

POLITICAL.

JOHN TYLER, THE POOR MAN'S ENEMY.

A gentleman writing to the editor of the Ohio Statesman from Virginia, comments as follows upon the votes of John Tyler in the Virginia Convention:

Sir:—As the present political contest is one which is calculated to call forth the recuperative energies of the people that they may investigate the relative merits which each candidate has to public favor, I have here ventured to proclaim to the people of the whole west, without any shadow of contradiction, that JOHN TYLER, the candidate of the federal party, for the Vice Presidency, voted in the Virginia Convention against the extension of the right of suffrage, contending that the only true and legitimate qualifications for a voter should be a freehold, thus virtuously placing all power in the hands of the few that they should control the many. The very doctrine the federal party has been contending for ever since the organization of the Government, and the very principle which Alexander Hamilton, the founder of the party, contended for in the Convention which formed the present Constitution.—In other States the party has not been so bold in proclaiming their views upon this subject, in which every citizen however humble, has a deep and abiding interest, but they have attempted to abridge the right by enacting Restrictive laws which, of course, would always fall upon the hard working man, whilst the pampered few would exercise the right with little or no inconvenience. Yes! John Tyler, the present whig candidate, voted for this abridgment of the dearest rights of freemen.—(See *Journal of the Virginia Convention*, page 641.)

Let the honest yeomanry of the young and growing west, compare the claims of this would be Republican with those of the gallant old soldier and statesman, who at present fills the Vice Presidency, and who has always contended for the rights of the people, by giving them the free scope of the elective franchise. John Tyler was placed upon the ticket with General Harrison as a compromise of interest, which I hope the people will have the sagacity to see.

THE WAGES OF LABOR.

That the democratic party of this country—a party which, more than any thing else, prides itself that its principles are the principles of the MECHANICS, the YEOMANRY, the WORKINGMEN of the land—should be striving to effect an actual reduction of the WAGES OF LABOR, is an idea so ridiculous and so absurd, that our wonder is that the whigs with their new-born pretended respect for the intelligence of the people should be such fools as to expect to change them with entertaining it. But man never set without motives; and whigs, with all their patriotism, are but men; however pure they may be in their own eyes, they still have the clay covering; and even they may act from sinister motives.

What, then, are the motives which are now operating among them? What means it that "Honest John Davis" must falsify Mr. Buchanan's speech; and then have this spread, as if on the wings of the wind, through the length and breadth of the land? What means it, that the great guns at Washington must start the cry about the reduction of the wages of labor, and Trux, Blanche, and Sweet heart must echo and re-echo it, in one long, loud and increasing note of mourning, from Maine to Georgia? What means it that Webster must play the Sir Oracle in the Senate Chamber, and exclaim—"I am against the reduction of the wages of labor," and little Daniels of bank officers and manufacturing clerks, all about our cities and villages, swell up with the same squeaking cry—"We too are against the reduction of the wages of labor!"

A single race is worth volumes. It is a fact, then, that the constituents of these whig "patriots," simultaneously with their Congress speeches, have undertaken to reduce the wages of the laborers in their employment; and is not here the clue to the whole matter?

Are not the manufacturing corporations striving to grind more profit out of their operatives, and is not "Honest John Davis," and others like "honest," striving to make the administration the scape-goat to bear off the whole sin of this "flagitious measure?" "Such a course"—this is the hypocritical rant of the wealthy monopolists, who cut down the wages of the working-man, "such a course is rendered necessary by the late experiment on the currency, or by the Independent Treasury Bill being likely to become a law, or by the whole policy of Martin Van Buren, or by the reduction of the currency, &c. &c. Gladly would we avoid it, if we could. But such rulers as now are in power force us to it. What can we do, when we live under the worst government that ever existed on the face of the earth?" This is the stuff that is poured into the ears of intelligent men, by those who would deprive labor of its reward!—By such talk is the reason, the observation, the common sense of independent freemen daily insulted!

The greatest hypocrites often make the longest prayers; let the mechanics, the farmers, the workingmen, distrust those who make such miserable words of profession for their interests, and at the same moment issue edicts that would deprive them of their bread! The whole object of this last whig

move is to enable the manufacturer to reap larger profits, and charge the cause of the necessary measure to enable him to do it—namely, the late reduction of wages upon the national administration!—*Boston Post.*

THE YOUNG DEMOCRAT.

In the great struggle for principle which is now agitating every section of our country, young men are bearing a prominent and glorious part. Our fathers have retired, or are retiring from the more active and stirring scenes of the battle field, and have left to the rising generation and the middle aged the solemn duty of guarding with more youthful vigor and energy the noble heritage that is bequeathed to them. To young men just entering upon the theatre of life, and fired with an ambition to maintain in unimpaired beauty and simplicity, the liberties which their fathers have achieved and defended, must the republican and patriot look for a continuance of the public safety, happiness, and freedom.—The young are ardent, zealous and enthusiastic—they are also free from corruption and coldness, which are too often the concomitants of maturer years. They look with a single and disinterested eye to the good of their common country—they toil and labor for the maintenance of some great ruling principle, regardless of personal consequences or pecuniary losses—their feelings have not been ossified by the frauds, stratagems and treacheries, which too frequently have blunted the sensibilities of a riper age and chilly experience; and they are ever ready, with bone and muscle, and sinew, to carry on a vigorous, powerful and persevering warfare in defence of liberal and pure principles.

The young too, are generally democratic. They appreciate fully the blessings of a free government in their largest and highest sense—in the protection afforded to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness—in its toleration of religious, moral and political opinions—in the wide range it gives to all to follow their callings without molestation, and eat the fruits of their labor in peace.—Open hearted generous and active, the aid of the young is the surest guarantee of the righteousness prosperity and success of any cause. To them is the republican party greatly indebted for its former victories—to them must it still look for its future and lasting triumphs. We call upon the young men to be up and doing, a warm and animated contest will soon demand all their energies. The enemy has already taken the field and are preparing to fight, inch by inch, against Van Buren, the independent Treasury and Democracy of the country.—Shall he prevail?—Shall the black flag of the opposition float over the citadel of our liberties? Let the eagle of Democracy answer.—*Troy Budget.*

Col. Johnson and Imprisonment for Debt.—From reports published in several whig prints, we learn that Mr. Webster in his speech on the Bankrupt Law, delivered in the Senate on Monday took occasion to compliment Colonel Richard M. Johnson on the success of his benevolent exertions in former years, against the laws authorizing imprisonment for debt. The following is from the Washington letter of the Baltimore American: "It is now twenty years since you, sir," said Mr. W. addressing himself to the Vice President, "in your place in the Senate, prompted by your sagacity and good sense and more especially by that kindness of heart which outruns sagacity,—brought forward a bill for abolition for imprisonment for debt. Since then has been a wonderful change of opinion, upon both sides of the Atlantic. No one would now dare to propose imprisonment for debt. There would be no seceder or success attending such a proposition. England no longer imprisons for debt. The States have nearly all abolished imprisonment for debt."

From the Phila. Statesman of Thursday.

A Glorious Meeting.—On Thursday evening last a meeting of the Germans of the city favorable to Old Tip was called, in the Pennsylvania German, at the Hamburg House, in 3d street, below Race, for the purpose of forming a German Tippecanoe Club. Mr. Grund was there, we understand, and addressed the meeting, which consisted of the everlasting big number of SEVEN, all told! We did not learn whether they formed the Club or not, but suppose they had sense enough to see that the honest Germans of Pennsylvania are not to be duped into the support of a man who would sell white poor men as slaves, for the crime of debt, while the rich bank aristocrats can run away with the people's money and call it a "fair business transaction."

We understand that the Canadians are making preparations to celebrate the Battle of Fort Meigs. How is this? Are the Federalists on this side, and their Tory friends on the other side, entering into competition in this matter, or do they intend to celebrate in concert, as the British Whigs and the British ships did in New York?

How changed is Federalism since 1813, '14 and '15. Then they would not celebrate a real victory at home. Now they will go 300 miles to celebrate a disaster.—*Buffalo Repub.*

The New York Express states that two dollar notes of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank of New Brunswick altered to \$10, are now in circulation.

VARIOUS MATTERS.

THE CHINESE WAR.

All eyes are now turned towards the East, where events thicken, and the celestial Emperor seems determined not to concede any point to Great Britain. Several arrivals lately bring intelligence that the English merchant captain, or supercargo, Mr. Gible, who was taken prisoner by the Mandarin boats, for trying to smuggle from one ship to another had been released. It appears that the High Commissioner, Linn, either out of policy, or from pure generosity, or a mere freak, treated Mr. Gible with every possible degree of kindness and attention. He took him under his especial charge, took him to Canton, showed him all sorts of civilities, (as we are doing to the Arab Captain, now here,) showed him all the curiosities of the city of Canton, and then escorted him down to the river to Macao with several Mandarin boats, a large retinue of officers and men, and ultimately surrendered him to the British. As it was on Mr. Gible's account that Captain Elliott declared Canton in a state of blockade, of course the blockade was withdrawn the instant he was surrendered. Linn was still very strict in not allowing British goods to pass the Bogue in American bottoms. The trade with Americans was still unrestricted and enormous prices were paid both for goods and freights at Canton.—The British declaration of war had actually left Singapore on the 1st. of February for China, and the English fleet with several steam vessels, were hourly expected to arrive here. There is thus, every probability that hostilities will commence at the close of February, unless the Chinese prevent them by acceding to the terms prescribed by England. Letters from Canton which we have seen, say that the Imperial Commissioner Linn is anxious to obtain information in regard to the proceedings of the English, that his measures caused serious alarm among the American residents, and that they were anxious the New York merchants should memorialize Government to send a naval force to Canton immediately. A British ship of war had entered the inward harbour of Macao, for the protection of British subjects still on shore there.—*Saturday Chronicle.*

Horrid and Mysterious Murder.—We condense from the Baltimore Sun the following singular and apparently unaccountable case of murder. At Harper's Ferry, on the night of Wednesday last at about half past eleven o'clock, the man who attends the lock of the canal at that place, was met by a stranger, who requested him to return and pass his boat through the lock. He told the stranger that he would find females at the house, who would pass him through. Residing with him was his sister, a Mrs. Davis, and her two children.—The children slept with her and other persons slept in the same room. They were disturbed by some noise, and on getting out of bed and procuring a light it was discovered that both the boy and his mother were dead, their throats having been cut from ear to ear. None of the persons in the room heard any one either enter or depart. The stranger next morning was discovered in an out-house, with the bloody knife in his possession; and on being arrested, confessed himself to be the murderer. He is said to be a German, but we have not learned either his name or his motive.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

One of the most singular instances of the preservation of human life, that has come to our knowledge for a long time, occurred in Wormleysburg, Cumberland county, on Monday last. Soon after the school in that place was dismissed at noon, a boy about seven years of age, who was standing by a well, accidentally fell back-wards, and was precipitated to the bottom. An alarm was immediately given by the school children, and the bucket let down to him. A man then descended as soon as possible, and to his surprise found the little fellow clinging fast to the chain. He got into the bucket, and with one hand balanced himself, and in the other brought up his wet hat. As might be supposed, he was considerably chilled, and not a little frightened by so sudden and unexpected a cold bath; but in a few hours after, he was at play again as if nothing had happened, and the next day was in school, as usual. The well was about thirty feet deep, and the water about six feet.—*State Cap. Gazette.*

The Winnebago Indians have expressed a determination not to remove from their present situation, notwithstanding their positive agreement to do so. This resolution is said to have been brought by a visit which many of the Indians made to Canada last year, and the valuable presents they received from the officers of the British government.

Extract from a letter dated New Orleans, May 15, 1840: "To-day, about three o'clock, the Levee gave way above Carrollton, and there are now three hundred hands engaged in endeavoring to close the crevasse—the accounts from St. Louis are distressing. The Missouri and Upper Mississippi were never so full, which, upon the top of what we already have, must produce a general overflow. Of course the crop of this year must be nearly destroyed."

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the "Columbia Democrat."

Capt. Webb

DEAR SIR:—As I was travelling along the canal, the other day, contemplating on the hardness of the times, the difficulty of making sale of my notions, and the scarcity of money, my attention was arrested by something that hove in sight, drawn by four splendid dun colored horses, on a strong Pennsylvania Waggon. I first took it to be a new kind of pedlar waggon. Thinks I to myself, that brother Jonathan must be driving a pretty considerable fair kind of business, or he could not afford to drive four such splendid slick looking horses.—But after looking a spell, I saw that it was something composed of white pine sapplings a very soft wood, and not one stick of hickory about it. I thought I saw through the logs, something more inside, which made me conclude that it was a cage for wild animals, such as kangaroos, baboons, apes or untameable hyenas, a pig sty, or chicken coop. The thing was composed, as I said before, of pine sapplings, with two logs projecting out in front, some two or three feet; the whole thing covered with bark, and the windows shut up as I supposed with Madisonian newspapers, and as it approached still a little nearer, I saw a sign hanging out which I took to be a sign of an auction. I could not read the inscription intelligibly, not being near enough, but I thought it read thus:

"AUCTION THIS DAY.

A POOR WHITE MAN, to be sold or hired to pay a fine and cost for spoiling a British whig's nose."

I then concluded it must be an Indiana Court house or jail, and the projecting logs were for whipping posts, where poor white men and women were tied up and whipped 39 lashes if they had run away from their black, white, blue or copper colored master or mistress, after having been sold to pay fine and costs, and that it was carried through the country as an emblem of the love and good feeling General Harrison had for the poor white man and woman, when he was Governor of Indiana territory, and signed the following bill:—(See Territorial laws, revised code of 1807 pages 39 and 40, Sections 39 and 40.)

Section 30. When any person or persons shall on conviction of any crime or crimes or breach of penal laws, be sentenced to pay a fine or fines, with or without the costs of prosecution, it shall and may be lawful for the court, before whom such conviction shall be had, to order the sheriff to sell or hire the person or persons so convicted to service, to any person or persons who will pay the said fine and costs for such term of time as the court may think reasonable, and if any person or persons so sentenced and hired and sold, shall abscond from the service of his or her master or mistress, before the term of such service shall expire, he or she so absconding shall on conviction before a justice of the peace, be whipped with 39 stripes, and shall moreover serve two years for every one so lost.

Section 31. The Judges of the several courts of record in this territory, shall give this act in charge to the Grand Jury at each and every court in which a grand jury shall be sworn.

JESSE B. THOMAS,

Speaker of the House of Representative.

B. CHAMBERS,

President of the Council.

Approved, Sept. 17th 1807.

WILLIAM H. HARRISON, Governor.

Thinks I to myself the poor Pennsylvanians will not like the notion so well of being sold and whipped, but will put their veto on the Indiana sale next election. The thing went by. Well, as I was a thinking pretty considerable on my bad luck in selling my notions and patent rights, ever since the banks stopped payment, and refused to discount any more paper, says I, I tell you what it is, I will drive a pretty considerable trade yet, for just before the election the banks will resume specie payment, and call it a Harrison measure, and then I will gather up all the specie I can; for as soon as election is over they will close doors again, and I think I can make more money in that way than I can with my notions.—While I was contemplating on these matters I got in conversation with a British whig. Says I Mr. what do you think that was that went by? Why said he, it is a log cabin, and the intention of it is to show the people how ungrateful republicans and republicans are. There said he is poor old Gen. Harrison, who now is near 70 years old,

and he is through his poverty compelled to live in a log cabin and drink hard cider, and the ungrateful big paw lard fisted dirty shirted Loco-foco spoilers, will not support him for President. Well said I friend, there is only two things that will keep Gen. Harrison from being President. Oh, do tell me what they are. Well the first is he may die. Oh, said the whig, his death will make no difference for J. C. Wright, Garrison, Arthur Tappin, and others will be the President die or live, if he is elected.—But do tell me what the other reason is, and I will write to the Generals thinking Committee, and they will fix the matter just right and straight. So tell me quickly I would like to know and must know, as I am so rejoiced to hear from a Democrat that there is but one thing that can keep old Tip from being President. J. C. Wright and the other Committee will soon get certificates out to clear it up. Well said I, I will tell you, he will not get votes enough I rather guess. Said he, that is just the way with your spoil party losers, you spoil every thing we whigs do, just too when we think that we have every thing just right. Yes, yes, said I, you call us by our right name, for Gen. Brown spoiled some of your friend's skins pretty considerably at Lundy's Lane and Bridge Water. Major Croghan spoiled some of them a good deal at Fort Stevenson, Col. Johnson at the River Raisin spoiled some of your friends ruffian shirts, Gen. McComb at Plattsburg spoiled your friend Gen. Proctor's silk stockings, and his satin breeches very considerable. Gen. Jackson too at New Orleans spoiled the hides of your friends Packingham, Kean and Gibbs, which you think was a great shame. I saw the whigs mad getting up so I went a way and left him, and took to my own reflections. Thinks I to myself it is hard for the poor General to live in a log cabin and drink hard cider, but I know a great many Pennsylvania farmers, for it is said Harrison is a farmer, who commenced the world very poor, indeed working for five dollars per month, that are now wealthy farmers, they done it by industry, frugality and economy, they did not drink hard cider that cost from two to five dollars a bottle, neither did they drink any \$4 Brandy. Now it appears to me that Gen. Harrison is a very bad economist, and must be a tremendous spendthrift or he could not become so very poor. The rise in value of land since he settled on the banks of the Ohio, ought alone, to make a man rich, besides he has been in office ever since he was old enough, and many of which the most lucrative. He, as minister to Panama, brought home \$18,000 and he was only gone a few months. He is now getting, and has been getting, ten thousand dollars a year, as clerk of the Court of Hamilton county, and yet so poor that he must live in a log cabin and drink sour cider. Poor old man.

A TRAVELLER.

Danville June 3, 1840.

PHENOMENA.

The Florida Herald has the following notice of some recent phenomena which have occurred in that peninsula.

Some of the ponds and lakes are drying up, or rather running off. About 18 months since, we understand the water in Tusculum Lake in Alachua county ran off, and it is now completely dry. It was said by those who saw it, that there was a strong current running towards the centre, and it was described as similar to the emptying of a funnel.

Since then we have heard that the Orange lake is running off in a similar manner. A gentleman who saw it a few weeks since, informed us that about ten thousand acres had been completely drained. Not more than about 2 feet of water remained in the lake.

The theories in explanation, of these phenomena are: That the obstruction in the subterranean streams, with which these lakes have communication, have from some cause become removed, and allow a free passage to the water, or that the crust of lime-stone has broken through and let it off. The spot where the Orange Lake was running into appeared newly broken.

Major Noah states that no less than 500 ounces of silk-worm eggs have been sold in that city within the last six days. This looks well for the Silk Culture.

The Universalists of Pennsylvania held Convention at Pottsville last week.