

POLITICAL.

FEDERAL SAGACITY.

"O, Thaddy S.—O, Johnny D.,
 "We feds march bravely on—
 "And the next President is for to be
 "W. H-e-n-ry H-a-r-r-i-s-o-n
 "East, west, north and south our huz-
 "zaf we'll send,
 "Till we make the mob stare at the He-
 "ro of North Bend."

Numerical strength to elect a President of the United States, in a fair and open contest, the federal party know they do not possess. Their only hope is an artifice, to which they owe all the power they have ever gained in the states. Having seen the democratic party successful with Gen. Jackson as their candidate, they, with a fatuity that characterizes all their political movements, at once ascribe his popularity to his military fame, and in casting about for a candidate themselves, settle upon an obscure county clerk because he had once worn epauletts and been a general! Not a member of their party believe Gen. Harrison to be qualified for the office of president, nor to possess talents at all comparable with Mr. Clay's. They can give no other reason for the selection, except their belief that Gen. Harrison will be popular; because Gen. Jackson was, and that the lion skin will prove such a disguise, that the people cannot discover under it the weakness and incompetency of their "available."

Gen. Harrison's career has been a downward one. He enjoyed all the advantages which birth, education and wealth, could confer. His family influence made him a Governor and Major General in early life; but when deprived of this, he had not native talent sufficient to prevent him from sinking into that utter obscurity, from which he was dug up by certain federal tacticians in search of an "available" candidate for Presidency! Thus incapable of managing his own private affairs, he is presented to the American people as a person suitable to take charge of the affairs of the nation! The statesman-like and talented Clay is thrust aside to make room for the mimic hero!

Though Gen. Jackson was loudly denounced by the federalists as a "Military Chieftain, unfit and dangerous to be entrusted with civil power," yet they now concentrate their forces upon Gen. Harrison and vociferate as lustily in favor of him as they did formerly against Gen. Jackson.—The reason of this marvellous change is easily explained. The federal party have been distinguished for their "easy virtue," since the days Gen. Harrison wore a black cockade, and supported old John Adams and the alien and sedition laws.

This same cunning federal party saw the overwhelming popularity of Gen. Jackson, and they must have a General too. They cast round for a tool and found one in Gen. Harrison, distinguished alone for his imbecility and unpopularity at home, whose whole life has been devoted to their service. Gen. Jackson was called "Old Hickory"—and they in imitation, dubbed Harrison "Old Buckeye." Gen. Jackson was denominated the "Hero of New Orleans"—straightway Gen. Harrison is brought on the stage as the mimic "Hero of North Bend!!" Gen. Jackson was first named for the Presidency in the capital of Pennsylvania—and lo! Gen. Harrison is exhumed in the same place by leaders whose support, where they are known would be regarded as a great negative compliment.—Gen. Jackson had fought many battles; gained many victories, and achieved many glorious deeds. Gen. Harrison is equally famous! He has recently gained battles from which he ran away; and where history does not speak of his actions, it is falsified and interpolated to answer the purpose.

Gen. Jackson was taken up by the spontaneous action of the people, who in gratitude for his noble acts, sustained him by frequent meetings and loud demonstrations of their feeling. His name was echoed and re-echoed from hill to hill and valley to valley, from one extremity of this vast union to the other,—his fame extensive as the wind, was written deep in the hearts of his countrymen.

Gen. Harrison is attempted, by the wise federalists, to be heralded to the world as the "unanimously chosen," as the people's candidate," and they shout, "huzzaf for the great hero of North Bend!"—"defender of Fort Meigs"—the winner of half the battles in the late war!"—and "old Cincinnati Buckeye of the West!" This ridiculous farce of striving to palm Gen. Harrison on the public as equal with Gen. Jackson, was faithfully represented by old Æsop, when he clothed the ass with the skin of a lion.

Such is the wisdom of the party, and such is the origin of their hero candidate—a humbug which when started, most laughed at; and which as it progresses disgusts all who witness the nauseous servility and slavish imitations practiced by its federal authors and supporters. Like all imitators, their General and his retainers caper in the antic style of mountebanks—out Herod, Herod in their heroism, and caricature their parts so miserably, that no one dreams they are sincere, believes their mimic to be a zeal hero, or themselves any thing else but old fashioned, blue-light federalists.

Keystone.

TRIFLING WITH THE CHARACTER AND BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Another day has been lost, and not a step taken towards the organization of Congress, since the election of Speaker. All business is arrested, not only in the House, but in the Senate, by the body of factionists who have undertaken to drive the House from its solemn reiterated decision, in regard to those attempting to force their way on the floor, not only against the vote of the majority of the people of a State, but now of the Representatives of all the States. The suspense and embarrassment, which now defeat the business of the country in both branches of Congress, and which sacrifice all its interests, and disappoint the intense and anxious public expectation, are not attributable to the Opposition as a body in Congress. There are several honorable men among those opposed to the Administration, who look with disgust upon the utter disregard shown to the order, dignity and usefulness of Congress, by those who assume to direct the New Jersey warfare. Several days ago, Mr. ALFORD of Georgia, and Mr. CRABB of Alabama, rose in their place, and openly expressed their dissatisfaction with the conduct of the party with which they stand associated. One of them declared he would no longer countenance such factious proceedings; and we have no doubt that many honorable minds entertain a secret abhorrence of the course the little men who have taken upon themselves to direct an Opposition, of which in fact they are although the most hoisterous, the least respectable, whether talents, attainments, or influence, be regarded.

Mr. HUNTER, the Speaker, acted with great decision and promptitude in his efforts to preserve order, by restraining the debate within general parliamentary rule in a body which has been deprived of its own special regulations. He again and again called the individuals of the Opposition, who are evidently speaking against time, to the points to which alone they could speak; but every effort has, so far, proved unavailing to keep down the disorder, which seems to be a part of a premeditated scheme to drive the majority to submit to the dragoning spirit which animates those who have no other means to command success.—Globe.

From the Pennsylvaniaian.

SCHUYLKILL BANK.

The following notice appeared in some of the city papers of yesterday:

The Directors of the Schuylkill Bank announce to the Public, that in consequence of the unfortunate circumstances in which the Bank suddenly finds itself placed by the unauthorised acts of the late Cashier, they find themselves compelled to suspend their payments for the present.

The Board think it proper further to state, that the acts of the late Cashier above referred to, were done without the knowledge of the former President or any of the Directors of the Bank; and were, for the first time, discovered yesterday. The Directors believe that the assets of the Bank are amply sufficient to meet its circulation and deposits, and therefore caution the public against making undue sacrifices.

Much excitement both preceded and followed the publication of this card, accustomed as the public are beginning to be in reference to such announcements; and on inquiry, its meaning is understood to be that false certificates of the stock of the Bank of Kentucky to the amount of more than ten thousand shares, being upwards of one million of dollars, had been issued by the late Cashier of the Schuylkill Bank, H. J. Lewis, who a few days ago was elected President of that institution. He, it is stated, says that this was done to sustain the Schuylkill Bank, the proceeds of the false certificates being devoted to that purpose, but the directors assert that they have no knowledge of the transaction. As to the facts of the case we cannot of course form any opinion, having but unauthorised rumor in a thousand shapes.

After the issuing of the card published above, there was a strong run upon the Bank during the morning, and an excited crowd was assembled in front of the building. Notes of small amounts, however, were redeemed until about two o'clock, when the Bank was closed by an injunction served by the Sheriff, and issued by the Supreme Court on behalf of the Bank of Kentucky. The Mayor was present during the morning, and it is said addressed a few words to the people at the time of closing the doors and windows. This is a painful subject to dwell upon—unpleasant and distressing in all its aspects, whether regarded as to its effects upon the reputation of our city abroad or upon its consequence at home, where it strikes at the very root of confidence. The development was in every respect startling and unexpected, and occurring at such a time, has caused a deep and general feeling of gloom and distrust.

Fruits of Abolition.—The Congregational meeting house, in Wolcott, Connecticut, was destroyed by fire on the night of the 11th inst., with such explosions of gunpowder that the firemen were alarmed, and would not approach it. An abolition meeting was to be held in it the next day, which may explain the cause of the church being burnt.—New York Star.

It is intimated that at least 25,000 Canadians have emigrated to the Western states the past year.

THE RECENT FRAUD.

The patience of a wronged and plundered community now appears to be exhausted and the frauds of Lewis of the Schuylkill Bank, so enormous in amount and disastrous in their consequences, as to form, as it were, a fitting climax to the long series of breaches of trust, forgeries and embezzlement, which have of late years succeeded each other with frightful rapidity, have awakened a feeling calculated, we hope, to lead to beneficial consequences. Heretofore it has been too much the fashion to hush up such affairs—to pass them over lightly. The press was content with a bare allusion—it referred to facts as briefly as possible, but with a mawkish sensibility "refrained from comments"—the public shrugged their shoulders and wondered—"who would have thought it!"—and the sufferers were left to digest their losses as they might. There seemed to be a general understanding in the community that offences upon the large scale should be born with—that "standing and connections," or some other extraneous influence, should invariably interpose as a shield, and the natural consequences of such false benevolence are now before us. Forgeries, sporting with trust and the betrayal of confidence, have gone on from bad to worse with accelerating rapidity, until at last, Philadelphia a place boasting of her character and integrity, can furnish quite as large a list of such crimes as any other city in the Union.

It has been given out, though we cannot assent to the conclusion, that our laws are insufficient to punish the generality of these offences. If this really be the fact,—for we must confess that we doubt it—we must have speedy and effective legislation to secure the punishment of offenders. Our statutes are severe enough upon the ragged miserable wretch who stands trembling at the bar of the Criminal Court for stealing to the value of a few cents to sustain life—the poor, the debased, and the friendless are sure of punishment for their small aberrations from the line of honesty—deeds which inflict the slightest possible inconveniences upon society are visited with retribution; and the larceny of a few sticks of wood, a hat or a cloak, sends the offender to toil, for months; perhaps years, in the penitentiary. This is doubtless necessary—there is no sound objection to it; but the people now demand enactments that shall secure equal justice, or if possible, make the most striking examples of those who sin almost without temptation—with none in fact which does not aggravate their offence; and it is hoped that the legislature will at the earliest moment devote their attention to this important subject—that breaches of trust involving pecuniary losses, whether public or private—whether the work of the agent of an individual, of a state officer, or of the managers of banking institutions, may be punishable as felony of the deepest die, if indeed it be the case that they are not so at present.

The public are wearied with the record of sentences against the petty rogues of the time, when they look over the list in vain to see what fate is awarded to the man who has deprived thousands of their hard earned means of support—who has stripped orphans, widows, and old men of the little property upon which they relied to sustain themselves in a hard world. They see that a single case of punishment under such circumstances—that of Dyott—is to be regarded more in the light of an accident than anything else, and they feel that, until the lot of this individual is the sure consequence of frauds of an analogous character, there can be no safety to individuals—no check to the torrent of extravagance and corruption which seems to have spread its poison every where. Even in instances which are brought by some means or other under the notice of our Courts, there too often appears to be a disposition, ballying and delay, to yield to the old system of affording impunity, or chances of escape.

It was evident that at last there must be a change. The moral sense of the community, however relaxed by the effects of speculation, extravagance, and the gambling character which business has of late assumed, is now we trust, regaining its wholesome tone under the influence of experience and suffering; and as it is evident that if honor and honesty furnish no safeguards, we must by legislative means have those which will be operative. A few severe examples, and a conviction of the unerring certainty of punishment purify the atmosphere, and aid in the restoration of a sounder state of things.—Pennsylvaniaian.

A Speaker elected.—Mr. HUNTER of Virginia, it will be perceived from our Congressional report, is elected Speaker of the House of Representatives. Mr. Hunter has never acted with the Northern Whigs, and his avowed political principles are in direct conflict with theirs at every point. He was however taken up by them at the close of the voting to-day, and being supported by a portion of the Democratic party was elected by a vote of one hundred and nineteen, out of two hundred and thirty-two votes. It will be observed that Mr. Hunter did not, on any occasion, vote for either of the Whig candidates for Speaker.

Mr. HUNTER is the grandson of JOHN TAYLOR of Caroline, one of the sternest Republicans of his time; and a leader among the founders of the Virginia school of politics. We trust that the descendant will emulate the renown of his great progenitor, and not disappoint the hopes of that portion of the Republicans who gave him their confidence.

Both Messrs. JONES and LEWIS, who were the Democratic candidates, acted throughout the contest with great delicacy, and, in turn, magnanimously withdrew, upon ascertaining that they would not outvote all the Republican votes. Although neither of the Administration candidates was elected, it was solely because was a want of unanimity in the Democratic ranks. The highest whig vote was one hundred and two for Bell; and subsequently, one hundred and three for Mr. Dawson, twelve scattering. The highest democratic vote was one hundred and thirteen—first for Mr. Jones, and the same number afterwards for Mr. Lewis—with eleven scattering in the last instance. As a last resort, the Opposition vote was cast upon a gentleman, whose principles, as we before observed, are diametrically opposed to all their doctrines, and whose concurrence with the administration upon all the great questions of political controversy is notorious.—Globe.

From the Pennsylvania Reporter.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

Washington City, Dec. 18, 1839.

In my last letter I gave you some account of the means resorted to by the whig party in congress to deprive the people of the sovereign State of New Jersey, and prevent an organization of the house, upon the principles held out by the great body of the people of this country. The question, with regard to the whig members of the State of New Jersey taking their seats, in the first instance, was discussed for two weeks, and decided over and over again in no less than ten different forms. At length some one or two of the whigs gave notice that they were tired of agitating this question, and asked their brother whigs that they should yield the question for the present and permit a speaker to be elected. This was reluctantly assented to by the opposition, and on Saturday last the house proceeded to ballot for a speaker. Mr. Lewis of Ala. and Mr. Jones of Va. were the prominent democratic candidates for speaker, and Mr. Bell of Va. and Dawson of Geo. were the whig candidates. After six ballots on Saturday, it was ascertained that neither of these four candidates could be elected, for the reasons that the states-rights men would not vote for Mr. Jones, and some of the Va. delegation together with the two Thomas's of Maryland, or Cave Johnson, and Mr. Turney of Tennessee, would not vote for Mr. Lewis, who was a nullifier. This being the state of affairs, the whigs pitched upon Mr. R. M. T. Hunter, who had voted with them in some of the questions in regard to the New Jersey case, and uniting their whole force with the southern state rights men, he was elected on the 11th ballot.

The announcement of his election was hailed with shouts of applause from the galleries, which was crowded with the Whig officers of government, and the citizens of this city of aristocracy. The news went out through the city by horse and foot express, and it was every where hailed as a great Whig victory, and in the course of a half an hour you could hardly find a clerk, messenger, carpet sweeper, wood carrier or groom of the public stables, who was not thorough going Whig in anticipation of the election of Whig officers of the House throughout. But they all happened to forget that Mr. Hunter was a thorough going Sub-Treasury man, and that he made one of the ablest speeches on that question at the last session of Congress, and when he delivered his address to the House on the morning of his election, he reminded them of the great question on which he stood pledged before his country. This took the Whigs all aback, and their songs of victory were hushed up. So confident were they in the first instance that they had every thing in their own hands, that on the next morning when the members were called up to be sworn, they marched up their five contraband New Jersey members to have the oath administered to them, but the speaker handed the book to Mr. Randolph, the only Whig member from that state who was elected, and told the other five that they must stand back until he was instructed by the House to swear. This was another defeat of the Whigs, and they immediately introduced a resolution to give these persons seats, although, as I have before said, it has been decided ten times that they were not entitled to seats on this oft decided question. Mr. John Sergeant addressed the House for about an hour in a well studied speech, as all his speeches are, and endeavored to prove so by precedent, for he is a man of precedent, and parliamentary law, which like scripture can be quoted to suit any faith—that these Whigs were entitled to their seats under the certificate of the Governor. Mr. Dromgoole followed and exposed the man of precedents, and showed him, the House and the country, that parliamentary law and precedent could not deprive the sovereign people of their rights. He went upon the true democratic principle that the majority must rule, and showed that the majority of the people of New Jersey had decided against the Governor's certified members, and consequently it was not in the powers of the House to admit them, until their case was investigated before a committee.

On the morning Mr. Johnson, of Tennessee, attempted to get a resolution before the house, to appoint a committee, to wait on the senate and President, in order that the message might be obtained, but because there was a whig entitled to the floor (Mr.

Barnard) Wice and others objected to this resolution, and Mr. Barnard went on and inflicted a two hours speech upon the house, which was nothing under heaven's but a condensation of the whig argument of the last two weeks.

R. M. T. Hunter upon taking his seat as Speaker, delivered the following address.

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:

The high and undeserved honor which you have conferred upon me, has been so unexpected, that even now I can scarcely find terms in which to express my grateful sense of your kindness. I trust, however, to be able to offer a better evidence of that sentiment in the earnest efforts which I shall make to discharge my duties justly and impartially. Called as I have been to this high station; not so much from any merits of my own as from the independence of my position, I shall feel it as especially due from me to you to preside as the Speaker, not of a party, but of the house. Whilst I shall deem it my duty; upon all proper occasions, to sustain the principles upon which I stand pledged before the country, I shall hold myself bound, at the same time, to afford every facility within my power to the full and fair expression of the wishes and sentiments of every section of this great Confederacy. You will doubtless deem it your duty, gentlemen, as the grand inquest of the nation; to investigate all matters of which the people ought to be informed; to retrench expenditures which are unnecessary or unconstitutional; to maintain the just relations between all of the great interests of the country, and to preserve inviolate the Constitution, which you will be sworn to support, whilst it will be mine to aid you in such labors with all the means within my power. And although deeply impressed with a painful sense of my inexperience, and of the difficulties of a new and untried station, I am yet cheered by the hope that you will sustain me in my efforts to preserve the order of business and the decorum of debate. I am aware that party fervor is occasionally impatient of the restraint which it is the duty of the Chair to impose upon the asperities of debate; but at the same time I know that the just of all parties will sustain a Speaker who is honestly endeavoring to preserve the dignity of the House, and the harmony of its members.

Permit me, in conclusion, gentlemen, to tender you the homage of my heartfelt thanks for the honor which you have conferred upon me, and to express the hope that your counsels may be guided by wisdom as to redound to your own reputation, and the welfare of our common country.

MICHIGAN CITY, (Indiana), Dec. 4.

A Wild Child.—Strange as it may appear, it is currently reported and very generally believed that a wild child, or lad, is now running at large among the sand hills round and in the vicinity of Fish Lake. It is reported to be about four feet high, and covered with a light coat of chestnut-colored hair. It runs with great velocity, and when pursued, as has often been the case, it sets up the most frightful and hideous yells, and seems to make efforts at speaking. It has been seen during the summer months running along the lake shore, apparently in search of fish and frogs, and appears to be very fond of the water, for it will plunge into Fish Lake and swim with great velocity, all the time whinnying most piteously.

How this creature has come here, or what its history may be, we leave to conjecture; but may it not be probable that it may have strayed away from some emigrating party, when encamped for the night, and wandered off into the woods, where it has grown up an associate with the animals of the forest? We think this may be the case. If so, what must have been the anguish of its parents and friends on learning that they were compelled to pursue their journey without their tender care! It is also supposed that it may have been stolen by the Indians, and left in the forest to perish; but we can hardly believe such to be the case.

It would be nothing but an act of humanity on the part of our young men to turn out and help to capture it.—Gazette.

The Philadelphia Gazette of Wednesday says—It is with regret that we state the death, this morning, of Mr. David Woelpper, an old and well known citizen of Spring Garden district—by suicide. He proceeded in the execution of his purpose, to the bath room of his dwelling, and bending over the bathing tub, deliberately drew a razor, which he passed instantaneously from one side of his throat to the other, severing the arteries, and producing immediate death. Mr. Woelpper was a man of large property; and it is supposed that exaggerated ideas of possible loss in his his different investments, led him to this deplorable catastrophe.

Great apprehensions existed on the Canadian frontier of Niagara, on Tuesday, that there was to be a new rising of the patriots. The British troops were all under arms, but no rebels appeared.

A handsome Tennessee girl, aged 17, of respectable family, ran away with a black-leg of the name of Grant. The brother of the girl and another youth overtook the latter, tied him to a tree, bared his back, and gave him 50 lashes, with a threat of lynching.