, which I just read, provide that a report shall be made by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund at an unusual time instead of the usual time in January? Why on the first of September, during the fiscal year of the State, and not at its close? Why is this report to be made every third year, and the first report exactly on the 1st of September, 1851?

The purpose was to re-elect Wm. F. Johnston.

Indeed, the act was passed 10th of April, 1849, and that these reports

ought to be made in the first section, were to be made at the end of every third year. But three years from the passage of the act would extend to the 10th of April, 1852, six months after the Governor's election this fall; in consideration of which circumstance, doubtless, the time of making the report was pulled backward and fixed on the first of September.

How bountifully the matter was arranged to effect the purpose intended; and how clearly may this fourth section enlighten us as to the intention and purpose entertained in 1849. The main object was not to befriend the people of Pennsylvania in the payment of their debt, but to re-elect an Armstrong county lawyer—the father of relief notes and the friend of the abolitionists—to the office of Governor. You will observe that this triennial report is to be made not to the Legislature, where such reports appropriately belong, but to the Governor; that up to the time of such report the debt paid off is considered unpaid and draws interest; that upon receiving the report the Governor is to order the cancellation or destruction of the certificates of debt, so that the actual extinguishment of debt shall appear as his act; and that thereupon just six weeks before the election, he shall issue a flaming proclamation to the people announcing the payment of so much of the public debt. And when we are told that Gov. Johnston and his wonderful Sinking Fund have done the business! And that the financial abilities of the Executive are at least equal to those of Alexander Hamilton and Wm. Pitt. Do you not perceive that in pursuance of the intention in view the Governor struck the key-note of the music in his speech at Lancaster, and has been followed by his file leaders all over the State in a panan of praise to the Sinking Fund? It was desirable to direct the public mind beforehand in such manner as to give a full and salutary effect to the September proclamation? That wonderful sentiment, gentlemen, is soon coming, in all the bentity of large type and under the great seal of commonwealth. It will become us to persevere with thankfulness and gratitude, and to recollect that it is the production of a sublime personage who has hatched a project from his competitor, and prepared it for electioneering purposes,

Stover or Fresh at BENICIA.—On Saturday, the 20th inst., a shower of meat fell at the army station near Benicia, which was first observed by Major Allen, who was struck by one of the falling pieces. The shower lasted two or three minutes. The pieces were from the size of a pigeon's egg up to that of an orange—the heaviest perhaps, weighing three ounces. No birds were visible in the air at the time. Specimens of this meat, which is apparently beef, were preserved by Major Allen and the surgeon of the post. A piece that was examined three hours after it fell, showed a portion of a small blood vessel, some of the sheath of a muscle and muscular fibre. It was slightly tainted. The ground on which the shower fell, was about three hundred yards long and eighty wide, and the entire amount of meat, between two and a half and five bushels, in bulk. No pieces of bone were found. A strong wind from the west was blowing at the time, and the skies were clear. This is the third occurrence of the kind on record in the last six years.

The theories heretofore in vogue as to the cause of such phenomena, would seem to be negatived by the accounts given of this instance. We trust the surgeon of the post will publish his observations on the subject, both for the benefit of science and the satisfaction of public curiosity—California Paper.

There are \$20 bills on the Bank of Chenango, Elmira, altered from ones, and in circulation. The figures 20 are pasted on the upper corners and the word twenty on the lower. They have just made their appearance and are well calculated to deceive.

Ex-President Van Buren has recently been on a fishing excursion in the southern part of Vermont. He is sixty-seven years of age, and is as buoyant and elastic now as he was twenty years ago. One reason perhaps is, that he has not drunk intoxicating liquors in the last thirty years and is remarkably regular in everything save his politics.

## THE DEMOCRAT.

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