

## RITNER CONVENTION AT PITTSBURG

We understand that the most intense agitation and excitement occurred at the Ritner Convention yesterday evening. Benedict the fugitive treasurer of the Kensington Benevolent Society, had been repeating his villeg and malignant falsehoods against Gen. Porter's worth as a man. One of the Whig delegates of this city, rose and disclaimed the foul assertions of the vile slanderer, Benedict; and let loose upon him in a torrent of indignant and manly eloquence, strongly intimating that the villifiers of Mr. Porter were little better than base perjurers, and that such witnesses might be procured at very little expense. We have since learned, a number of the more manly and candid of the federalists have expressed the same sentiments, and that the feeling of disgust is extensive. We have little doubt that many of the delegates will go home thoroughly sickened of the base artifices of their co-partisans, if not entirely alienated from the cause. Indeed, we perceive that one of the delegates from Ritner's own county has publicly renounced him."

Mr. Mahon the delegate above alluded to, closed his address in answer to the foul slanders heaped upon Gen. Porter by Benedict, (of Peg Deauty memory.) Thus—

"I HAVE HAD THE HONOR TO KNOW GEN'L PORTER LONG—I KNEW HIM WHEN PROSPERITY SHONE AROUND ME—I KNEW HIM WHEN DIFFICULTIES THICKENED AROUND HIM—I HAVE KNOWN HIM IN MANY SITUATIONS; AND I HAVE ALWAYS KNOWN HIM TO BE THE SAME FRANK HEARTED, KIND, UPRIGHT AND HONORABLE MAN. SIR, I DO NOT BELIEVE THESE CHARGES AGAINST HIM."

From the Allegheny Democrat.

## RENUNCIATION OF A DELEGATE FROM WASHINGTON!

We stop the press this morning in order to give place to the subjoined communication from under the hand of a delegate from Ritner's own county. The anties have been exceedingly unfortunate in Washington—several persons declined serving them in the capacity of delegates a few weeks ago, and now when the delegation arrives on the ground, one of their number publicly declares that he will vote for Porter!! One hundred cheers for old Washington; Porter is going ahead there.—read the communication of Mr. Grant.

PITTSBURG, Sept. 3, 1838.

TO MY FELLOW CITIZENS—

I was for Ritner, and was chosen one of the delegates for Washington county, to attend the Convention in this city, on the 3d inst. I did attend and took my seat in that Convention. I there heard a reputation of the charges against Gen. Porter; and after maturely considering the whole subject, I was firmly and sincerely impressed with the belief that the charges were false and corrupt, and that Gen. Porter was a much injured man. I cannot give my aid to such a most contemptible and unprincipled mode of electioneering; and after much reflection, I am of opinion that the best interests of our country, would be endangered if not destroyed by the success of Joseph Ritner. I will therefore go for Democratic principles, and for the defence of injured worth by supporting Gen. Porter.

ROBERT GRANT.

## SIMON SNYDER and D. R. PORTER. SLANDERS of the OPPOSITION.

Having got hold of an old file of newspapers, we have looked back to the contest of 1808, between the democratic candidate Simon Snyder, and the federalist James Ross. We were struck with the truth of the remark we heard an old German make a few days ago, as he brought to us several of the vile pamphlets, which the abolition Ritnerites, are now circulating by the hundreds of thousands! Said he, "I gave my first vote for Snyder, and I can always tell the democratic candidate before the election, by the federalists abusing him—the democrats never go to so much trouble." We shall enumerate a few of the charges against Simon Snyder. The paper we have examined, professed to be dignified, and so did not copy the "Hog Stealing," "Sheep Stealing," "Calf Skin Cheating," and "Hide Changing" stories, but confined themselves to more decent matters.

Simon Snyder was charged, upon the oath of several such vagabonds as Sturgeon, Stonebraker and others, with endeavoring to cheat his brother's children out of the Isle of Que. He was charged with the suppression and hiding or destroying important papers necessary to a fair trial of the cause, and a suit was brought against him for the purpose of effect upon the election. [See "Dauphin Guardian" of October 4, 1808.]

Can any man fail to see the source from whence the Ritnerites have copied their charges against D. R. Porter, of cheating, of purloining papers from the office, &c. and also the trick of bringing suits against him just before the election, for the purpose of operating against him unjustly? Every act of the opposition (now as 30 years ago) goes upon the presumption that the people are fools, and will believe any and every thing. The federal party have uniformly raised the cry of corruption, and claimed all the honesty and decency, while their acts show them to be the most corrupt and dishonest party that ever existed. For

Forgery, Perjury, Bribery and Corruption, are their yearly instruments, to accomplish their purpose. On the sixth of May, 1808, Frederick Beechel swore before Frederick Hellen, of Reading, that Simon Snyder had said, "that a poor man should have no right to vote." His deposition is followed by the certificate of Marks John Biddle, now a Ritner man, and about twenty others. [See "Oracle of Dauphin," of October 1, 1809.]

On the 12th of August 1808, George Church swore before William Steel, Esq. of Allegheny County, that Simon Snyder said "a poor man ought not to have the right of voting." [See Oracle of Dauphin, of the 27th August, 1808.]

In the Oracle, of September 3, 1808, a writer charges Simon Snyder, with having sat in the Legislature 18 years, and not spoken 18 words upon any question before the house. The same charge is now made against David R. Porter; he is said never to have made a speech, and not to be able to make one; although Mr. Forster says he is a clear and sensible speaker. In the "Oracle" of October 1, 1808 are several affidavits and extracts from documents to prove that SIMON SNYDER, HAD CHEATED A POOR FAMILY OUT OF UPWARDS OF SIXTEEN DOLLARS—that he had sued the man—sold his hogs—got the money, and then tried to collect it of him the second time, and that when he was caught in this fraud, he offered to settle upon their signing a long paper drawn up by himself, and which he then pulled out of his pocket." From this affair we presume they copied the Sturgeon case against DAVID R. PORTER—that after trying to cheat him, he offered to compromise if he would sign a certificate of his good character—a thing as foolish as it is false. In the same paper of October 8th, 1808—there is another affidavit, relative to fraud in land matters, and Snyder attempting to cheat a man out of a rifle. In the same paper are more extracts from records, &c. to prove Simon Snyder's rascality; and a certificate from that pure democrat, the Ritner Vice President, Abraham Bombsuch, to prove the character of the swearer.

In the next paper of October 15, 1808, is the announcement of the election in Dauphin county, which we recommend to the attention of the Ritner party, and trust that as they have copied the false affidavits and certificates, only changing the names, so they copy this article which we presume will be equally applicable to their case.

The Oracle says, "the election so far as we have heard in this state, has turned out quite the reverse of what we expected." It then gives as a reason for its former assertions, and the very different result, that they were deceived, and that there is no chance of "calculating on mankind." Such a come off will do as well as any for the federal Ritner party; who, if they are not deceived themselves, are endeavoring to deceive others.

To the democrats of Dauphin county, we say, they are the same party now as they were 30 years ago. George Fisher and Abraham Bombsuch, were the federal committee men and slanderers of Simon Snyder in 1808—they are the Ritner Presidents and slanderers of David R. Porter in 1838.—Obed Fahnestock and Daniel Stine, were committee men and supporters of Simon Snyder in 1808—they are both the supporters of DAVID R. PORTER, in 1838.—We doubt not, pretty much the same is the case throughout the state. In looking at these things, can any intelligent man doubt the result? We do not believe they can—we do not—but believe DAVID R. PORTER, WILL BE ELECTED BY A MAJORITY OF AT LEAST 20 THOUSAND VOTES.

Who ever will read the refutation of the vile calumnies against Gen. Porter, and calmly weigh the evidence, will (like Mr. Dunlop,) be convinced that he is as honest a man as there is in the commonwealth.—We believe that he will come out of the fire of persecution, as fair as any Governor Pennsylvania ever had, and be loved the more for the slanders which have been heaped upon him, by those who are but fugitives from justice and deserve the penitentiary for their offences.—Keystone.

## GEORGE WASHINGTON.

It is good, in every possible occasion, for us Americans to ponder the character of this man. We have never seen a fine picture of Washington's greatness than the following. It appeared in the London "Courier," then a leading British government paper, on the 24th of January, 1800. It was at that time cut from the paper, and has been preserved in a family scrap book ever since. It has been republished in more recent days, we have not seen it; but we are persuaded our readers will own, even if it has appeared since, it cannot be revised too frequently. We have no idea to whom its authorship is to be ascribed:

"The melancholy account of the death of General Washington was brought by a vessel from Baltimore, which arrived off Dover. General Washington was we believe, in his 68th year. The height of his person was about five feet eleven; his chest full, and his limbs, though rather slender, well shaped and muscular. His head was small, in which respect he resembled the make of a great number of his countrymen. His eyes were of a light grey color; and in proportion to the length of his face, his nose was long. Mr. Stewart, the eminent portrait painter, used to say, there were features in his face really different from what

he had ever observed in that of any other human being; the sockets for the eyes, for instance, were larger than what he ever met with before, and the upper part of his nose broader. All his features, he observed, were indicative of the strongest passions; yet like Socrates, his judgement and great command have always made him appear a man of a different cast in the eyes of the world. He always spoke with great diffidence and sometimes hesitated for a word; but it was always to find one particularly well adapted to his meaning. His language was manly and expressive. At levee, his discourse with strangers turned principally upon the subject of America; and if they had been through any remarkable places, his conversation was free and particularly interesting, for he was intimately acquainted with every part of the country. He was much more open and free in his behaviour at home than in private, and in the company of ladies still more so than when solely with men.

Few persons ever found themselves for the first time in the presence of General Washington without being impressed with a certain degree of veneration and awe; nor did those emotions subside on a closer acquaintance; on the contrary, his person and deportment were such as rather tended to augment them. The hard services he had seen, the important and laborious offices he filled, gave a kind of austerity to his countenance, and a reserve to his manners, yet he was the kindest husband, the most humane master, the steadiest friend. The whole range of history does not present to our view a character upon which we can dwell with such entire and unmixed admiration.

The long life of George Washington is unstained by a single blot. He was indeed a man of such rare endowments, and such fortunate temperament, that every action he performed was equally exempted from the charge of vice or weakness. Whatever he said, or did, or wrote, was stamped with a striking and peculiar propriety. His qualities were so happily blended, and so nicely harmonized, that the result was a great and perfect whole. The power of his mind, and the disposition of his heart were admirably suited to each other. It was the union of the most consummate prudence with the most perfect moderation. His views, though large and liberal, were never extravagant. His virtues, though comprehensive and beneficent, were discriminating, judicious and practicable. Yet his character, though regular and uniform, possessed none of the littleness which may sometimes belong to these descriptions of men. It formed a majestic pile, the which was not impaired, but improved by order & symmetry. There was nothing in it to dazzle by wildness, & surprise by eccentricity. It was of a higher species of moral beauty. It contained every thing great and useful ornament. It was not the model cried up by fashion and circumstances its excellence was adapted to the true just moral taste, incapable of change from the varying accidents of manners, of opinions and times.

General Washington is not the idol of a day, but the hero of ages! Placed in circumstances of the most trying difficulties at the commencement of the American contest, he accepted that situation which was pre-eminent in danger and responsibility. His perseverance overcame every obstacle; his moderation conciliated every opposition; his genius supplied every resource; his enlarged view could plan, revise, and improve every branch of civil and military operation. He had the superior courage which can act or forbear to act, as true policy dictates, careless of the reproaches of ignorance either in power or out of power. He knew how to conquer by waiting in spite of obloquy, for the moment of victory; and he merited true praise by despising undeserved censure. In the most arduous moments of the contest, his prudent firmness proved the salvation of the cause which he supported. His conduct was on all occasions, guided by the most pure disinterestedness—Far superior to low and grovelling motives, he seemed even to be uninfluenced by that ambition which has justly been called the instinct of great souls.—He acted ever as if his country's welfare and that alone, was the moving spring. His excellent mind needed not even the stimulus of ambition, or the prospect of fame. Glory was a secondary consideration. He performed great actions, he preserved in a course of laborious utility, with an unquenchable thirst for distinction, nor was flattered by it. His reward was in the consciousness of his own rectitude, and in the success of his patriotic efforts.

As his elevation to the chief power was the unbiased choice of his countrymen, his exercise of it was greable to the purity of its origin. As he had neither solicited nor usurped dominion, he had neither to contend with the opposition of rivals, nor the revenge of enemies. As his authority was undisputed, so it required no jealous precautions, no vigorous severity. His government was mild and gentle; it was beneficent and liberal; it was wise and just. His prudent administration consolidated & enlarged the dominion of an infant republic. In voluntary resigning the magistracy which he had filled with such distinguished honor, he enjoyed the unequalled satisfaction of leaving to the state he had contributed to establish, the fruits of his wisdom and the example of his virtues. It is some consolation amidst the violence of ambition and the criminal thirst of power, of which so many instances occur around us, to find a character whom it is honorable to admire and virtuous to imitate. A conqueror, for

the freedom of his country; a legislator, for his society; a magistrate, for its happiness! His glories were never sullied by those excesses into which the highest qualities are apt to degenerate. With the greatest virtues, he was exempt from the corresponding vices. He was a man in whom the elements were so mixed that "Nature might have stood up to all the world" and owned him as her work. His fame, bounded by no country, will be confined to no age. The character of General Washington, which his contemporaries regret and admire, will be transmitted to posterity, and the memory of his virtues are held sacred among men, and will remain undiminished."

## THE COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT.



BLOOMSBURG:

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1838.

## DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION FOR GOVERNOR: GEN. DAVID R. PORTER. (OF HUNTINGDON COUNTY.)

The Constitution of 1838, To be Voted for by the People in October.

## DEMOCRATIC TICKET FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY.

Congress.  
DAVID PETRIKIN, of Danville.  
Assembly.  
WILLIAM COLT, of Danville.  
Commissioner,  
JOHN MCHENRY, of Sugarloaf.  
Treasurer,  
JEREMIAH WELLIVER, of Madison.  
Auditor,  
SEBASTIAN HOWER, of RoaringCreek.

The "High Priest of Summets" is down upon us with all the abuse, he is so capable of using, for our attempt two weeks since, to unite the democratic party upon the county ticket. His whole article is a tissue of falsehoods and base insinuations, worthy of the author and the course he has heretofore pursued in regard to the regular nominations of the party. Never having sustained the democratic ticket, unless it was composed exclusively of his favorites, and always acting upon the principle of self, in preference to the interest of the whole, he has uniformly opposed the election of every man favorable to the northern interest, who were so fortunate as to obtain a place upon the ticket. Being insincere in his own professions of honesty of purpose, he, like all those of like kidney, doubts the sincerity of others. He cannot believe that they act from principle because he is himself destitute of it; he therefore, cannot believe that any one will give his support to the ticket, without some selfish or interested motive. Thus comes his virulent attack upon us.

We well knew, when we took charge of the "Democrat," that we should bring down upon us the band that surround the "Intelligencer," if we acted independent of their dictation, and supported the true interest of the whole democratic party, by sustaining their regular nominations. Knowing this, we were prepared for the onset which we are now compelled to encounter in defence of our course; and we defy contradiction, when we say, that it has been purely democratic, both before and since the nominations were made. We had a preference of candidates for nomination—we took a frank, open and honorable course to sustain that preference. When those friends were defeated in convention, we, contrary to the usages of the "Intelligencer," submitted to the will of the majority, and at once, avowed our determination to sustain the whole ticket, although we knew it was formed, under false pretences, by the chief movers, in direct hostility to our interest and that of our friends. We gave up all prior preferences, for the sake of union and harmony in the party, knowing the importance of the approaching election to its future prosperity, not only in this state, but throughout the Union. We hesitated not a moment. We were determined to unite the party upon the ticket if possible, and knowing that jealousies did exist, to some extent, in relation to it, and at the earnest solicitation of democrats from different portions of the county, who knew the feelings that prevailed, and who were anxious that the ticket should be elected, we called for measures to be adopted in a certain quarter, that alone

could secure a united vote upon it. And how are we met? By the most insulting language that can be made use of, instead of that reciprocating spirit of peace and harmony which was breathed throughout our article upon the subject. All concessions for a union are rejected with contempt, and our attempt to reconcile the various interests of the county denounced as disorganizing and rebellious, and calculated to aid in securing the election of the opposition ticket. Why is this done? What other motive but "revenge" could have produced this wholesale slander and denunciation? None whatever.

We have aimed for a union, but the "Intelligencer," true to its motto, "rule or ruin," is determined it shall not be effected, unless there is a "base bowing of the knee" to him and his creatures. Let us disappoint him. Let us sustain the ticket as recommended by the convention. Let us go heart and hand in its support, and show to the "trimmer," of the "Intelligencer," that a higher motive governs our actions, than the sordid principle of self, upon which he has always acted—that we will go for democracy and Porter, "independent of all other considerations"—and be prepared to place in nomination, before another election, such a ticket as will represent the interest of the whole party instead of that of a few political gamblers.

## THE EAST IS COMING!! HUZZA FOR MAINE!

The Democracy of Maine has nobly redeemed their State from the thralldom of Federal Whiggery, by triumphantly electing a democratic governor, by a majority of over 5000—6 members of Congress out of 8—and a majority in both branches of their State Legislature. Nine cheers and a hundred guns for democratic Maine.

Alabama, Illinois, Missouri, in the west, led the van. Then follows Maine from the East; and next Pennsylvania, the Keystone State, will come thundering with all her strength upon the dismayed battalions of federal whiggery.

For the Columbia Democrat.

Mr. Printer,

I recently paid a visit to my friend, Mr. Traub, situated about two miles from Cattawissa. The vines are regularly and methodically arranged, and display the superior skill of my friend in handsome style. He has now vines of various ages, but none exceeding four years. Those of two years, and upwards, bear grapes, but the oldest the most abundantly. My friend is a native of Wertenberg, and brought his plants from that country. He has many varieties, all of which are in good health, and abundantly laden with choice fruit. Amongst the varieties in the garden or yard of my friend, are the following:—A white grape of a delicious flavor, called "Gut-edel," (good noble,) which makes the best of wine—the sort most used by the nobility, whence the name. A purple grape, called "Isabella," the size and flavor of which resembles our fox-grape; this species also is much esteemed. The "Roth-Elbling," (Red Sweet-Water,) is a red grape, of beautiful appearance, and much esteemed. The "Klafterner," "Solfener," and "Frankish" or "French," are blue or blackish, and grow less compact than the Isabella. He has also the "Ungerer" or Hungarian, which is considered a more common plant in Europe.

My friend has now about the tenth part of an acre under cultivation, and has young plants or scions sufficient to plant an acre more. He commenced only four years ago, but he says his vines of four years old are quite as forward as similar plants of eight years growth would be in Germany. His plants of three years are as productive as those of five or six would be in Wertenberg.

The vineyard will yield about two barrels of wine this season, notwithstanding its tender age, and the great drought. Now, sir, besides the great pleasure derived from my visit, and the hospitality of my friend, I have gathered a data to prove the opinion long entertained, that this state is susceptible of being a wine-growing district. Hear the facts as derived from the lips of a practical wine farmer and judge for yourself.

The land occupied by this man can be bought for about ten dollars per acre, and is considered rather a cold, sour soil, and descends towards the north; yet his experiment proves that when the vines are at maturity, the yield in a midding season, will exceed 20 barrels of good wine per acre. I am informed that two men can attend four acres of vines. Now let us suppose 4 acres to yield 20 barrels of wine, worth 75 cent