

flank of fourteen rods; nothing in his order to Major Davis to dislodge, with a party of dismounted dragoons, the enemy from some trees in front of four companies of United States infantry. Let others decide whether Indians could be driven from such a position by swords and pistols, better than with muskets and bayonets. It is, perhaps, decided from this fact that the dragoons were driven back with the loss of the gallant Major Davis, and that the enemy were immediately dislodged by a company of infantry. I need not allude to the number of men engaged in battle, nearly one fourth of whom were killed or wounded. The army, says an official letter of the 18th December, deducting dragoons, was but little over 700 men. Of these 62 were killed, and 126 wounded. The Prophet's force amounted 450. Of these from 36 to 40 were left on the field. What official precision! From 36 to 40 were left on the field; but these did not comprise all the dead.—The Indians were seen to take off not only the wounded but the dead. Indians take their dead off the field in the midst of battle. Such stories are often told, but they generally come from warriors who fight at a respectable distance, and make out their heads of the dead on a supposition. In the present instance, the dead may have been taken away; the report says "several dead in houses, and one, of many physical dug, was opened and found to be three dead bodies." Could all this be done in the presence of a victorious army? Not in civilized warfare. In such a war, the conquerors bury the dead. With these facts before them the trusty followers of the Prophet might have claimed at least a drawn battle, and in support of their position, have pointed to the dead taken from the field, and to the fresh graves in which they were buried. But the Indian account of this battle has not been given to history. If, however, you and I had been present, Mr. Speaker, at their next war dance, we should have heard the song of the braves of their nation, and listened to the recital of their deeds of renown.

I have done, Mr. Speaker, with the official account of the battle of Tippecanoe.—It has been converted into a victory. Let it be so recorded on the page of history.—But for the honor of the country, let there also be recorded on the same page, deeds of more enduring fame—not indeed on the part of the officers and soldiers, for they fought like men; but on the part of the General, who, without trenching his right encampment, without the ordinary precaution against surprise, exposed these gallant spirits to sacrifice and slaughter.

The gentleman from Indiana has given to Gen. Harrison the credit of first suggesting the armament on the lakes, in the war of 1812. If I am correctly informed, that honor belongs to another. It was first suggested by Gen. Armstrong to Gov. Eustis, Secretary of War. The letter bore date of the 2d of January, 1812, and says:

Resting, as the line of Canadian defence does, in its whole extent, on navigable lakes and rivers, no times should be lost in getting a naval ascendancy on both; *ceteris paribus*, the belligerent, who is the first to obtain these advantages will (miracles excepted) win the game.

Again the same letter says: For western defence, employ western men accustomed to the rifle and stratagems of Indian warfare. To their customary arms add a pistol and a sabre, and to ensure celerity of movement mount them on horseback. Give them a competent leader and a good position, within a striking distance of Indian villages or British settlements.—Why not at Detroit, where you have a strong fortress and a detachment of artillerymen?—Recollect, however, that this position, far from being good, would be positively bad unless your naval means have ascendancy on Lake Erie.

In "Armstrong's notice of the War of 1812," at page 117, is a note upon the subject of the armament of our lakes, in the following words:

No efficient means were taken by the Government, to obtain a command of lakes until October, 1812. A letter written about that time by General Armstrong to Mr. Gallatin, was probably the means of recalling the attention of the cabinet to this important subject. In this letter the General stated the following facts: "That he was informed by Captain Chauncey that as early as the month of July, Captain Woolsey was to arm such vessels of commerce as would be found on the Lake and at Sackett's Harbor, with the aid of which he would be able to get a complete command of the wa-

ter these facts Gen. Armstrong remarked that "the object was one of the highest importance, that besides giving us the advantage of an exclusive and uninterrupted use of the lakes for the public purposes, it would effectually separate Upper from Lower Canada, cut asunder the enemy's line of communication, and prevent Brock and Provoost from encoring each other."

Now, sir, no letter is found from Gen. Harrison on this subject until the month of December following. On the 12th of the month, he wrote to the War Department, advising the employment of naval means, all these objects could be accomplished in the short space of two months in the spring." But this advice, if such it could be called, was substantially revoked in his letter of the 17th of March. At this time he says:

"If there is positive certainty of our getting the command of Lake Erie, and having a regular force of three thousand five hun-

dred, or even thousand, well disciplined men, the proposed plan of setting out for Cleveland, and landing on the northern shores, below Malden, would, perhaps, be the one by which that place and its dependencies could be most easily reduced."

After stating his ignorance of "the preparations that were making to obtain the naval superiority upon Lake Erie," and the utter impossibility of transporting a large and undisciplined army, the General proceeds:

"Although the expense and difficulty of transporting the provisions, artillery and stores for an army round the head of the lake, would be very considerable, the lake being possessed by our ships and the heavy baggage taken in boats along its margin, the troops would find no difficulty in the land route."

Here, sir, are the views of a man who has been praised for being the first to suggest the armament of the lakes. Fortunately for the country, these views did not prevail. Time had lessened the influence of the General of the Northwest army, and his suggestions were discarded. A new order was issued by the War Department for prosecuting the campaign on the plan given in March, which, was "to get command of the lakes."

But, sir, the plan of operations came near being defeated by a cautiousness amounting to timidity, I had almost said to cowardice. On the 21st of April the General, after approving of the plan of operation presented by the War Department, says that he shall watch the movements of the enemy narrowly, "but in the event of their landing at Lower Sandusky, that post cannot be saved." The enemy did land, but not to fulfil this prophecy. The post was saved, but not by General Harrison. He had withdrawn the body of his army to Seneca, nine miles distant. Under command of the gallant Col. Croghan, a detachment of one hundred and sixty men resolved to defend the post or die in the attempt. Sir, need I tell the result? It is written on the brightest page of our history.

Mr. Speaker, I will not allude to the determination of General Harrison to destroy his stores at Seneca, and retreat to Upper Sandusky leaving the whole lake coast defenceless. Nor will I allude to his order to Major Croghan to abandon the fort and repair to head quarters. These I pass over; and I pass over, also, the General's official report, wherein it appears that he left this intrepid body of men to meet all the assaults of near two thousand of the enemy, and left them, too, with "one six pounder, seven rounds of cannon cartridges, and forty rounds for small arms."

In April, the post could not be saved; on the last days of July, he ordered it to be abandoned and burnt; but, on hearing the cannonading, he made the discovery that a party attempt to storm it could be resisted with effect. He therefore remained in his camp at Seneca, without making a solitary movement, until he was informed that the enemy were retreating. He then went towards the post as fast as the dragoons could carry him, but "not an enemy was to be seen." The General then returned to Seneca, and wrote to the Secretary of War that he had before informed him "that the post of Lower Sandusky could not be defended against heavy cannon." He had informed him that the post could not be saved at any rate; and while the battle was raging, speaking of Croghan, he said, "the blood be on his own head—I wash my hands of it."

In August, the exertions of the War Department were crowned with success. Our squadron obtained command of the lakes, and soon after, General Harrison crossed over to make an attack on Malden. When he arrived, Proctor had fled, and was not overtaken until he reached the Thames of Lake St. Clair. This happened on the 5th of October, when a battle was fought that closed the war in Upper Canada. Of late the friends of General Harrison have claimed great honor for him on this occasion.—But he does not deserve it. The glory of the victory was awarded at the time to Col. Richard M. Johnson, and it belongs to him. His regiment of mounted men made the charge upon the British lines, and broke them to pieces. They also crossed the swamp, and fought against the Indians without any aid from the rest of the army. The charge was suggested by Colonel Johnson, and all that General Harrison did was to give the order. I am aware that the official report gives us to understand that the plan of attack came from "a moment's reflection."

"While I," says the General, "was engaged in forming the infantry, I had directed Colonel Johnson's regiment, which was still in front, to be formed in two lines opposite to the enemy, and upon the advance of the infantry to take ground to the left, and forming upon that flank, to endeavor to turn the right of the Indians. 'A moment's reflection,' however, convinced me that from the thickness of the woods, and swampiness of the ground, they would be unable to do any thing on horseback, and there was no time to dismount them and place their horses in security. I therefore determined to refuse my left to the Indians, and to break the British lines at once by a charge of the mounted infantry. The measure was not sanctioned by any thing that I had seen or heard of, but I was fully convinced that it would succeed."

This is the statement of General Harrison. Would any one imagine from it that the change in the order of battle was suggested by another? Yet such is the fact.

Colonel Johnson says: "I requested General Harrison to permit me to charge." He did charge, and at such speed that the British had not time to discharge their third fire before they were totally routed.

Mr. Cooper here inquired of Mr. Cray his authority for asserting that the order of battle was changed at the request of Col. Johnson.

Mr. Cr. Cray referred to Armstrong's notices of the war of 1812, wherein was a letter asserting the fact, under Col. Johnson's own signature.

This battle put an end to the war in Upper Canada. In the following spring Gen. Harrison tendered his resignation as Major General of the army. It was immediately accepted, and the vacancy filled with the name of Major General Andrew Jackson. I have seen it stated, Mr. Speaker, in a late publication of the friends of General Harrison, that this resignation was brought about by the War Department, from a spirit of malice and envy. This is a libel upon the reputation of an able, but much abused public servant. The then Secretary of War entertained no ill will towards the commander of the Northwestern army. He probably considered him an inefficient general, and was glad to supply his place with the name of him whose achievements as a warrior and civilian have filled the measure of his country's glory.

I am aware, sir, that my remarks militate against hundreds of certificates that have been produced to prove Gen. Harrison an able commander. These certificates are entitled to consideration. But it is to be recollected that the great majority of them were given by officers over whom the General had authority. They are the evidence of witnesses under duress, and are to be received, at least, with caution before the high tribunal of the public. It is not common for generals of distinction—the heroes of battles fields—to go about the camp to obtain certificates of good conduct. At Austerlitz and Jena and Marengo, Napoleon needed no such endorsements of his fame; nor did Nelson, at Copenhagen, at Aboukir and at Trafalgar. It was reserved for Gen. Harrison to establish the precedent of obtaining certificates from subaltern officers to prove himself a warrior and a hero.

Mr. Speaker, I have done with General Harrison. He is now the Whig candidate for the Presidency, and his friends expect to succeed by inspiring in his behalf a military enthusiasm throughout the country.—They are doomed to disappointment.—They may raise the pean shout in glorification of their hero, but it will meet with no response from the hearts of the millions.

#### MARTIN VAN BUREN AND THE WORKING MEN.

The following paragraph, which we extract from the Washington Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun of yesterday, speaks volumes in praise of our worthy President, Martin Van Buren. It shows, in a clear light, his regard for the interests of the working man, and substantiates the belief we have always entertained, that he considers the humblest individual in the country as much entitled to the respectful consideration and protection of the government as the most favored of fortune. Our opponents may boast of their friendship for the working men till they are tired, but they cannot convince the honest farmers, mechanics and laborers, that Harrison's professions are paramount to Mr. Van Buren's deeds.—State Cap. Gaz.

"The President of the United States issued an order yesterday to the superintendents of all the navy yards, arsenals, public buildings, &c. directing them to require of the mechanics, laborers and artisans, employed by them, ten hours labor only.—Heretofore, this very useful, and most worthy class of society, have been required to work from sun to sun, this too, in the long days of June, July, August, and a part of September, actually laboring from 12 to 16 hours. The issue of the order of which I speak, is creditable to the liberality of the Executive."

#### THE GLORIOUS RESULT.

The result of the elections in the different Wards is published below. The majority is a decided one: much larger than that obtained last Spring, and greater than the one obtained last Fall. The Common Council stands TWENTY FOUR DEMOCRATS TO TEN BRITISH WHIGS. The Assessors, Collectors, Constables, and Commissioners of Registry are elected in twelve Wards out of the seventeen; excepting the Assessors, Collector, and one Constable in the tenth Ward, who were unfortunately defeated by the running of an irregular ticket. This election is the bright opening of the great Presidential Campaign of 1840, which cannot but close, if our efforts are well directed, and the great principles for which we are battling kept steadily in view, with equal brilliancy.

New York New Era.

On the morning of the 4th inst. a large tract of land of several hundred acres, near Three Rivers, Lower Canada, slid off into the river. There were upon it two houses, several barns 40 horses, cows, and other domestic animals and 500 fine sugar maple trees. The land went off gradually, and the inhabitants (including the men employed in making sugar, who took the alarm as soon as they saw the trees moving,) made their escape.

### THE COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT.

"TRUTH WITHOUT FEAR"



BLOOMSBURG:

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1840.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION—1840.  
FOR PRESIDENT.

MARTIN VAN BUREN.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT.

RICHARD M. JOHNSON.

AND THE

CONSTITUTIONAL TREASURY.

#### ELECTORAL TICKET.

JAMES CLARKE, of Indiana, } Senatorial	12 Frederick Smith
Geo. G. LEIPER, of Delaware, }	13 Charles McClure
1 Col. John Thompson	14 J. M. Gemmill
2 Benjamin Millin	15 G. M. Hollenback
3 Frederick Steover	16 Leonard Pfouts
4 Wm. H. Smith	17 John Morton jr.
5 John F. Steinman	18 William Philson
6 John Dowlin	19 John Morrison
7 Henry Myers	20 Westly Frost
8 Daniel Jacoby	21 Benj. Anderson
9 Jesse Johnson	22 William Wilkins
10 Jacob Able	23 A. K. Wright
11 Geo. Christian	24 John Findley
12 Wm. Shoenor	25 Stephen Barlow

#### THE LEGISLATURE.

The only measure in which the last Legislature were consistent, was in doing nothing. They have carried out this principle to the letter. During the last week of the session several propositions for an improvement bill were presented to the house and voted down. Those particularly which did not contain an appropriation to the Union Canal, and the Pottsville and Danville Rail Road and some few other incorporated companies, were defeated by large majorities. Indeed, it appears to be the settled determination of those members concerned in stock jobbing speculations, not to pass any improvement bill whatever in which their own interests were not especially provided for. The repairs upon the state works—the faith of the state pledged to pay interest on state loans—in fact the whole public improvements of the state, were to be sacrificed at the shrine of the cupidity of these soulless corporations.—The banks could have the privilege of suspending specie payments until the 15th of January next and required to loan \$3,000,000 to the state, but these harpers could not authorize the Governor to expend it, unless they could appropriate a large proportion to enrich their own pockets. Honest legislators these. Elected by the people to guard their interests; but instead of doing so, they are left to take of themselves, because their own cupidity could not be gratified. Let the people, another year look to it and not send speculators to the legislature to legislate for themselves, to the destruction of the best interest of their constituents.

The Legislature having resolved to adjourn on the 16th at the close of the day sent a committee to the governor, informing him that they were ready to adjourn when the governor immediately sent to both houses the proclamation which we publish in another column, calling an extra session to be convened on the next day, the 17th. The two houses met on Friday in pursuance of the Proclamation, and after several ineffectual attempts to pass an improvement Bill, adjourned to meet again on the 12th of May. They will have a fine opportunity to learn the wishes of their constituents, and we feel assured if they pay any regard to the admonitions they will receive during their visit home, they will, on assembling, either pass an improvement Bill, or repeal the suspension act.

An Act declaring the Streets, Lanes and Alleys in the town of Bloomsburg, in Columbia county, public Highways, and authorizing the election of an additional Supervisor, and for other purposes.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in general Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same—that the streets, lanes and alleys in the town of Bloomsburg, in the county of Columbia, are hereby declared public highways according to the

plot of said town, and as such, shall be opened and improved, and kept in repair as other highways of this commonwealth are opened, improved, and kept in repair.—Provided—That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to interfere with private property.

Section 2. That at the time and place for holding Constables elections in the township of Bloom, in the county of Columbia, and annually thereafter, there shall be elected, one additional Supervisor, which additional Supervisor shall, at the time of said election, and during the term for which he shall be elected, be and continue a resident of the town of Bloomsburg, and if any vacancy in said office shall exist between the times for holding said elections, either in consequence of the person elected remaining out of the said town, or from any other cause, the Court of quarter sessions of said county on petition of the citizens of said town, shall appoint some suitable person to fill the vacancy in said office until the term of said Court next succeeding the time of holding said elections, and the person thus appointed shall have all the same rights and powers and be subject to all the same duties, and liabilities as if he had been elected by the people of said town of Bloomsburg. Approved, April 11, 1840.

#### Appointment by the Post Master General.

By and with the advice and consent of DAVID

PETRIKIN,

Against the expressed voice of the Democracy of the township,

SILUS J. STACKHOUSE,

Post Master, Jerseytown, Col. Co., Pa.

In the place of Jeremiah Wellver, deceased.

#### PROCLAMATION.

To the Senate and House of Representatives, and to the members thereof:

WHEREAS, the constitution of this commonwealth, confers upon the Governor the power of convening the General Assembly on extraordinary occasions; and whereas no provision has been made for the payment of the interest now due and falling due on the state debt, between the present time and the meeting of the next legislature, and for the repair and current expenses of the canals and rail roads of the commonwealth nor for the prosecution of the public works now under contract, and in a state of approaching completion, and whereas if these several objects be left in their present condition unprovided for, the faith and honor of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania must be deeply tarnished, and the canals and rail roads now in a state of completion, and in the construction of which our enormous state debt was mainly contracted—must in a great measure, if not altogether cease to be fit for use; whereby, not only will the public suffer great loss and inconvenience, but the character of our improvement itself for stability and usefulness, will receive a heavy blow, from which it will soon not recover, and the revenue of the commonwealth already so lamentably inadequate to meet the demands upon it, will be reduced little short of THREE FOURTHS of a million of dollars, within the ensuing year; and the public works now in a state of approaching completion, in the undertaking of which the commonwealth has a very large sum of money already invested, must remain idle and useless, to the serious diminution of the public revenue, and to the detriment of those sections of the commonwealth especially through which they pass.

And whereas, by an act passed the third day of April, 1840, entitled "resolutions for the resumption of specie payments by the banks and for other purposes," the sum of three million of dollars is provided for the purposes herein mentioned, in case the legislature enacts the appropriate laws applying to the same; and whereas, one of the principal reasons for giving to the banks so great an extension for their present suspension of specie payments, as until the 15th January, 1841, was to obtain this fund of three millions of dollars for the relief of the commonwealth from the financial embarrassments by which she is at this time beset.—And whereas a failure to provide for applying the same to the purposes for which it was designated, is an ENTIRE SURRENDER of this important advantage secured to the public by that law, and is a total release of the banks from an essential part of the consideration on which the indulgence they are enjoying, was granted which appears to me to be a course of policy, neither wise nor just. And whereas the commonwealth of Pennsylvania with her vast resources, and her magnificent system of public improvements, owes it to her own character for STEADFASTNESS, STRICT OBSERVANCE of engagements, and a high sense of STATE PRIDE, and PUBLIC FAITH, to pay with punctuality the interest becoming due on the public debt, the respective debts due to those who have labored to construct and to keep her public improvements in repair, and to exert ALL HER ENERGIES to continue those improvements in a fit condition to transport upon them whatever produces her own citizens, and whose neighboring states may have created or purchased on the faith, and with the expectation and assurance, that these improvements were to be and remain their highway to and