

# THE COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT.

"I have sworn upon the Altar of God, eternal hostility to every form of Tyranny over the Mind of Man."—Thomas Jefferson.

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OFFICE OF THE DEMOCRAT,  
NEXT DOOR TO ROBISON'S STAGE OFFICE.

## TERMS:

The COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT will be published every Saturday morning, at TWO DOLLARS per annum, payable half yearly in advance, or Two Dollars Fifty Cents, if not paid within the year.

No subscription will be taken for a shorter period than six months; nor any discontinuance permitted, until all arrearages are discharged.

ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding a square will be conspicuously inserted at One Dollar for the first three insertions, and Twenty-five cents for every subsequent insertion. A liberal discount made to those who advertise by the year. LETTERS addressed on business, must be post paid.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### AN AMERICAN IN RUSSIA.

Mr. Stevens, in his "Incidents of Travel in Greece, Russia and Poland," states that he found in the neighborhood of Odessa, an American who had been twenty years in Russia, and has gone through all the routine of offices and honors up to the grade of grand councillor of the empire, which give him the title of his "excellency." He is a native of Philadelphia, first enlisted in our navy, and served as sailing master on board the Wasp—afterwards became dissatisfied, and entered the Russian navy and came round to the Black Sea as captain of a frigate: was transferred to the land service, and in the campaign of 1814, entered Paris with the allied army as colonel of the regiment. He left the army with the rank of a brigadier general, and was appointed inspector of the port of Odessa, an office next in rank to the Governor of Crimes. During the absence of Count Woronzow, the governor, he lived in the palace, and exercised the duties of the office for eight months. He married a lady of rank, with an estate and several hundred slaves near Moscow, but resided mostly on his farm, a short distance from Odessa, which contains six hundred acres, principally laid down in wheat, and is cultivated by white slaves.—The value of the farm is estimated at \$60,000. The name of this individual is said to be Sontag, and he is the son of a Revolutionary soldier.

**The Wages of Treason.**—Our readers are probably aware that a committee has lately been appointed by the English House of Commons, to investigate the nature of various pensions heretofore granted by the Crown.—The committee reported, not long ago, and extracts from their report are given in several of the London papers. From one of these we find that two sons of Benedict Arnold, the Traitor, are yet living in England, and in receipt of a joint pension of £182. Their names are James R. and William F.; and their ages 57 and 44. The London Spectator makes the following comment on this reward of treason:—"Without passing any judgement on Arnold's morality, we admit that his sons are entitled to the pension."—*Com. Adv.*

**Inefficiency of the Present System of Female Education.**—If women are in general feeble, both in body and in mind, it arises less from nature than from education. We encourage a vicious indolence and inactivity, which we falsely call delicacy, instead of hardening their minds by the severer principles of reason and philosophy. We breed them to useless arts which terminate in vanity and sensuality. In most countries they are taught nothing more, to which they can pretend to give the name of intellectual, than the modifications of the voice, or useless postures of the body. Their time is consumed in sloth, and trifles become the only pursuit capable of interesting them, we seem to forget that it is upon the qualities of the female sex that our own domestic comfort and the education of our children depend, and what are the comforts or the education which a race of beings corrupted from their infancy, and unacquainted with all the duties of life, are fitted to bestow? To touch a musical instrument with useless skill, to exhibit their affected or natural graces to the eyes of indolent and debauched young men, to dissipate their husband's patrimony in riotous and unnecessary expenses, and these are the only arts cultivated by women of the most polished countries.

**Trade of the Ohio Canals.**—During the late month of August, there were 2,500,000 pounds of merchandise entered Cleveland for shipment inwards on the Ohio canals. During the month of July, the tolls on the Ohio Canals were \$52,458, being \$8,000 more than in the same month of 1837.

## POLITICAL.

### BRIER CREEK DEMOCRATIC MEETING.

At a respectable meeting of the Democratic citizens of Brier Creek township, held, in the School Room in Berwick, pursuant to a call given by the Committee of Vigilance of said township; On motion, GEO. B. STACKHOUSE was called to the chair, and John F. Wilbur appointed Secretary.

The object of the meeting having been stated, on motion,

Resolved—That a committee of six be appointed to draft a preamble and resolutions expressive of the sense of this meeting.

Where upon the following persons were appointed said committee.

Samuel Herrin, Esq. John Knorr,  
John Workheiser, Joseph Weis,  
Peter Solt, Levi L. Tate.

After retiring a short time, the committee returned, and through their Chairman, L. L. Tate, reported the following, which was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS—The present aspect of political affairs in Pennsylvania is fraught with interest hitherto unknown in the annals of American politics; and whereas the result of the approaching contest, now about to be decided, between the friends of Forter and Democracy and Ritner and Aristocracy, is looked to with the deepest interest, not only by every citizen of this Commonwealth, but also by the citizens of the United States generally; and whereas, it is to the sacred exercise of that blood-bought inheritance—the right of the elective franchise—bequeathed to us by the last will and testament of our patriotic ancestors, that we can look, and through which in reason we see the means of extricating the powers that be: Therefore, be it

Resolved—That we approve of the administration of the General Government of the U. S. as administered by Martin Van Buren, and believe that his course has met the general approbation of the American democracy.

Resolved—That the re-action of a number of the States of this Union, in throwing off the shackles of federalism, fastened upon them by the help of "panic and pressure," and coming out for democratic men and measures, is strong evidence of their confidence in President Van Buren and his political principles.

Resolved—That we cordially approve of the nomination of Gen. DAVID R. PORTER, as the democratic candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania, and hereby pledge our united effort, to use all fair and honorable means to secure his election.

Resolved—That we are opposed to the re-election of Joseph Ritner, because we honestly believe him identified with Federalism, Bankism, Hoco Poccism, and last, but not least, "Abolitionism" in all their hideous forms.

Resolved—That we approve of the course of the Hon. DAVID PETRIKIN, our representative in Congress, and believe that he has won the esteem and confidence of a large majority of the freemen of this Congressional District.

Resolved—That we approve of the Democratic Ticket presented to the Electors of Columbia county and will give it a "long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether" on the 2nd Tuesday of October next. Its success is certain.

On motion the following were unanimously adopted.

Resolved—That we view the slanders of Gen. David R. Porter, as totally regardless of moral honesty, and worse than they represent him to be.

Resolved—That the majorities D. R. Porter has always received in his own township and county, (in which he was never beat) is a sufficient refutation of the base slanders issued against him.

Resolved—That our federal opponents can and always have, beat us lying, but we can, and will again, beat them voting.

Resolved—That this meeting adjourn sine die, and that the proceedings be signed by the President and Secretary, and published in the Berwick Sentinel, Danville Intelligencer, and Columbia Democrat.

GEO. B. STACKHOUSE, Pres.  
JOHN F. WILBUR, Secretary.

### VOICE OF DEMOCRATIC MIFFLIN.

At a large and respectable meeting of the democratic citizens of Mifflin township, convened at the school house in said township, on Saturday 23d inst. agreeable to public notice given. On motion, PETER HURLOCHER was called to the chair, and Daniel Hutchins appointed Secretary. On motion of Henry Pettit a committee of five were appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting. Whereupon H. Pettit, U. Michael, Jacob Hartzel, John Michael and Peter Heller were appointed said Committee, H. Pettit, Esq. from the Committee made the following report:

Resolved, That we have full confidence in the HONESTY, INTEGRITY, UPRIGHTNESS and DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES, OF DAVID R. PORTER the Democratic candidate for Governor, and that we will use all diligence in promoting his election.

Resolved, That the Hon. D. Petrikin is entitled to the thanks, not only of the citizens of this Congressional District but of the democracy of Pennsylvania, for his fearless and independent support of the measures of the General Government, and his devotion to the interest of the people, and that we will use all honorable means to promote his re-election.

Resolved, That we will use our best endeavors to defeat the re-election of the present weak, imbecile and corrupt occupant of the Gubernatorial office, and to resist the signing and wicked bevy of YANKEE ADVENTURERS, Fenn, Stevens & Co.

Resolved, That we consider the present election contest a contest for principle and one of the most important to the vital interests of the people, since the election of Thomas Jefferson:

Resolved, That we can in no wise tolerate in our beloved native Pennsylvania; the tyrannical and oppressive system now carried on by strangers to our interests, our soil and our people Stevens & Co. of "PERSECUTING MEN FOR OPINIONS SAKE;" we mean the turning of poor labourers from the public works because they will not Huzza for Ritner and his crew.

Resolved, That the ticket formed at Bloomsburg, by the democratic convention of Columbia county shall receive our undivided support.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the proper officers and published in the democratic papers of this county.

On motion, adjourned.  
PETER HURLOCHER, Chair'n.  
D. HUTCHINS, Secretary.

To Joseph Ritner, Esquire, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

SIR:—It is to me a source of unfeigned regret at any time to sunder the bonds of personal friendship with any man, and I have never done it until I found that I had been deceived or ill-treated.

I first became acquainted with you when we were both members of the House of Representatives, and of the same political party, in the fall of 1824, and first acquaintance soon ripened into friendship—a friendship which was intimate, and on my part at least sincere. I believe it was then so on your part. We served together for two successive sessions, when according to the rule adopted in our district, I was not a candidate for re-election, in order that the representative might come from Wayne county, and Nathaniel B. Eldred, Esq. succeeded me and served for two years. In the fall of 1828 I was again elected to the House of Representatives, but by this time a change had taken place in your politics, & you were left at home. The difference of our politics, however, created no estrangement be-

tween us personally. I felt for you the same feeling of friendship which I possessed when in 1826 I named a son for you.

You subsequently became a candidate for Governor in opposition to the democratic party, and after two unsuccessful attempts you succeeded in 1835 in being elected by a minority, in consequence of the split between Messrs. Wolf and Muhlenburg. I knew you had once been a democrat, and although you had been vacillating between Democracy and National Republicanism alias Federalism, and finally sought to avail yourself of the Anti-masonic excitement, I nevertheless could not still give up all hopes of you and your conduct relative to many of the appointments in Monroe and Pike counties, satisfied me that however we might differ in politics, we still were personal friends, and so continued until by the transaction which I am about to detail, you compelled me to abandon all the good feelings I had entertained for you, and to set you down as a man destitute of honor and veracity.

Whilst a member of the Reform Convention, in the summer of 1837, Judge Scott, of the 11th Judicial District, and old and valued friend, wrote to me to say that he had some intention of resigning his office, and would do so provided he could have an assurance that a person whom he could approve would be appointed his successor. Knowing the intimacy which subsisted between us, he asked my opinion, as I lived in the district, about the matter, and desired that it might be broached to you. This was accordingly done, and a long and friendly conversation took place between us, you expressing doubts of Judge Scott's sincerity in proposing to resign, and I desiring you to reflect upon the matter, as I would stand by a corresponding course on your part. During the sessions of the Convention at Harrisburg, you and I frequently talked over the matter, and you gave me to understand that you would appoint Nathaniel B. Eldred, Esq. then President of the 18th Judicial District, composed of the counties of Warren, M'Kean, Jefferson, &c. if Judge Scott would resign. I accordingly so informed Judge Scott, who, in the month of March 1838, drew up his resignation, and handed it to me to be delivered to you on that condition.

On the 16th of March last, I was again at Harrisburg, and had an interview with you on the subject, and you then solemnly assured me that if Judge Scott would resign, the commission should be made out for Judge Eldred. I then handed to you Judge Scott's resignation, and stated to you that the Courts in Luzerne would commence on the first Monday of April, and that probably Judge Eldred could not reach Wilkesbarre until the Court would be nearly over, and that the commission had better be forwarded to the Prothonotary at Wilkesbarre, and Judge Eldred directed to proceed directly to that place. To this you assented, and directed me to write to Judge Eldred that he was appointed, and that he should immediately resign his commission as President of the 18th district, and proceed to Wilkesbarre where his commission would be waiting for him, and take upon himself the duties of President of the 11th District. I asked you whether it was your desire that Judge Eldred should announce the change before he left home.—You said he had better do so, as that would enable the people of the 18th District to cast about for a successor. In order to make assurance doubly sure, I here asked you whether this arrangement might be depended on, and you said that you would appoint Nathaniel B. Eldred, and no other man in the world. I might depend upon your word.

Upon this assurance, on the 17th of March 1838, I wrote a letter from Harrisburg to my friend Judge Eldred, telling him he was appointed to the 11th District; that he should send on his resignation as President of the 18th District to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, announce the fact in the 18th district, and proceed to Wilkesbarre,

to hold the Courts there for the 11th District.

I left Harrisburg on the 19th of March; and in passing through Philadelphia, I had Judge Eldred's appointment announced in the newspapers. I proceeded home, never dreaming of any treachery or disappointment, when on the 12th of April, to my astonishment, I received a letter from a friend in Harrisburg, dated April 8th, saying, "Your friend Joseph Ritner has played you and Judge Scott a pretty trick. He yesterday appointed Wm. Jessup, of Montrose, President Judge of your District, in the place of Judge Scott. He told Mr. — that the commission was made out and forwarded to him." I could scarcely credit this intelligence, but going to Stroudsburg the next day, I received a letter directed to me at that place, from Thomas H. Burrows, in which he said, "The Governor desires me to inform you that he has this day appointed W. Jessup, Esq. of Montrose; as Judge Scott's successor in the 11th District. He could delay the appointment no longer consistently with his public duty and a due regard for the administration of justice.— Judge Eldred has had three weeks in which to forward his resignation, but not having done so, the presumption was that he did not wish the change," &c.

On the night of the 10th of April, or early on the morning of the 11th, Judge Eldred arrived at Harrisburg, in pursuance of my letter. This was at as early a day as a letter leaving Harrisburg on the 17th of March and going to Warren, (Judge Eldred's residence,) could have an answer returned by the regular course of mail. He had ridden night and day, and by extra expense and extra exertions reached the seat of Government. He had announced the change and his intention to resign at Warren, by your direction. The matter had been published throughout the Commonwealth, and when he got to Harrisburg he was informed that you had said you never promised to appoint him. Fortunately, Judge Eldred had not sent in his resignation as President of the 18th District.

You, sir, told me two untruths in this business. You promised to appoint Judge Eldred and no other man in the world.— But for this promise you never would have received Judge Scott's resignation. You promised to send Judge Eldred's commission to Wilkesbarre, to the Prothonotary. You did neither; but appointed another before you could know, by the regular course of the mail, whether Judge Eldred would accept or not.

I have nothing to say to the gentleman whom you have appointed. He may be a pretty good lawyer, but his abolition principles do not suit the people of the 11th District, and his appointment was the consummation of a fraud, by which you obtained Judge Scott's resignation, and trifled with the feelings of Judge Eldred, one of the best and most amiable men in the State.

WM. OVERFIELD.  
Middle Smithfield, Monroe co.,  
September 18th, 1838. }

From the Eastern Democrat and Argus.  
**A CHANCE FOR THE WOOLLY HEADS AND PEG BEATYTES!**

We are authorized to offer the following bets to those who are engaged in defaming and vilifying the character of David R. Porter, and particularly to the Parson and his associate Officeholders of Northampton:

**500 DOLLARS**  
That there is not one unsatisfied claim upon earth against David R. Porter—and that he never owed one dollar that has not been paid honorably and honestly even to the very last cent.

**500 DOLLARS**  
That we can prove before any unprejudiced jury, that Samuel Sturgeon, who was procured by the Officeholders of Huntingdon county for the purpose of swearing falsely against D. R. Porter, is a perjured villain and scoundrel!