

# THE PORTER.

Wednesday, March 13, 1844.

For President in 1844,  
**MARTIN VAN BUREN,**  
OF NEW YORK.

For Vice President,  
**COL. RICHARD M. JOHNSON,**  
OF KENTUCKY.

[Subject to decision of a National Convention.]

## Electors for President and Vice President.

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| WILSON M. CARLEISS, } Senatorial.<br>ASA DIMOCK, } | 1. George F. Lehman, 13. George Schnabel.<br>2. Christian Kneass, 14. Nathl B. Eldred.<br>3. William H. Smith, 15. M. N. Irvine.<br>4. John Hill, (Phila.) 16. James Woodburn.<br>5. Samuel E. Leech, 17. Hugh Montgomery.<br>6. Samuel Camp, 18. Isaac Ankney.<br>7. Jesse Sharpe, 19. John Matthews.<br>8. N. W. Sample, 20. William Patterson.<br>9. Wm. Heidenrich, 21. Andrew Burke.<br>10. Conrad Shimer, 22. John M'Gill.<br>11. Stephen Baldy, 23. Christian Meyers.<br>12. Jonah Brewster, 24. Robert Orr. |
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## DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

For Governor,  
**HENRY A. MUHLENBURG,**  
OF BERKS.

For Canal Commissioner,  
**JOSHUA HARTSHORNE,**  
OF CHESTER.

As the Senior Editor must necessarily be absent for several weeks, the entire charge and control of the office will devolve upon his son, E. O. GOONRICK, who is equally interested in the publication, and to whom all payments, communications, &c., can be made.

## The Calamity on the Potomac.

The information which we communicated to a portion of our readers last week, has proved too true. Later intelligence confirms the awful tidings of the bursting of Capt. Stockton's big gun, and the death of several individuals. On our other page will be found a full account of this disastrous accident. The particulars of this awful calamity are so horrid as at first to stagger belief. In the midst of joy and festivity, while the song and the reports were on every lip, the grim monster stalks into the group and marks as his victim the noblest of the land.

It may not be uninteresting to add some particulars concerning the gun and ship not generally known. The ship was built at the expense of U. S. by Capt Stockton, of the U. S. Navy, and was some novel in her build and appearance. The gun is the only one ever made of the kind, was invented by Capt. Stockton as the most efficient instrument of destruction known to the world. It was about 16 feet long—weighed ten tons, and carried a ball of 225 lbs., was made of a solid shaft of wrought iron, drilled out, and was designed to perforate the sides of vessels at the distance of a mile. It had been previously fired twenty times in succession with double charges of powder to test its strength, and it is now believed that the wadding was not rammed home home or the explosion would not have taken place.

Capt. S. had command of the vessel, and had projected three pleasure excursions down the Potomac, two had been made and passed off pleasantly, this was the third and last and the result all have seen—melancholy indeed! The bodies of the unfortunate individuals were brought to Washington on Thursday, and placed in the Presidents house, the doors being lined with black, and black festoons decorating the windows.

On Saturday, the remains of Mr. Upshur and his fellow sufferers were deposited in the earth. They were followed to their long home by an immense concourse of mourners, consisting of the President, and family, and members of Congress, government officers, foreign ministers, officers of the army and navy and others.

It is now believed that one of the chief causes of this dreadful occurrence was the inferior quality of the iron of which the gun was manufactured.

**DEATH OF A MEMBER OF CONGRESS.**—The Hon. Henry Frick, representative from the thirteenth Congressional district in this state, died at Washington, on Friday 2d inst. Mr. Frick was in the 50th year of his age, and has been in delicate health for some time past. His remains were taken to Milton for interment. Mr. Frick was a Whig, and was elected over John Snyder, democrat last fall, in a democratic district, by a majority of 249.

## Democratic State Convention.

The delegates to the Democratic State Convention assembled at Harrisburg, on Monday, the 4th inst. The Convention was fully attended, and was organized temporarily by appointing Jas. C. Marshall, of Erie, Chairman; David Fullwood, of Westmoreland, and George W. Bowman, of Bedford, Secretaries.

A committee of seven was appointed to report upon the contested seats, and a committee of gentlemen from each Senatorial district appointed to name officers to preside over the deliberations of the Convention. During the absence of the committees, the Convention was addressed by Hon. John Galbraith, of Erie, M. B. Lowry, of Crawford, and David Wilmot, esq., of Bradford.

The committee reported the following named gentlemen as officers:

- President:**  
Hon. JACOB FRY, Montgomery.
- Vice Presidents:**  
WILLIAM F. COPLAN, Fayette.  
ALEX. JOHNSTON, Westmoreland.  
G. W. GILBERT, Philadelphia city.  
Hon. JOHN GALBRAITH, Erie.  
DAVID WILMOT, Bradford.  
HENRY WELSH, York.  
R. H. HAMMOND, Northumberland.  
CONRAD SHIMER, Northampton.  
GALBRAITH A. IRVINE, Warren.
- Secretaries:**  
Francis L. Bowman, Luzerne.  
Franklin Vansant, Bucks.  
J. P. Hoover, Venango.  
John H. Dimock, Susquehanna.

On Tuesday evening, the Convention proceeded to the consideration of the disputed Senatorial delegate from Bradford and Tioga counties.

Mr. Lowry moved that J. W. GUERNSEY, of Tioga, be admitted to a seat. Mr. Mason moved to strike out the name of "John W. Guernsey," and insert that of V. E. PROLETT, of Bradford. The question was discussed at length by the claimants and others, when Mr. PURVIANCE moved as a resolution, that neither of the claimants having been properly elected, both be excluded; which was carried without a division.

Wednesday morning, Mr. HEMPHILL of Chester, offered a resolution in favor of a "third man," which was negatived—yeas, 61; nays, 70.

The Convention, on Wednesday evening, proceeded to the nomination of a candidate for Governor. After the proposition of candidates, all the names were withdrawn except Muhlenburg, Shunk, Bell, Wagner, Bigler, and Sturgeon.

Muhlenburg,	60
Shunk,	52
Scattering,	19
Another ineffectual ballot was taken which resulted as follows:	
Muhlenburg,	65
Shunk,	50
Scattering,	17
Upon the third ballot the votes stood.	
Muhlenburg,	67
Shunk,	55
Scattering,	9

Consequently HENRY A. MUHLENBURG, was declared duly nominated, and is now the candidate for Governor of the democracy of Pennsylvania. It is unnecessary for us to pay any eulogium upon his character or talents. His name is known in the remotest corner of our State, and his reputation equally well established as a man of firmness and integrity and one who will do more to redeem the character of the democratic party from the odium cast upon it by our present executive, than any person who could have been selected. There has seldom been a convention that has had presented before it such an array of talent, unquestioned ability and integrity as the present, and we trust that the democratic party will put by all personal preferences, and rally to the support of the candidate thus selected, for the welfare of our state, and the perpetuity of our institutions.

A resolution was passed in favor of Van Buren for the Presidency, by a vote of 91 to 35; whereupon Richard M. Johnson was declared the choice of the Convention for Vice Presidency with acclamation.

Joshua Hartshorne of Chester was put in nomination for Canal Commissioner and an electoral ticket formed which will be found at the head of our paper.

GENERAL CASE, has authorized the editor of the Detroit Free Press to say that it is his unalterable determination to support the nominee of the Democratic Convention.

**WHIG CONVENTION.**—The Whig National Convention, for the nomination of President and Vice President of the United States will meet at Baltimore on Wednesday the first of May.

## News from all Nations.

**Dr. Jones, of Boston,** while lecturing on the skin, in that city, the other evening, exhibited to his audience a Life of Walton, the late notorious highwayman, bound in a portion of his own (Walton's—not the Doctor's) skin, which, it appears, had been tanned.

The snow is only three feet, upon a level, at Northampton, Mass., and is well packed down by gentle rains and warm suns. On the hills west it is "cocked up" for the summer.

The American Republicans of New York are making preparations for nominating a candidate for Mayor.

It is estimated that upwards of 22,000 palm leaf hats were manufactured in the town of Amherst, Mass., last year. The number of straw bonnets manufactured at the manufactory of Mack & Son amounted to upwards of \$60,000.

The receipts for freight and passengers by the Hibernia, on her last trip amounted to about \$28,000.

A subscription of one hundred dollars has been raised at Portland to invite Ole Bull to visit that place on his return from the South.

The Boston Courier contradicts explicitly the rumor that Mr. Choate intends resigning his seat in the Senate of the United States.

There is a law among the Arabs that permits a man to divorce any of the four wives allowed him who does not make good bread.

A man named Wm. Brewster, committed suicide at Lyons, N. Y., a day or two ago. Dr. W. P. Cleveland, of Morrisville, Madison county, N. York, committed suicide a few days since.

The Baroness Rothschild is studying the drama for the purpose of appearing in private theatricals. She pays 70 francs for each lesson!

There are forty reporters from London attending the State Trials at Dublin.

On the 20th inst., there left Savannah for New York, ten thousand fresh shad, in a vessel. They were nicely salted down in ice.

The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser states that the quantity of grain pouring into the Western ports, is beyond all precedent. Chicago, Michigan city, and Milan have now in store 600,000 bushels, with every prospect of a further increase.

They noticed at Barre, (Me.) lately, a circular rainbow around the sun.—Doubtful.

In Syracuse, with 8,256 inhabitants there are 44 lawyers. Rochester with 22,000 has 70.

A company has just been formed at Boston, with a capital of one million of dollars, for the manufacture of mouselines.

The Mayor of Wilmington, Delaware has notified the different tavern keepers within his jurisdiction to close their bars on Sunday.

Extensive seizures of smuggled goods, have recently been made in New York.

It is rumored that a United States government officer at New York is a defaulter to the amount \$200,000.

Five thousand ladies of Cincinnati have petitioned the Councils of that city against licensing any taverns or grog shops.

A young man, named Jacob Decker about twenty-seven years of age, was so shockingly injured on the 22d inst., in New Hanover township, Montgomery county, Pa., by the premature discharge of a cannon, that he died in a few minutes.

The West Branch Bank at Williamsport, commenced paying specie on all its liabilities on the 24th inst.

The Legislature of Maryland adjourned on hearing of the melancholy accident on the Princeton.

Five buildings were burned down at Rome, N. Y. on Friday, Loss \$10,000, insurance \$8,000.

An injured husband, at Tallahassee, shot his wife's seducer, in a duel, on the 28th inst., in the Succotches marsh.

The premier to the king of the Sandwich Islands is a woman. Nothing strange for woman to rule.

Hon. H. A. Wise has published, a parting address to his constituents.

A bill is now pending in Michigan Legislature to prohibit the issue of Bank notes of a less denomination than \$5.

David Frame, Esq., Sheriff of Chester county, died on Saturday, 2d inst.

## EXTENSIVE SALE.

We learn from the Sunbury American, that the Monteur Iron Works, at Danville, erected by Biddle, Chambers & Co., were sold at Sheriff's sale on Monday last. The two Anthracite Furnaces are probably the most splendid buildings of the kind in the Union. The whole property, which consists of about seven hundred acres of land, with numerous buildings, iron ore and limestone, sold for \$38,200, subject to mortgages and other liens, amounting to about \$34,000; making in the whole upwards of seventy thousand dollars. The property was purchased by Messrs. Caswell and Murdock, of New York, who held large claims against the same. Mr. Peter Baldy of Danville, in connection with a mercantile firm of Philadelphia, were there competitors at the sale, who intended, if they purchased, to put the works into operation without delay.—Terms of sale, 10 per cent, down and the balance in April next, which is equivalent to a cash sale.

**POISONED POND.**—A quantity of ice, taken from a pond near New York, for the use of the deaf and dumb institution of that place, was, from some peculiarity in its appearance, examined and analyzed and found to contain arsenic in quantity sufficient to cause the death of all the inmates of the institution had it been used. The pond is near a vinegar and chemical manufactory, at which as much as sixty pounds of arsenic are used per day, and the refuse is conveyed into the pond, consequently the water is impregnated with it.

**TRIAL FOR MURDER.**—OUR readers will recollect that a George Kettering was killed by Samuel Dixon, in a store at New Alexandria, Westmoreland county, by striking him with a weight. Dixon's trial was concluded at Greensburg at the February term, and resulted in his conviction of the crime of manslaughter. He was sentenced to the Penitentiary for two years.

**ACCIDENT.**—Mr. William Stalford, a respectable citizen of Lewistown, Pa., was killed on Friday last, by the props slipping from under a boat which he was calking. His head and shoulders were caught under it and literally crushed to pieces, causing instantaneous death.

**FIRE AT TROY.**—The cabinet shop of Mr. E. C. Oliver, at Troy, was partially destroyed by fire on Friday last inst. The fire was communicated, it is supposed by means of a tobacco pipe. Insured to the full amount of damage.

**MR. ADAM'S LECTURE.** delivered before the Borough Temperance society at the Court house, on Tuesday evening, 5th inst., was able and eloquent, and delivered to a crowded and attentive auditory. The singing was also worthy of mention.

**MONUMENT TO GEN. JACKSON.**—Some owners of property on Fairmount, Baltimore, have proposed to the Council to cede to that city a square of ground for the erection of a Monument to Gen. Jackson, providing that it be commenced within two years after his death.

**WHIG CONVENTION.**—This body met at Harrisburg on the 4th inst., and nominated GEN. MARKLE, of Westmoreland county, for Governor and SIMON GUILFORD, for Canal Commissioner.

**BANK ROBBERY.**—The Madison Branch Bank, at Madison, Indiana, was entered on the night of the 20th ult., by means of skeleton keys, and robbed of \$27,370.

**A MISTAKE.**—The assertion that the late Mr. Porter, of Louisiana, has bequeathed a large amount of money to Henry Clay is not true. He left Mr. Clay a breastpin, and nothing more.

**TOO FAST.**—Some of the papers, in their haste to give an account of the execution of the Dolans, have hung Bridge, notwithstanding the Governor's respite.

**SAD CONTRAST.**—While the mangled remains of Mr. Gardiner were lying on board the Princeton, the nuptials of his brother were being celebrated in New York.

**RELIEF NOTES.**—The Auditor General, agreeably to the instructions of the law, on the 27th inst., destroyed \$94,087 of the relief issues state.

**TOO LATE.**—The proceedings of the meeting at Athens were not received until 4 o'clock on Monday, consequently too late for this weeks paper.

## Correspondence from Harrisburg.

Harrisburg, March 6th, 1844.  
The bill appropriating \$60,000 to place the canal and railroads in order for the opening of the spring navigation was referred to a committee of conference, who reported on Thursday last, leaving it discretionary with the Canal Commissioners to make the proposed repairs on the Franklin line or not. The report was adopted in both branches.

The bill giving out the public printing to the lowest bidder passed final reading in the Senate on Friday, by a vote of 20 to 7. Under the bill as it passed the Senate the allotment will take place on the third Tuesday in March.—An amendment was offered providing that the bill should not affect the German printers but it was voted down—yeas 12, nays 15. The bill passed as originally reported, with the exception of an amendment providing for the printing of the executive blanks at the rate of one dollar per quire.

In the afternoon Mr. Babbitt offered the following which was adopted:

Whereas, The accident which occurred on board the U. S. steamship "Princeton" on the 28th ult., near Washington city, occasioning the death of the Hon. the Secretary of State, and Secretary of the Navy, with other distinguished citizens and gallant seaman, is at once so appalling in its character, and so melancholy in its consequences as to demand a prompt and earnest expression of public sentiment;—

Resolved, That the Senate of Pennsylvania, whilst they are deeply sensible of the loss the country has sustained by the recent sudden and overwhelming catastrophe which has deprived her of so much patriotism, wisdom, valor and private worth, they at the same time sincerely sympathize with the desolated families and bereaved friends who have been made mourners by this afflictive dispensation of providence.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted by the Speaker of the Senate to the President of the United States, with a request that he transmit a copy thereof to each of the bereaved families.

Resolved, That the Senate do now adjourn.

Mr. Trego submitted the following which was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, By an accidental explosion on board the United States steam vessel "Princeton," on the 28th ultimo, the lives of a number of distinguished officers of government have been sacrificed, among whom are the Secretary of State and Secretary of the Navy, with other valuable and respected officers, citizens, and seamen who were on board said vessel at the time of the occurrence of that awful catastrophe; therefore,

Resolved, That this House do hereby regret the occurrence of this public calamity, and condole with the bereaved families and afflicted friends, of those who have been so suddenly taken from them and the nation, by this afflictive dispensation of providence.

Resolved, The Speaker be requested to communicate a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions to the President of the U. S.

Resolved, This House do now adjourn.

The resolutions of Mr. Cooper for the relief of the state were again taken up on Saturday, and after considerable discussion were finally disposed of. The second resolution recommending a sale of the public works was agreed to—by a vote of 48 to 45. The 3d resolution recommending the issue of \$200,000,000 in bonds of the general government for the relief of the states was lost—yeas 40, nays 53. The 4th resolution being under consideration, Mr. Tustin moved to amend by striking out and inserting "that it is the sense of this House that a tariff for revenue with proper discriminations would be a sufficient tariff for protection." Mr. Hichman moved amend the amendment by recommending Congress to pass a law providing for the distribution of the proceeds of the sales of the public lands—lost, yeas 41, nays 53. The question recurring on Mr. Tustin's amendment, Mr. Cooper moved further to amend by inserting—"that it is the duty of Congress to protect the labor of our own country against the competition of foreign pauper labor." This amendment was adopted by a vote of 58 to 33, and the amendment as amended was adopted by a vote of 83 to 8.

Bills have been reported in the Senate for the sale of the main line and Delaware division. The Speaker laid before the Senate the following letter from the President of the United States:

Washington, March 4, 1844.  
My Dear Sir—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter covering certain resolutions of condolence in relation to the melancholy occurrence which transpired on board the "Princeton" on Wednesday last, and to inform you that I have as requested promptly transmitted copies of the resolutions to members of the several families. Permit me to add, my dear Sir, that I have been sensibly affected by the course of the Senate of Pennsylvania in the just appreciation which it has placed on a calamity so awful.

JOHN TYLER.  
To the Hon. Wm. BIGLER,  
Speaker of the Senate of Pennsylvania.  
On motion of Mr. Sullivan the letter was ordered to be placed upon the journal.

Yours, &c., PAIZ.

**NORTHAMPTON RELIEF NOTES.**—The entire amount of relief notes issued by the Northampton Bank, under the act of 4th of May, 1841, is \$31,171.—There has been cancelled at the Treasury \$14,400—leaving in circulation a legal issue of \$16,771.

**ANOTHER TARIFF DIVIDEND.**—We learn from the Boston Post that the Lawrence Manufacturing company have declared a dividend of eight per cent, for six months on a capital of \$1,200,000.

## Dreadful Calamity and Life on Board the Princeton.

[Correspondence of the Dollar Newspaper.]

WASHINGTON, February 28.

The day was surprisingly beautiful. We thought from yesterday's sky that we would have a rainy day, but the sun rose clear and bright, the town from early in the morning presented a gay and busy scene. All the carriages were engaged, and freighted with the loveless, and grace of the city. About 11 o'clock A. M., the President of the United States, Mrs. Robert Tyler, Miss Tyler, Mr. John Tyler, Jr., with a number of officers in glittering uniforms, all the members of the Cabinet, Mr. Spencer, many other high dignitaries of State, gave Senators and aspiring members, quite a number of attaches and secretaries of Legations, General Almonte, Minister from Mexico, (Sir Richard Packington had been invited, but declined), and a number of other gentlemen, whose names I do not recollect, were assembled on the deck of one of the steamers, plying here and Alexandria, last being invited for that place. Opposite the Yard a boat-load of musicians were taken on board, who, as we approached Alexandria, and the Princeton's sight, struck up Hail Columbia. We were describing a graceful endeavor her bow to view the splendid er in all her pride, the flags of nation streaming from every mast, her yards manned to return there, that were uttered by the company we neared her.

We now approached her on the board side, and came quite close. A bridge was made from our deck to the Princeton, and the deck and gentlemen gently received by officers on deck, and conducted to Captain Stockton, in full uniform, band now struck up "the Star Spangled Banner," the marines presented and as soon as the company was on board, a salute of twenty-one guns fired, the band still playing near us; and it was quite amusing to witness the manœuvre, although had been politely requested to down not to be annoyed with the of powder, or the noise of the No one imagined, from the cheerfulness which prevailed throughout, that Death was walking amidst of them, coolly feigning victims. A splendid dinner was served in the cabin, and the ladies first, and were waited on by the gentlemen, who were really agreeable did the best, with wit and repartee season the repast.

In the meanwhile the Princeton anchor and made sail; bearing for Fort Washington and Mount Vernon. Past Fort Washington, the Potomac expands and presents sufficient scope for the power of big guns, the forward gun was fired, and the ball striking the eye and rebounding five or six times the eye would no longer follow its progress. To observe the effect of shot I had posted myself on the starboard cannonade gun, and the tall erected a kind of scaffolding for ladies to stand on by the side of the One or two had taken their position there, and beside me stood Mr. Secretary Upshur, intent upon witnessing the whole manœuvre. I offered my place, but he declined, saying preferred to stand where he was—precise spot where an hour later he was torn to pieces.

Meanwhile the table had again set for the gentlemen, and we began down to join in the general merriment. CAPTAIN STOCKTON was the first to the cabin re-echoed the first plaudits of the company. "The sident" was then drunk, followed nine cheers, to the Oregon, the President, and Captain Stockton. The number of toasts were then proposed and drunk with all the honors by Benton, Col. Smith, of New York, Senator Woodbury, and others. The last Miss General's daughter, Postmaster General's proposed American Flag, the only thing that can that will bear stripes." This received with thundering applause the young lady's health was drunk three times three, and herself declared worthy of marrying a hero. She was that toast drunk when the scene was changed into one of sadness and woe.

Captain Stockton's great gun again loaded with shot, and another trial made of its strength and effect. The gun was pointed to leeward, behind it stood Captain Stockton, behind it the left of him Mr. J. Washington Tyson, Assistant Postmaster General, of your city. By the side of latter, a little behind him, stood Strickland, also of your city, and behind him to the right of, but behind him Benton of Missouri, who had a shot his arm, and Judge Phelps, of Vermont. To the leeward of gun stood Judge Upshur, late Secretary of State, Gov. Gilmer, late Secretary of the Navy, who had but a few days entered on the duties of our late Cabinet a little behind them, our late Affairs to Belgium, Mr. May, Maryland. By the side of him