

POLITICAL.



From the Huntington Advocate. READ AND REFLECT. SAMUEL STURGEON'S Affidavit.

Base perjury resorted to, to injure and break down the democratic candidate!!! The old barbarian weapons of reckless federalism, vainly wielded against SIMON SNYDER, burnished anew, and now attempted to be used against DAVID R. PORTER, in the present death struggle of federal aristocracy!!!!

The minds of our office-holders, stimulated by the certain prospect of signal defeat, in the invention of falsehoods, really appear to be as exhaustless as the springs that supply the ocean. To such a towering height of enormity had they lately reached, that we really thought they could possibly get no further. But it seems "the end is not yet!"

The last two numbers of the office-holders' Journal contain a paper purporting to be an affidavit, made by one Samuel Sturgeon, before David Snare, Esq., deputy Collector of the port, and lately appointed a Justice of the Peace by Gov. Ritner, which for bold and daring falsehood, puts the climax on their mountain of lies.

This paper may be seen in the 'Journal' under the displaying heading,—"OVERWHELMING EVIDENCE!" It is not, therefore, necessary that we should copy it in order to make our comments upon it understood. Nor will we stop to enquire whether Samuel Sturgeon ever actually made such an affidavit. It is so certified by the deputy collector, and one of the Governor's Justices, which will, of course, be deemed sufficient evidence of authenticity by the friends of the governor. But, to thinking, honest men of all parties, we say, "come, let us sit down & reason together," upon the contents of this strange production. Lay aside your prejudices and prepossessions for Porter or against Porter—give us, and give us only, your serious attention as candid men and honest inquirers after truth—and if, with such feelings and motives, you accompany us in a brief examination of that paper, we despair not of CONVINCING ALL, that it BEARS UPON ITS VERY FACE the certain marks of absurdity the most glaring—falsehood, the most bold and barefaced—perjury (if an oath was taken) the most deliberate and damning!!

Let us, then examine it. The first and principal charge is, that Sturgeon lately went to Porter's house to compromise a suit which he brought more than 20 years ago against Patton and Porter; that Mr. Porter, after bargaining, offered him \$180; which he agreed to take.

In the same paper in which this reputed affidavit appears, appears also, in display, a long article called "THE EVIDENCE"—consisting of professed extracts from the county records, and certified by ROBERT CAMPBELL, PROTHONOTARY. This latter paper shows that on the 16th day of June, 1819, Samuel Sturgeon brought a suit against Patton and Porter; that on the 11th of August, 1819, (when an applicant for the benefit of the insolvent laws,) he swore the amount due him by Patton and Porter to be 'about seven hundred dollars.' This suit was promptly plead to; if not determined, it still may be; if the claim was honest and just then, it is equally so now;—and now, with interest from the time of suit brought, it would amount to \$1540!!! Yet Sturgeon now swears he was willing to take \$180!!!

What, candid reader, is the inference to be drawn from these facts! One of two things. Either that Samuel Sturgeon knows in his own heart that his claim was unjust from the beginning, and could never be sustained in law or equity; or that 'it has been decided and settled;—and the fact that the suit has been suffered to sleep more than 20 years, is strong and powerful additional evidence of the truth of one or the other of these inferences. If the first be true, what becomes of his former oath!!! If the other, where is his honesty and integrity? He is either a perjured villain or a fraudulent knave! Reader, let us ask you in all candor, are we to avoid this conclusion? We cannot. This is the dilemma in which he has involved himself! You, honest reader, would not hang on either horn for a world!!! Either a perjured villain or a fraudulent knave! What materials for a witness!!! This is the man that now swears to the prejudice of an honored citizen whom many of you have favorably known—known as an honest and upright man—for 26 years!!! And swears, too, be it remembered, in the hope of making something out of his old suit, raked up out of oblivion, and his attention directed to it by the PROTHONOTARY and his comrade bandits in this county!!! This is the man whose affidavit is under consideration. Is he a competent witness? Is he worthy of credit? Can you BELIEVE him—CAN YOU? No—you cannot!!!

But further. It is well known to the whole state the name of Sturgeon has been used to prejudice the people against Mr. Porter ever since his nomination. It is equally well known that since then, Sturgeon has been corresponding with the office-holders, and their tools, in this town,—in league with the bitterest enemies of Gen. Porter. Gen. Porter knew this. It is also known to every one who knows Mr. Porter, that he is a prudent man; and that his opponents charge him with being an artful cunning man. All know this. Taking these things into consideration, can it be believed by any rational being, for a single moment, that Gen. Porter was so consummate a fool as to act as he is represented by the affidavit with his known and sworn enemy—a known tool of the desperate and reckless band of politicians in this place—known to have been brought here by them—and known while here, to be in hourly consultation with him? No man in his senses can believe it.

Still further. Sturgeon states by way of climax to the other absurdities of the affidavit, that the reason the bargain between him and Mr. Porter was not concluded, was, (heaven save the mark!) that Mr. Porter wanted him to certify to his character!!! What! David R. Porter ask a man with whom HE HAS NO ACQUAINTANCE—WHOM HE HAD NOT SEEN FOR 20 YEARS—WHO HAS NOT BEEN IN THE COUNTY FOR 20 YEARS—HIS ENEMY AND THE TOOL OF HIS ENEMIES—to certify to his character before the People of Huntingdon county!!!!!! It would require less credulity to receive as truth the story of "Sinbad the Sailor." It is utterly incredible.

There is still another absurdity in this matter. Suppose Gen. Porter at this moment had Sturgeon's receipt in discharge of his claim—ay, and his certificate! Of what advantage would they be? Could he—would he use them? Would he thus acknowledge what he denied in 1818, and what he denies up to this moment, and AGAINST THE TRUTH—AGAINST THE EVIDENCE AFFORDED BY STURGEON'S CONDUCT IN LETTING HIS CAUSE SLEEP UNTIL IT WAS AWAKE FOR HIM—admit that Sturgeon's claim was just!—admit to be true the FALSEHOOD of his federal persecutors? No man that knows David R. Porter can believe it.

Here, then, we have an affidavit—made by an interested witness—swearing in reference to his own cause—on his own showing a perjured villain or a fraudulent knave—totally unworthy of credit—and in the hands of as vile a band of political scoundrels as ever broke bread; and the affidavit itself BEARING ON ITS FACE sufficient evidence to condemn it three times over; to prove it false—FALSE—FALSE!

We repeat again, to every candid, truth-loving man in this community, the question, Can you believe such a man?—Can you believe such stuff?—Does not the affidavit carry with it conclusive evidence of its falsehood? Suffice your sober judgement to answer No—no man living can harbour the thought for a moment. It is, we are sorry to say, a tissue of DOWNRIGHT FALSEHOODS. NOT A WORD OF TRUTH IN IT—NO NOT ONE! Never was there a more wicked and criminal attempt to rob any man of his 'good name.'

After this, we shall not be astonished at anything. Will not some one swear that Mr. Porter has been guilty of THEFT?—(Benedict would prove it in a moment!) Surely the days of Simon Snyder have returned, and the parallel between Gen. David R. Porter and that honored patriot, should be fully carried out. Let slanders more atrocious be SWORN TO! Come down to the dirtiest grades of crime—swear that Porter has been guilty of all—there are scoundrels enough who will swear for pay! Try that, or you fall beneath the recklessness exhibited when Jefferson was a candidate for the presidency, or when Snyder ran for the same office for which Gen. Porter is now before the people of Pennsylvania. Vain, indeed, as it is, it is your only hope! But, recollect! the people of Pennsylvania were not deceived then;—they are intelligent—they cannot be deceived now!!

In conclusion, we ask of that party—of those it has hired to make affidavits;—have you no fear of meeting YOUR GOD IN JUDGMENT? Have you no compunctions of conscience when YOU SWEAR ON THE HOLY EVANGELISTS OF ALMIGHTY GOD! Have the prompters no revulsion of feelings, when they urge, to injure a candidate, a FALSE OATH to be taken, for which an answer to God is to be given at the great day?

DEMOCRATIC DELEGATE MEETING. At an adjourned meeting of the Democratic Delegates to the recent Fourth of July Convention at Harrisburg, the delegates met pursuant to public notice on Thursday, 19th inst at 8 o'clock, P. M. at Holahan's Miles N. Carpenter in the chair, J. W. Ryan and William R. Cash Secretaries.

The Committee appointed at a former meeting, submitted through their chairman, R. Moffat, the following Address, which was on motion unanimously adopted:

ADDRESS To the Democratic Citizens of the City and County of Philadelphia, and of the State of Pennsylvania.

The Democratic Delegates who attended the Convention of Young Men, favorable to the cause of Democracy, and sustaining the claims of DAVID RITTENHOUSE PORTER to the Executive chair of this State, consequently opposed to the mongrel faction who hail Ritner as their idol and champion, while in truth, they only regard and use him as a tool; having been appointed a committee to draft an address, responsive to the vile slanders which have been industriously propagated abroad, and which had their origin not in the distempered brain of a lunatic, but in the fertile invention and daring impudence of two reckless individuals, one the editor of Joseph Ritner's official organ, and the other his recently appointed Canal Commissioner, submit the following. It may be deemed by many that any labored attempt to vindicate the Democratic party from the foul and calumnious assertions of the Federalists, and with which the presses in their pay and under their influence, daily teem, is an act of supererogation. As a general rule this may be correct, but circumstances may occur, which would make an exception. So in the present instance. It has been broadly charged by the editor of the Telegraph, and his assertion endorsed by the Ritner prints in this city, that a Convention of talented, educated and highly respectable young men assembled in Harrisburg on the 4th of July last, so far forgot what was due to their own characters as gentlemen, to their principles as Democrats, as wantonly to perpetrate an outrage, which if attempted, much less consummated, would most deservedly consign them to merited infamy.

It is alleged that an attack was made on the house of Governor Ritner, that his windows were shattered, his bell violently rung, and himself assailed with foul and viuperative language. Such are the charges gravely put forth to the people of this Commonwealth, such is one of the base resorts to which the reckless and despairing partisans of Joseph Ritner are driven, in the vain and desperate hope of bolstering up his sinking fortunes upon the ruins of truth, justice, and State pride. We indignantly repel the calumny: it bears upon its very face the stamp of falsehood, and is destined like other weak inventions of the enemy to recoil upon themselves.

Your Committee content themselves with branding the authors of this vile calumny, as the sordid tools of avarice and low ambition—as divested of the proper feelings and principles of gentlemen—and deserving the supreme contempt and withering scorn of the really honest of all sects and of all parties.

To our immediate constituents it is needless to say more—perhaps not so much. To the People of the State, for ourselves, and those with whom we associated in Convention at Harrisburg, we pronounce the libel against themselves, and us marked by meanness and mendacity, foreign to the heart and repulsive to the feelings of any man of sensibility and honor.

R. T. MOFFAT, WM. R. CASH, JAMES CAMPBELL, Committee. Resolved, That we witnessed with pleasure and pride the firm array of thousands of the Democracy in Harrisburg, on the 4th July, this immense concourse of young men from all sections of our ancient Commonwealth congregated not for the purpose of pandering to political corruption, but of sustaining the People's choice—the people's candidate David R. Porter, who as "David Porter of the seas routed the pirates that invested the Gulf of Mexico, so will our David Porter of the land rout the land pirates who batten on the People of Pennsylvania, on the 2nd Tuesday in October next."

Resolved, That the immense gathering of Democrats at such a season of the year, from every quarter of the State, gives decided evidence of a great popular triumph, and the shameful defeat of an imbecile and reckless Chief Magistrate, and the election of David R. Porter, whose ancestral and personal merits give him the highest claim to public favor.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this Meeting be published in the City Democratic Papers, and that Editors of Papers friendly to the cause, throughout the State, be respectfully requested to give them insertion! MILES N. CARPENTER, Ch'm. Jno. W. Ryan, Wm. R. Cash, Secretaries.

Biddle's Letters—Ritner's Proclamations, and if report says truth—Arrests! It is rumored with some degree of probability—we understand, indeed—we should suppose very likely, from the rumor that preceded the late Hamburg Proclamation of the Governor!—that Biddle's Bank is not to RESUME on the 1st day of August next, when the other Banks will resume; but, that the Governor will order legal proceedings to be had against Biddle and his Bank for political effect. That Biddle is to be arrested by due course of law, and that A FARCE is to be enacted between Biddle and Ritner to show apparently great hostility of the latter to banks, for the purpose of gulling the honest yeomanry of Pennsylvania into a belief that RITNER IS OPPOSED TO BANKS! Ridiculous!—RITNER opposed to Banks!!—when, in less than three short years, he has more than DOUBLED the whole Banking capital of the Commonwealth, by signing the Bill to charter the Bank of the United States with a capital of THIRTY-FIVE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS! Ritner opposed to Banks and acts of incorporation—impossible!! The friend of BURDEN DICKEY, STEVENS, PENROSE and FENN, opposed to the influence of Banks and anti-Republican Institutions.—impossible.—RITNER has been too well schooled by these gentry not to partake of their fondness for money. Ritner has too long corresponded with BIDDLE not to be fond of large dividends!!

spirit of the Times.

PENNSYLVANIA, ss. [L. S.] In the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by JOSEPH RITNER, Governor of said Commonwealth.

A PROCLAMATION.

The period has arrived when the series of misfortunes produced by the injurious interference of the National Government with the Currency of the Country is about to terminate. Congress having risen without sanctioning the attempt to give the Federal Executive the entire control of the National wealth, and of the whole amount of specie in the country, and the consequent power to effect and wield to its own purposes all the capital and credit of the Union; and having also imposed certain salutary restrictions on so much of this power as had been already arrogated, it is incumbent on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to put forth her strength, to quicken her dormant energies, and to take that stand in the trade and commerce of the Union which unbounded resources, her vast natural and artificial facilities for her development, and the solid and energetic character of her citizens demand; to deprive her of which stand, all the measures of the National Government have recently tended.

For the productions of this most desirable result, the measures first requisite is that an end be put to certain open infractions of the spirit of the laws, which have been forced upon us by the overbearing necessities of the times: and to restore credit and the currency to the firm basis on which they stood before their late derangement was unnecessarily brought on the people.

I, therefore, by virtue of that enjoyment of the Constitution which requires the Governor of the State to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and for the purpose aforesaid, do require all Banks in this Commonwealth, on or before the thirteenth day of August next ensuing the date hereof, to resume and continue the redemption of their respective notes, bills and other obligations, in gold and silver coin, according to the true intent and meaning of their charters. And, for the purpose of aiding those institutions in the accomplishment of this laudable object, I deem it proper to state, from the information I have obtained, that their solvency and general condition is such as to entitle them to the confidence of a ltho hold their notes, their amount of specie on hand being largely increased, and of notes in circulation much diminished since the suspension of specie payments in May, 1837.

When it is thus cheerfully announced that the means of the Banks are ample, and that their conduct has been, throughout the late trying crisis, generally such as to sustain our already high character for punctuality, honesty, and solvency, maintain and even increase our trade, keep up the value of property, and prevent the State from becoming the theatre of panic or distress, yet I shall feel bound, in duty to the public, to take all the means in my power to compel a return to that agency and responsibility to their creditors for which they were created. If however, a return be promptly and faithfully made to that line of duty, to the laws and to the public, from which they have been compelled to depart, the occurrences of the last year will only be recorded in our history as another instance of the perfect adaption of republican institutions to the demand of every crisis, and will show that common and overruling necessity being bowed to by general consent becomes for the time the law of the land.

But to justify such rule of necessity, and to prevent future evil from its unnecessary recurrence or unjust continuance, it is indispensably requisite that the instant the pressure of circumstances which produced it ceases, the empire of the express and ordinary law of the land should be restored. Accordingly, if on the other hand a return to general and real redemption in specie, and a withdrawal of all illegal paper money from circulation do not now take place, when all admit that it may, with safety and public benefit, I shall hold it my duty, forthwith, to take all the measures to compel it, which the Constitution and laws have placed in my power; and at the opening of the next session of the Legislature, to recommend the passage of such laws as may more effectually guard the future from the evils of the past.

And further for the purposes and by virtue of the enjoyment aforesaid, I do also hereby require all persons or bodies corporate, who may have violated the laws of this State, by the emission and circulation of notes of any denomination under that of five dollars, commonly called "shinplasters," to take instant measures for the full and honest redemption of the same, in gold and silver coin, or such other ample equivalent as shall be satisfactory to the holders thereof, under pain of the penalties provided in such cases, which penalties, if this notice be not complied with in a reasonable time, it will be the duty of all good citizens to enforce.

Should this requirement be fully and promptly complied with, the Commonwealth will be restored to that sound currency which she possessed before the suspension, viz: One composed of gold and silver for all sums under, and of notes instantly convertible into specie for all sums of and over, five dollars. The result of the attempt to improve the currency will then obviously be, that the only paper issues, in circulation and not convertible into specie at the place

whence issued, will be those of the National Government.

In communicating thus publicly with my fellow-citizens on this most important and interesting matter, I would respectfully and earnestly say to all, be firm and cool in the emergency. Trust in the laws, have confidence in the Institutions, and sustain the high credit and character of your glorious Commonwealth. You have borne yourselves through the crisis nobly and honorably; you have come almost uninjured out of the trial. Make one more claim and steady effort, and all will be well. The forbearance and determination heretofore exhibited, have been such as to reflect credit upon the state, while it has strengthened the hands and cheered the hearts of your public agents in the performance of duties of no ordinary difficulty.

Contrasting, as is naturally done, the feelings and hopes connected with this attempt to aid the assumption, with those which animated me when I addressed my fellow-citizens on the subject of the suspension of specie payment, I cannot but rejoice at the difference. We were then entering upon a new and untried course of action, whose happy termination was only matter of hope. We are now at the conclusion of our doubts and fears, and with the blessings of Providence on the exertion of our own moderations and industry, about to return to our usual confidence and prosperity.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State, at Harrisburg, this tenth day of July, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, and of the Commonwealth the sixty-third.

By the Governor: THO. H. BURROWES, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

From the Pennsylvanian. THE PROCLAMATION—THE GOVERNOR'S LAST TRICK.

The intimation thrown out in our paper of yesterday was literally correct. Governor Ritner, perceiving that his chance of re-election was a desperate one, has endeavored to improve it by a proclamation, which may be found in another column, requiring the Banks to resume specie payments on the 13th of August. The mere electioneering trickery of this movement is so glaringly manifest that every one laughs at it. After sitting idly for fourteen months gazing at what he now calls "certain open infractions of the spirit of the laws," and after tamely suffering New York to take the lead in resumption, his anti-masonic excellency suddenly starts up with a haste that is now actually ludicrous, and under pretence of advancing the public welfare, makes an almost spasmodic effort to gain a little popularity for the October election, putting forth one of the most barefaced, discreditable pieces of partizan scribbling that was ever issued with an official sanction.

The mere trickery of this matter is the more evident when it is remembered that in his Message to the Legislature, issued on December 6th, 1837, eight months ago, Ritner took a view of the circumstances which brought about the resumption, and said—"I have now little doubt that the Legislature may with perfect safety fix an early date for the resumption of specie payments;" yet the Ritnerites in that body steadily opposed every legislative effort tending that way, and in fact proved clearly by their acts that all the recommendations in relation to Banking and Currency of that message—"a real loco foco document, worth 20,000 votes," as an adherent of Ritner remarked to us at the time—were intended solely as popularity traps, to be uttered but not to be fulfilled. The understanding on this point so far as results could determine it for none of the currency propositions of the message were advocated by Ritner men was perfect. Every tendency toward resumption was killed by some means, and the Governor remained mute and still from December 1837, until now, July, 1838; when, observing that the people of Pennsylvania are going almost en masse for David R. Porter he endeavors to stem the current by an act that should have been done long ago, and orders the Banks to resume on the 13th of August, after, be it remembered, AFTER ten of the fourteen Philadelphia Banks had declared their willingness and ability to resume on the 1st of August. When popular feeling and the force of circumstances had made it almost a matter of impossibility to stave off resumption any longer, then and not till then, does the Governor of Pennsylvania issue his Proclamation commanding that to be done which scarcely could be prevented even by the power of the "great regulator," and he and his friends, as if they had just achieved a miracle of public virtue, turn smilingly to the people and ask for a re-election!

A greater farce than this whole affair was never enacted before the people of Pennsylvania, and the pitiful assaults upon the General Government with which the Proclamation abounds, are in strict keeping with the spirit in which this clap-trap movement was conceived. The trick itself, as a trick, was perhaps well enough, and worthy of Ritner and Stevens; but tricky politicians, are frequently too late, this being a case in point.

If you are in favor of mammoth Banks, vote for Joseph Ritner, if not not, vote for that sound and undeviating democrat, Gen. David R. Porter.