

as an arbitrator—and at the close of which arbitration, had them placed in the hands of John Stonebraker, with notice not to give them out of his possession. There they remained open to the inspection of the whole world. Gen. Porter was obliged frequently to apply to those books for evidence to defend against suits brought against him as the only remaining partner who could be reached. He braved the storm and stood his ground through all this, and left but ten claims unsettled when he was forced to surrender.—And to show to what an unexampled extent he sustained his integrity and character for fair dealing, in those various unpleasant and unfortunate litigations—what more conclusive testimony can be asked than this:—at the very next fall being a candidate for a seat in the legislature, there was but one solitary vote polled against him, in the very township in which the whole of these transactions took place. Yes out of 154 votes polled, he received 153!!! and now at the end of 20 years, he is to be charged, forsooth, with stealing his own books!—and that too by a set of characters who have been guilty of stealing the irons off their neighbors' wagons, and selling them for the purpose of raising a little money; stealing the buttons off a man's coat—and grists of grain out of the mill. And all these charges trumped up in the form of affidavits (for which the miserable miscreants are not punishable by law,) by a renegade yankee, who fled his country for robbing a benevolent society out of money appropriate to buy bread for famished and starving little orphans, and their helpless widowed mothers!!!

Since the foregoing was in type we have received the receipt of John Stonebraker to James Allison, for the \$162.93 on the last bond, and on which he has sworn he never received one cent!

From the Huntingdon Advocate. MOST TRIUMPHANT REFUTATION!!!

The last affidavits slander against the character of David R. Porter, blown to the winds—the cause of truth unscathed by the vindictive purgers of a reckless band of political scoundrels, fighting to retain their places and fill their pockets out of the people's money!!!

Mr. Owens is one of our most enterprising business men, who never meddles with elections more than giving his silent vote; and has uniformly voted Joseph Ritner.—He is an exemplary, pious man, and an elder in the Presbyterian Church, and among the most highly respectable men in Huntingdon county. The solemn declarations of such a man, forever puts to flight the malevolent attacks of ten thousand such wretches as the Stonebrakers.

Read the statement—
“I have read the affidavits of the two Stonebrakers, and, although hastily given at the time, I cannot, on further reflection, find any error in it.—But it seems necessary for the cause of truth, that I should go more fully into some of the details of the matter.

On the day of August, 1818, John Stonebraker and myself went into a judgment bond with D. R. Porter, as his surety for the amount of an execution against him in the hands of P. Gwin, then Sheriff, to be paid on the 1st of April, 1819, at which time the debt, interest and cost, amounted to \$1,620 00. A week or two afterwards, Stonebraker came to me and expressed much uneasiness about the matter, and said that his friends were fearful that Porter would not be able to raise the money, and that we would be brought in to trouble. I told him I had great faith in Porter's integrity, his energy, and untiring industry, and that there was no danger. I could not satisfy him on this score, and at his request, we went to Mr. Porter, and Stonebraker still repeating his doubts and fears.—

Mr. Porter went and got the title papers for two tracts of land in Beaver county, saying that one of the two tracts containing 500 acres was mortgaged to the Huntingdon Bank, but not for near its value—and that he expected to sell the other 200 acre tract for as much as would cover the amount of our liability; and told us to keep those to make us safe. I told Stonebraker to take them and keep them and make his mind easy, for that I cared nothing about them. I believe Mr. Porter also deposited an order or assignment of an execution, in the hands of the sheriff of Indiana county, for something over \$100, and another small claim on some one else, which I cannot recollect, telling us at the same time that there was but little hope of getting anything out of them. In November following, Mr. Porter, at our request, went to Beaver county and informed us that he had sold the 200 acre tract to Jan. Kiddo and Alex. Russell, for \$2,000, first payment of \$1,000 to be made on the first of April, 1819 and the residue in three equal payments, to be made in April, 1820-21 and 1823, all without interest; and brought the receipt of James Allison, Esq. attorney at law, of Beaver, for the three first mentioned bonds, left with him by Mr. Porter for collection.

On the 9th of January, 1819, we all met at Mr. Porter's office, in presence of Samuel W. Caldwell and George Davis, Esq. and an assignment was made on the receipt of Mr. Allison, for the three first bonds.—The calculation was made by George Davis—and finding that the bonds reduced to

their cash value, and deduct Attorney's fees, for collection, would fall short of the amount we were liable for, Stonebraker seemed unwilling to go away without means were provided for that deficiency; and also for the expenses of going to Beaver for the money, and asked Mr. Porter for the bond which became due in 1823. To this, Mr. Porter seemed unwilling, and endeavored to assure Stonebraker that he would make up the deficiency in some way or other; and said that he wanted this last bond to go to George Davis for money he had borrowed—I think he said borrowed to pay John Emigh.—Stonebraker still appearing dissatisfied, Mr. Porter threw down the bond saying, “there let Stonebraker and Owens be first paid, and Davis you must wait, I will raise the money for you some day or other.” When the assignment was about being made on the bond, I observed, that as I was about to leave the neighborhood in the spring, the assignment had better be made to Stonebraker alone, and that he and Davis being there together, the balance could be by him assigned to Davis; it was accordingly assigned to Stonebraker—after which being done, the whole of the other securities previously left with Stonebraker, were returned to Mr. Porter. And here lies one of the great mistakes in the old man's affidavit—they were left with him until the 9th day of January, 1819, and were on that day given up again to Mr. Porter, and not after his failure.

On the 15th August, 1820, I called on Mr. Porter, then managing at Sligo forges, for R. T. Stewart, and representing to him the urgency of my situation, he advanced to me \$100 on the said last bond, he agreeing to wait for it till it could be collected out of the bond. I know that in May, 1821 he loaned to George Davis, \$100, to be repaid when it could be raised out of said last bond. And although old John Stonebraker swears that he never received a cent on this last bond; yet he is not only charged in a statement rendered by Mr. Allison, with the sum of \$162.93 paid to him on that bond—but I have seen Stonebraker's receipt for it.

In the Spring of 1825, Stonebraker went to the West to see his friends. I think he said a brother. He said he would go by Beaver, and bring in the balance of the money, and that we would then settle and see how the matter stood between us. When he returned, however, he waived the matter and declined giving me any account of what he got, and has never to this day told me. He has received considerable more than his share of the money—and having transferred his property to his brother-in-law, Archibald Hutchinson, most clearly and unquestionably to defraud me and the rest of his creditors, I have never thought it worth while to bring suit against him.

As to the statement of young John H. Stonebraker, it is a palpable absurdity on the face of it. There never was a division of the bonds between his father and me.—

I have no recollection of it.—He must have been a mere child, and it seems to me very improbable that children should come into a Justice's office to see things transacted. But certainly the whole community will bear me out when I say, that I think, that here, where John H. Stonebraker and his character are known, his statement will not injure any one. I have always understood that the 500 acre tract before mentioned, was shortly after sold by the Sheriff of Beaver county, and bought in by Mr. Orbison, the President of the Huntingdon Bank. The statement of old Mr. Stonebraker, is an entire mistake about the matter, and is absolutely untrue in nearly all the material facts of the case. He has very repeatedly told me in various conversations since the failure, that he thought Mr. Porter was as honest a man as ever breathed. He has very often of late years, complained to me of the great failure in his memory, and of his incapacity to do business; and when left to the guidance and management of his sons, I must say, that I think, he is in very bad hands—particularly where they have such an animosity against a man, as I know they have against Gen. Porter.

In conclusion I have only to say, that I have known D. R. Porter for more than twenty years, and have had the most ample opportunity of knowing him—and I most unhesitatingly do say, that in the long course of our lives, I have never known him to be guilty of a mean or dishonest act; and if the slanders which are now heaped upon him, slanders never heard of till since his nomination, are to be believed, then I know of no man in the range of my acquaintance, who can escape. Every man who knows me, knows well that I never interfere in elections, and the only motive for my appearance before the public at this time, is to advance the truth and shield the character of one who I have long believed to be one of the best and most valuable men in our country.

THOMAS M. OWENS.
Birmingham, August 31 1838.

The Drought in Tennessee.—We learn from the Nashville Whig of the 27th ult. that in the western District of Tennessee, the drought has been unprecedented. Little or no rain has fallen for ten weeks, in consequence of which corn and cotton crops would both be cut extremely short. Hay crops it would be folly to calculate upon, and it is even doubted whether some of the counties will realize corn enough for a bare support, although the farmers in many instances planted for export.

TRIUMPHANT REFUTATION OF THE MOST WILFUL STANDERS.

We give below from the Huntingdon Advocate another statement from Mr. Owens, which puts to rest the vile calumnies contained in the infamous affidavits of the two Stonebrakers. Mr. Owens, it will be recollected was joint bail with the elder Stonebraker for David R. Porter, and his statement shows beyond all doubt that the father and son have sworn to that which was not true. Mr. Owens is an exemplary and pious man, an elder of the Presbyterian church, and among the most highly respectable men in Huntingdon county.

We also annex from the Advocate several certificates of respectable citizens of Huntingdon, which prove that old Stonebraker has repeatedly spoken of David R. Porter in the highest terms—that he has said he believed if there was an honest man on earth it was David R. Porter—and that he never spoke otherwise until Governor Ritner appointed his son John a “boss” on the canal.

These certificates will be received by the honest of all parties as complete refutation of the vile calumnies gotten up and circulated by the officeholders. The friends of Gen. Porter have challenged investigation into his character. They know that it will stand the most rigid scrutiny. That their confidence was not misplaced is fully proved by the triumphant manner in which every slander has been promptly met signally refuted.

What will the virtuous freeman think of the libellers and their employers? Will they consent to aid in the election of Joseph Ritner, who urges these calumniators on in their vile attacks upon his Democratic opponent? Will they sustain the officer who disgraces himself and the people he represents by resorting to such base means to secure his own re-election?—Reporter.

THE SURPLUS REVENUE—FALSEHOOD OF THE RITNER PRESS.

The organs of the Administration, acting no doubt under official instructions, are intent upon deceiving the people as to the actual condition of the State Treasury. They have stated—and the statement is going the rounds of their journals—that the whole of the Surplus Revenue is placed in bank at interest, and that it can therefore be refunded whenever called for.

This is totally untrue. At the time it was made there was only \$150,000 of the surplus revenue left. Two days ago the amount had been reduced to \$100,000—thus the whole amount of the surplus revenue, with the exception of the \$100,000 in Bank has been expended for the support of the Government, and if the State were now called upon to refund it, we should be compelled to resort to loans or taxation.

That Gov. Ritner desires to shun investigation as to the manner in which the surplus revenue is expended, is a fact to impose upon the falsehood that the whole amount is still in bank upon interest.

THE NEWS.

Corner stone of the Bastile.—Yesterday the south west corner stone of the old Bridewell, in the Park, the former bastille of our city, was raised from a foundation and carefully deposited in the office of the city Inspector. It is a coarse grained red stone, bearing on it the inscription of Whitehead Hicks, Esq. 1775. Mr. Hicks was the Mayor of the city at the date of the laying of the corner stone.—N. Y. Trans.

The Providence Courier describes a violent Tornado which passed over the towns of Johnston, Cranston, Providence and Seekonk, on Friday afternoon. Its track was about 350 feet in width, and within that space buildings were blown down or unroofed, trees were torn up by the roots, crops were destroyed, fences prostrated, and other damage was done.

Rise of the Lakes.—A gentleman who has just returned from the West, states that forests of oaks have been killed by the rise of the waters in the lakes, and that some of the trees on being cut down, are found to be marked with the growth of a hundred and forty years; thus proving that during that long period, the waters had not before been seen so high as at present. The cataraet of Niagara has gained in grandeur, while many cultivated farms are now only to be found under water, and city lots which had been sold for thousands of dollars, are in the same submerged condition.

Dwelling houses, barns, &c. stand “in the water and out of the water,” and the fences which once divided estates, now only divide “watery wastes.” The rise has been regularly going on for seven years and irregularly for seven more. It is however stated in the Buffalo Advertiser, that within the last two or three months, owing probably to the great evaporation by heat, the water has fallen a few inches. Lake Erie is now about 4 feet higher than in 1825, and Lake Ontario about 6½ feet higher.

Journal of Commerce.
The white Pigeon (Michigan) Gazette, states that persons in that neighborhood have been authorized and furnished with funds to purchase wheat at four shilling a bushel, payable in eastern money. The crops are excellent, and have been got in without disadvantage.

During the blunder shower, on Friday afternoon last, the house of Mr. Nathan Crafts, near Wallham, was struck by lightning. The fluid first struck an apple tree which stood by an open window, on which were hanging several scythes. One of the scythes was completely twisted into a withe. The fluid then passed off and struck several parts of the house, the principal portion entering by an open window, where Mr. Crafts was sitting at the tea table, and a young lady in another part of the room. Mr. C. was in the act of raising a cup of tea to his lips, when it was dashed from his hands to the floor, the dishes thrown from the table, and the table itself overturned; the fluid next passed into an adjoining closet, where several guns were standing, one of which was completely destroyed, and another standing by its side loaded, left untouched. Passing from the closet out the door, it entered the wood shed, setting fire to several articles in its progress, and completely ransacked a chest of tools, nearly all of which were destroyed, several portions of a broad axe being melted. A woman who was sitting in an upper room was thrown from her chair, but no one in the house seriously injured.—[Dedham Patriot.]

Sutherland, the Canada Patriot.

The Toronto Patriot states that an unconditional pardon to Thomas J. Sutherland has just been received. Upon which the N. York Commercial remarks:—“The pardon will come to late, and Mr. Sutherland will be at liberty before he reaches Quebec. He is freed by the justice of England have decided that his conviction was illegal, and we learn from the Quebec Mercury that their decision was accompanied by an order for discharge.—We repeat, and with increased confidence, our belief that neither of the four prisoners left for execution at Niagara has been executed.”

Distressing Death.—On Saturday, two laborers, down in the Neck, near this city, both respectable single men, named George Wilbeck, and Samuel Dudley, the former an Englishman about 30 years of age the other not over 22, were at work in cleansing a well, or fishing something up that had been dropped in. The usual precaution of putting down a lighted candle, was resorted to—which eventually, though not immediately, went out. Supposing it the result of accident, the elder thought he might descend with safety, and accordingly descended. He had been down but a few minutes, when his companion Dudley, saw that he was ill, and cried out to him to “Seize hold of the rope and come out.” He obeyed the call of Dudley, but before the latter could get him to the top, Wilbeck, unable to hold on longer, fell back into the well. Dudley perceiving his situation, instantly descended—but, by the time he had secured the rope around Wilbeck, out, and handed the rope back to Dudley, cried out, “I cannot get up, thus he paid with his life, his generosity to his companion. Wilbeck was not resuscitated until after some hours of the most unremitting attention from his physicians.

Dreadful Accident.—We are informed that a most painful accident occurred on the Columbia Railroad, on Sunday afternoon, this side of the Bridge. An intemperate man, named Charles McPhaton, residing in the Northern Liberties staggered upon the road, fell, one leg and arm remaining upon the rail of the track, in which situation, one or more cars passed over him. It is supposed to have been in the dusk of the evening. When found, his leg was literally mashed to a jelly, and his arm almost entirely cut off. A large family of children are dependent mainly upon him for a living.

The Delegates to the convention assembled yesterday in this borough, and after the delegates from the various counties represented had formed themselves in order, the whole body united at the Court House and marched in procession through some of the principal streets to the enlivening strains of martial music, and with numerous and appropriate Flags and Banners. Truly it was an imposing spectacle. On no occasion do we remember to have seen so great a body of men meet for an occasion of the kind. There can be no doubt but there were THREE THOUSAND delegates in the procession.

Reading Dem.

The Pittsburg Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church adjourned on the 27th July. They adopted resolutions expressive of their opposition to slavery; but they declared that they “judge it incompatible with the duties and obligations of Methodist preachers to spend their time in delivering abolition lectures, contributing to the getting up of abolition conventions or in circulating abolition papers.”

The Germantown Telegraph says—“We are informed that on Friday last, Mr. Charles Rittenhouse, shot a Gray Eagle, on the banks of the Wissahickon at Rittenhouse town, which measures five feet and ten inches from one extremity of the wing to the other. He was brought down from the top of a tree, at a distance of eighty yards, with ordinary shot. This is the first species seen in this neighborhood for many years.”

The Huzzas of Posterity.—A little boy near Hagerstown in Maryland, was one day pointing out to me a cove of trees as the place where Washington at the head of the Virginia rangers, fought a battle long before the war of the revolution with some Indians headed by French from Fort Duquesne, now Pittsburg. The little fellow had some balls of lead which had been fired in the battle, chipped from the centres of the now massive aged oaks. I saw sunbeam of some moral emotion in his eyes, and I asked him further of Washington, the brave youth who led Virginians into that thicket when the war-whoop shook its bough, and the rifle rung in its gloom.

His mind seemed to glance like lightning through the illustrious deeds of arms in which Washington had been engaged, and settled down at the closing scene of Yorktown. He told me of one circumstance only. Said he, “when the British troop were marched out with their arms Washington told the American army, ‘My boys, let there be no insults over a conquered foe! when they lay down their arms don't huzza; posterity will huzza for you.’”

I could have hugged the little boy to my bosom. Although he had not been able to read probably more than four years, yet his mind had drunk deep in moral greatness of the act of sparing the feelings of a fallen foe. I asked him what it was that Washington said that posterity would do? he quickly answered, “huzza.” “Huzza! then,” said I; and he sent his clear, wild shout into the battle-wood, and I shouted with him, “Huzza for Washington!”

Providential Escape.—As a young lady of Philadelphia, on a visit to her friends in this place, and Miss Roher of this city, were looking over the precipice of Woodward's Rock, she fell down the precipice into the Conestoga river. The height of the rock above the river, into which the lady fell is 94 feet almost perpendicular. The water was about three feet deep where she fell, and will in some measure account for her miraculous escape; for what is most extraordinary after emerging from the water, she declared she was not hurt. This is certainly of the most providential escapes we have heard of. Many years ago a young man, a son of Mr. Francis, was looking over the very same spot where the lady fell from, and in like manner fell down the precipice, but was instantly killed. Two other cases of accident at the same spot are fresh in our memory; and in each the gentlemen barely escaped with life.—Lancaster Journal.

A terrible tragedy recently occurred at Canton, Mississippi, growing out of the late duel between Messrs. Dickins and Drane, of that place. A Kentuckian, a stranger, happening to be in Canton, spoke of the duel, and charged Mitchell Calhoun, the second of Dane, with cowardice and unfairness. Mr. Calhoun called upon the Kentuckian and was repeated. A challenge and fight with Bowie knives, toe to toe, were the consequence. Both parties were dreadfully and dangerously wounded, though neither was dead at the last advices. Mr. Calhoun is a brother to the Hon. John Calhoun, member of Congress from this State.—Journal

Silver Mine.—We learn that a silver mine has lately been discovered near the mouth of the Mahoning. It was shown by an Indian, after considerable solicitation on the part of the individual to whom it was pointed out. The Indian had procured ore from the mine from which he had brooches, ear rings, finger rings and other ornaments manufactured. He obtained the ore by hewing it off with his hatchet, were it protruded beyond the rocks in the almost perpendicular crag on the bank of the stream. If the report proves correct, it must be a mine of no inconsiderable importance, both as it regards quantity and per centage.

Warren Bulletin.

Dreadful Casualty.—We have learned the particulars of a most terrible accident which occurred yesterday afternoon on the Lehigh and Susquehanna Rail Road, says the Wyoming Republican, on the section of Messrs. Shoemaker & Co. A man engaged in blasting was in the act of tamping the blast, when the spindle, as is supposed, struck some part of the rock and produced combustion and explosion. The pit in which the explosion took place, was filled at the time with workmen, and the effects were indeed horrible. One man was instantaneously killed, the concussion having entirely thrown open his chest, and displaced the lungs from their position; another had his leg so fractured above the knee, the bone being broken and the flesh torn and mangled, that before medical assistance could be procured, he bled to death.

Seven others were more or less injured, but none it is thought fatally; one of them had his shoulder dislocated. The two who were killed are said to have been fine workmen; both having families.

GEN. PORTER having resigned his office of State Senator, write have been issued authorizing the election of a new Senator for the district, composed of the counties of Union, Mifflin, Juniata, Perry and Huntingdon.