

THE PORTER.

E. S. GOODRICH,
GEO. SANDERSON, } Editors.

Wednesday, January 24, 1844.

For President in 1844,
COL. RICHARD M. JOHNSON,
OF KENTUCKY.

[Subject to decision of a National Convention.]

All accounts due for subscriptions, advertising job work &c., at this office prior to the 4th of December last, MUST be settled, at least—next February court will afford an excellent opportunity for those knowing themselves indebted to call and save costs!

Country Produce of most descriptions received at the market price.

The Presidency.

In many of the counties in this state, numerous meetings have been held since the declination of Hon. J. Buchanan, favorable to the nomination of Col. R. M. Johnson. This is the sentiment of the democracy of Pennsylvania, now that Mr. Buchanan has withdrawn; had he not withdrawn, he would have received the unanimous vote of the Pennsylvania delegation. It is equally true, that Col. Johnson was her second choice then and her first now. We are not mistaken in the sentiments of the democracy of Bradford upon this subject, neither are we mistaken, when we say that the party in no section of the country, will more cheerfully abide by and adhere to the nomination of the National Convention, than the Democracy of this county. Until Col. Johnson declines, his friends in this county will stick to him; nor suffer the scar-seathed hero to be deserted. This question will come before our county convention at February court, and it behooves the friends of Col. R. M. Johnson to be wide awake, and if Bradford is alone in vindicating the claims of Richard M. Johnson; remember as she was the first to do it, she will be the last to relinquish them.

We wish we could speak more flattering of the prospects of Col. Johnson. We have for some time become satisfied that unless a considerable change takes place, Martin Van Buren is again to be our candidate, and that too with great unanimity. The uprising of the democracy from one part of the Union to the other, to assert their rights, out of which they were cheated and defrauded in 1840, is as enthusiastic as it is simultaneous. In the event of his nomination, the democracy of this county will again buckle on the armor in his defence, and struggle as valiantly as they did in 1840, and with greater success by one hundred more majority.

State Printer.

The allegations of fraud, contained in the Governor's message, against I. G. McKinley, the state printer, and in the means used to secure his election, has resulted in the appointment of a joint committee of investigation, with power to send for persons and papers. Like most investigations of the kind, it is likely to turn out a farce, at the expense of some thousands to the people. We are surprised at the inexcusable, vacillating and humiliating course taken by some of the Senators. If the legislature thought seriously enough of the charges of fraud in the election of state printer to investigate that matter, it is their prerogative to do it. But it seems that they consider it indispensable in order to remove one of the obstacles to the approval of the state printer's bonds by the Executive. This consideration we think has nothing to do with the object of an investigation; the executive ought either forthwith approve of them, if sufficient, or the legislature should authorize some one who would. Then if the election is a fraud, there would be no binding force in the contract, and like every thing tainted with fraud, it would be nullity. The executive says there are no state printers, then why this investigation? will the investigation make state printers, if there are none now? But say some grave senators, the election was held, and we are for investigating it; But the executive says there was no election, because held on the 15th of April. What difference does it make with the legislature, whether fraud was practiced or not; if there was no election, there is an end of the matter. If it is decided there was no fraud, and then it should be decided there was no election, the time of the legislature and the money of the people would be wasted to

no purpose. We are glad to notice a move made in the house to authorize the speaker to approve of the bonds. This is right and should have been done at first.

Plain Talk.

A new paper has recently been started in Philadelphia called the "Voice of the Democracy." Its chief object is to promote the claims of F. R. Shunk for Governor and abuse every other Candidate for the nomination. It is published at the office of the American Sentinel, and undoubtedly controlled by the clique that hover around that press for plunder. The Sentinel is the organ of Tyler's administration in this state, and of the conservatives generally. This new paper is vituperative in its abuse of H. A. Muhlenburg. It is expected that this kind of indignity towards Mr. M. will induce his friends to resent, and thereby distract the party. It is useless for the friends of Mr. Shunk to attempt a thing of this kind; indeed they who do attempt it, are not the friends of Mr. Shunk; we cannot believe this kind of treatment towards Mr. M. has his approbation; although the consequences may recoil on him.

The Wilksbarre Farmer introduces this new paper to the acquaintance of its readers accompanied with some "plain talk." There can be no doubt about the desperate efforts of the conservative portion in this state to defeat Mr. Muhlenburg. The editor says:—

"For a new paper, this 'Voice of the Democracy,' affects no unnecessary modesty, and not satisfied with pushing its own candidate, it must lavish abuse and insidious reflections on Mr. Muhlenburg. The design of this assault upon Mr. M., we perfectly understand to be two-fold; to cast a fire brand into the democratic ranks, and excite strife, under the belief, that any alteration in the aspect of the campaign, in Eastern Pennsylvania, must add to the chances of its favorite, whose prospects at present, are hopeless indeed, and secondly, after raising the storm, to declare that neither Mr. M., or Mr. S., can be elected, if nominated, and propose to the Convention, in their place, some low, sneaking Conservative, who would deliver up the government, into the insatiable maws of that faction, of which the Sentinel is the organ. This is the whole secret of the Conservative Sentinel, and its tenders abuse of Mr. Muhlenburg. But for once we are disposed to balk the humor of this insidious clique, which could only be gratified by Mr. Muhlenburg's friends casting the same mean, personal reflections upon Mr. Shunk, which the Sentinel's tender has, resumed to do upon Mr. M. But we will say to the American Sentinel, and its pilot fish, 'The Voice of the Democracy,' that the people of this Commonwealth, are determined to shake off the whole of that sneaking and corrupt, that sordid and perfidious, combination of Conservatives, who have, to gratify their own rapacious and insatiable appetites, reduced our beloved state to bankruptcy and dishonor. They are convinced that the Commonwealth has reached the turning point of her fortunes, from which she must either be redeemed promptly, by the steady hand of integrity and patriotism, or be plunged, through the machinations of the vulture hord of conservatism, into inextinguishable insolvency. This redemption, it is perfectly understood, that combination of men, are determined to prevent, in order that they may still draw from her exhausted fountains, the vital fluid, as the child laps at the breast of its slain mother. But the people are awake for once—awakened only by the appalling emergency to which they have been reduced; and, cost what it may, the American Sentinel, its tender and the whole infernal conservative gang, who have rioted like grave worms, in the very bowels of the Commonwealth, until they have despoiled her, of all but life, may understand that it is determined that their reign of ruthless pillage shall cease. They have 'ravaged as locusts,' and now, changed to 'palmer worms,' they would devour the little, which as locusts, they left.

Messrs. ELLIOTT AND WILSON.—These gentlemen, so far as we have seen the yeas and nays, on important questions before the House, are every time right, justly and faithfully representing the constituency that elected them.

A motion was made to correct an error in the charter of the Delaware county Bank, granted at the last session made transcribing it. Mr. Roumfort offered an amendment to the charter, making the stockholders individually liable to the amount of their stock. Messrs Elliott and Wilson voted in favor of it.

Mr. Roumfort also offered a joint resolution to approve of the State Printer's bonds; a most wise and excellent suggestion. Messrs. Elliott and Wilson voted in favor of the resolution.

COUNTERFEITERS.—The Sunbury American of the 13th inst., says—There are now two counterfeiters in the Jail of this county for passing counterfeit money. The last arrest was made at Jackson sp. a few nights since. The fellow had been traced from Milton to Lewisburg, from thence to New Berlin, thence to Selinsgrove, a few miles below which he crossed over and was tracked into this county, to where he was arrested in bed at night. When his room was entered at night by the landlord and his pursuers, he was found in bed with another person. He had a pistol and a dirk lying on his pillow and was asked to refund the money. Upon being requested to get up he did so, and came down stairs, but requested permission to go up stairs again to his companion, to get his money. At this juncture, the landlord's wife entered the bar-room, stating that the man up stairs had just escaped out of the window. He was pursued but escaped into the woods under cover of the darkness. The other man was committed to the Jail in this place, a few hours after the Grand Jury had been discharged. The counterfeit note had been passed on Messrs. Masteller & Swenk, at Milton. It was a five dollar note of the Miners' Bank of Pottsville on the new plate, not laid down by Bicknell or any other Detector. The notes are said to be well executed, and are undoubtedly issued from the old hive in Turbut township, in this county. The other counterfeiter was arrested about four weeks since, and a true bill was found against him the present session for passing several two dollar bills, on the Bank of Baltimore. Also a three dollar bill on the Mechanics' Bank of Baltimore, which has been undoubtedly, altered from some other plate.

DELEGATE MEETINGS.—Saturday February 3d is the day appointed for holding delegate meetings by the democrats in the several townships. It is highly important that these meetings should be fully attended. The convention to assemble on the 6th is to express the choice of the county for President and Governor. Unless the delegate meetings are generally attended and action had upon these subjects, how is the convention to be able to decide understandingly. Nothing is likely to induce that concession necessary in time of high political excitement, as a full and fair expression of the voice of the democracy through their primary meetings.

POLITICS AT HARRISBURG.—Our seat of government is likely to become as notorious for all that is disgusting and abominable in political legerdemain, as any other place we know of. Col. Seth Salisbury has issued at Harrisburg, a proclamation for the friends of Col. Johnson to "give up the ship," and rally for Martin Van Buren. Time enough for that say we.

TRIAL FOR MURDER.—William Hunter, John Hunter, and John Derany, indicted for the murder of Vandling, Northumberland, in November last, were tried at Sunbury; trial commencing on the 2d inst. The jury found William Hunter guilty of man-slaughter. The result of the trial of the others we have not heard.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—Dr. Thomas Pitts, a physician of New York, was suddenly deprived of his life last Friday evening, under most painful circumstances. He had been on a shooting excursion to New Jersey, and was on his way home in his gig, when one of the barrels of his gun, which was in the vehicle alongside of him, from some unknown cause exploded, and the charge entered his side, killing him instantly.

AN IMPUDENT THIEF.—A paper published at Milton, in this State, says:—"Judge Wilson sentenced a criminal last week, at the Huntington county sessions, to five years solitary confinement in the penitentiary, for burglary and larceny. During the following night he broke jail, went to the Judge's lodgings and stole the Judge's hat and a pair of new boots. No tidings of his whereabouts have come to light."

AN OLD MAIL ROBBER.—The Alton Telegraph of the 16th ult. says:—"At the present term of the United States District Court, John Wingate, late postmaster at Rocking Cave, in Hardin county, Illinois, was indicted for an alleged robbery of the mail. The accused is 37 years of age.

News from all Nations.

Park Benjamin has sued Mr. Snowden, the proprietor of the Ladies' Companion, for a libel and Mr. S. has returned the compliment by suing him for the same offence.

A poor white girl was recently assaulted by a gang of roudies at Washington, and severely injured.

The public debt of New York is over twenty-five millions.

The whigs of Bucks county have nominated John Banks, for Governor.

On the first day of January last, a canal boat, loaded with whiskey left Muncy for Northumberland, and proceeded through without difficulty.

Captain Tyler on New Years' day appeared in a full suit of American cloth, manufactured at New York.

Senator Porter, of Louisiana, is not expected to live.

Gen. Hambright, Collector on the rail road, at Lancaster, is said to be a defaulter to the amount of \$10,000.

Philadelphia city has declared for Martin Van Buren for President.

The Governor's message was taken from Lancaster to the head of the inclined plane—a distance of 67 miles—in one hour and fifty-seven minutes.

The seat of Government of Canada has been removed to Montreal.

The debt of the city of New York amounts to \$12,554,553, or nearly one-third of our State debt.

The dwelling of Professor Ware of Cambridge (Mass.) was destroyed by fire on Tuesday night, 9th inst.

Jacob Little, Esq. of New York city has made a donation of \$5000 to the New York Institute for the Blind.

Babe, the pirate, is to be hung on the 7th day of March next, and his body given to the College of Physicians for dissection.

The bill for the removal of the seat of justice of Columbia county has passed second reading, in the House of Representatives.

"The Midnight Cry," confidently asserts that we have seen our last first of January.

A piece of perlish the size of a pea, applied to a corn, for five or six nights in succession, will effect a certain cure.

Two young men were killed near Fayetteville, N. C., while riding through the woods in the dark, by coming in contact with trees.

The house of Mr. Robinson, which we mentioned as having been destroyed by fire, was the first building erected in Bath.

The Methodist Church at Wilkes-Barre was considerably injured by fire a few days since.

Lilly, the prize-fighter, arrested in New Orleans, has arrived in New York, attended by a police officer.

The sentence of Mike Walsh, for libel, expired on the 8th inst.

Maine has had five Governors during the last year.

Vieux Temps, it is said has fiddled \$3000 out of the citizens of Boston.—He is now at New York. Ole Bull has gone South.

The famous Count D'Orsay is obliged to remain in privacy during week days, for fear of his creditors.

Three sisters named Wier, have been arrested in Lowell charged with an intent to kill a child four weeks old, by administering to it oil of tansy.

The Buffalo N. Y. Gazette says that a family in that city, heretofore in moderate circumstances, has lately become heir to an estate of £80,000 in England.

In 1547, a proclamation was issued by Henry VIII., that women should not meet together to babble and talk, and that all men should keep their wives at their houses.

At least 10,000 hogs passed through New Castle, Ia., in one day on their way to Cincinnati.

A child was lately born in Toronto, with three eyes, having two half an inch apart, on the right side of the face. An individual subscribed a letter to Mr. Peleg Handy, Utica, thus: "2 P—leg Handy, U. T. K."

Dixon H. Lewis has increased in weight 40 pounds since March last.—He now weighs 460 pounds.

Peter Williams has been convicted of manslaughter in the first degree, by killing one Oakley in a fireman's riot in New York city.

PUBLIC DEFAULTER.—It is stated in the Rock River paper that Judge Garney, ex-receiver of the Dixon land office, is a defaulter.

Correspondence from Harrisburg.

HARRISBURG, JANUARY 14, 1844.
The last Legislature was called "The Reform Legislature," and surely it done much to stop the leaks in the Treasury and save money to the people; but the spirit of reform is still stronger in the present Legislature, especially in the Senate. The members in this branch are strictly confined to the ten dollars each allowed by the act of last winter for stationary; not a particle is furnished them at the expense of the State, each procures his own, and it is believed that ten dollars is an ample allowance for the necessary wants of a member. A rule has been adopted prohibiting the clerks from allowing candles to members in their rooms at their boarding houses. Heretofore this has been a very considerable item of expense, and it is even said that members have sometimes carried off candles, paper, &c., enough to serve them for home consumption sometime. No such thing can be done now, and so careful are the officers of all unnecessary expense, that candles which have been partly burnt out on one evening are re-lit on another, and used up completely. All this is right, and will result in a saving of at least ten thousand dollars of the people's money for this session alone. So strong is the feeling in favor of Retrenchment, that the members have positively refused to receive their newspapers at the expense of the Commonwealth. If a member wants a paper he subscribes and pays from his own pocket. Of course but few papers are taken by the members; but if he cannot afford the expense, while the state is paying him three dollars per day, should he be made to pay for all the little luxuries he may want? Some may think it a small business to be cutting off such very small expenses as newspapers. So it is, but they must begin some where, and the advocates of true reform strike at the most palpable—glaring and unnecessary expenses—in the hope that, ultimately genuine and practical reform may be carried into every branch of the government. About the only expense now allowed by the Senate, over and above the ten dollars to each member, is the postage on their letters and documents, sent and received.—this was fixed by the law of last session, or I really believe, it could scarcely pass this body now.—Much credit is due to Mr. Penniman, Mr. Steringer, Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Baily, Mr. Darnie and several others whose names do not occur to me now, for enforcing the the wholesome provisions of the act of last winter, and for encouraging and promoting the true spirit of Reform.

"The Midnight Cry," confidently asserts that we have seen our last first of January.

I might say extravagance, prevails. Maj. Andrews, the Clerk, is a right open hearted fellow, and bestows favors freely on the members. He had the Hall repaired last summer, and the seats re-covered and renovated in splendid style. It is said the members of that branch are not so particular in confining themselves to the ten dollars allowed them for stationary—but that the clerk has allowed them a reasonable quantum, as usual. I presume he knows what he is about, as his accounts have to be passed upon by the Auditor General, he will undoubtedly take care to keep each member within the prescribed limits.

The joint committee, consisting of six members from each House to investigate the charges contained in the Governor's message, of fraud in the election of State Printer, had a meeting yesterday and appointed a committee of two of their number to wait on the Governor and request his attendance as a witness. He declined, of course, but gave them a list of witnesses, who he said would prove all the charges—the committee met again last evening and resolved to send a subpoena for the Governor to appear before them to-morrow at 3 o'clock, P. M. He will not obey, of course—and then what will be done? Will they send an attachment?—I opine that this is another of those farcical operations that generally result from these investigating committees—the end will be all smoke and unnecessary expense to the Commonwealth. It is a very great pity in these days of Retrenchment and Reform, that this could not have been avoided. It must cost a large sum, as the printers will send for many if not all the members of the last Legislature—and the expense will all come out of the Public Treasury.

If the Governor refuses to appear before the committee on subpoena, there will be rare fun.—there are some fiery spirits there, and on that occasion their wrath will be not only kindled, but explode in a blaze.

HARRISBURG, JANUARY 15, 1844.
The two Houses met in Convention at 12 o'clock, M., to day and re-elected Job Mann State Treasurer for one year. Although Mr. Mann had publicly declined being a candidate, so strong was public feeling in favor of him as an officer, and the manner in which he has discharged his duties, that he was urged on all hands to consent again to accept the office, and he now takes it against his own feelings, and only yields to the strong solicitations of the best friends of the Commonwealth, for her sake. The duties are arduous, and rendered doubly so by the introduction of "relief notes" as currency—and Job Mann seems peculiarly adapted to the station. He is amiable, unobtrusive and accommodating in his deportment, very industrious and attentive to his business; above all he is honest, and devoted to the true interests of the Commonwealth.

No regular opposition was made to his election—some few scattering votes were given, not more than 25, while Mr. Mann received 102. The vexed question of printer is the constant theme. It is discussed every day in both branches without effecting anything definite.

GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS.—W. Briggs has been elected Governor of Massachusetts, by the Legislature of that State.

[For the Bradford Reporter.]
The Decision of Judge Chubb.
Messrs. Editors:—This decision reported in the Lewisport Reporter goes to sustain the principle, that personal property has been levied on by the Peace, and a bond given and the property returned to the defendant, under the provisions of the 4th Sec. of the Act of the 16th of July 1842, to prevent the property from being sold for less than two thirds of its value, it is still levied on and may again be levied on and disposed of by another execution on another judgment.

If on examination, this principle found to be erroneous, its publicity would lead to the worst of consequences to be regretted. Many will believe to be law, and smarting under the delay consequent on the passage of the Act, will seize upon property, which in the must involve them in litigation and expense. The evil can only be remedied by bringing into account the almost incalculable amount of property, delivered to defendants under like circumstances.

The plaintiff by virtue of his levy, retains a lien on the property for two months from the execution of that levy by the defendant. He has a right to pose it for sale as often as he pleases during this time. He can become the chaser whenever it shall suit his convenience, and in case a purchaser is found, who is willing to give two thirds of its value, or more, he has a right to make sale and take his money, when the year has not expired.

The defendant cannot make any disposition of the property, that infringe upon the lien of the levy. An opinion that is so common, that the defendant can sell and dispose of the property is inconsistent with the above stated rights of the plaintiff. The property is delivered up to the defendant to execute a bond, and it is hard to say what respect a defendant's power to exist, more than it would, if the defendant had suffered it to remain with the defendant, after a levy, without taking a bond. If then the plaintiff's interest is sustained, the defendant cannot sell and dispose of the property, until he is unable to see how it can be taken disposed of by an other execution on another levy. It is making one part of the hostile to another part, which is inconsistent with the plainest rules in common statutes. Effect should be given to every part and portion where it can be done.

The intention of the Legislature (they had any intention) was to prevent a sacrifice of more than one third of the value of the property levied on, if the defendant could give the required bond to continue in the use and enjoyment of the property during the year on giving the bond if it cannot be sold for required value. The terms are the provisions of the Act, to wit, the execution and delivery of a bond to the creditor. The decision of Judge Chubb gives a defendant under much harder terms. It requires him to give security to all his creditors in order to prevent him to keep his property. The giving of bonds to the first, second and judgment creditors, gives no security against the fourth, which could not have been the intention of the Legislature, the reason that they expressed themselves in different language. If this decision is correct, it is difficult to suppose a case where it would be in the power of the defendant to give bonds. The honesty and integrity of the defendant would be no security to the creditor, the intended benefits of the statute would be lost, being based on terms beyond the reach of any debtor. The situation of the first execution creditor, would be much worse than that of the last, much as he, and he alone would be protected in his lien during the year.

The opinion, that the plaintiff would be compelled to look to the bond of the officer, would bring tears from the stoutest hearted plaintiff's, insomuch they never could realize the collection of their claims. Every person in turn, would enjoy the privilege of giving new bonds, till the plaintiff would be in a desperate condition. It is, it would take in, an indefinite number of defendants and be without termination. In the execution of the bond the plaintiff is not known. It is a matter of course between the defendant and the officer. The bond is not given to the plaintiff, nor to the officer for his use, but to the officer and his successor. No property is made for the assignment of or