

The presiding officer of this House, to be at all times speaking on subjects before the body, yet, sir, I was forced into the position I now occupy—and I am glad it is so—for otherwise I should have given my silent vote for the bill. I would not have asked leave to address the House, if the speech I delivered in 1841, had not been referred to and commented upon in the manner it has been. Have you got it there, sir? (addressing Mr. Lowery.)

Mr. LOWERY: [Laughingly]. It is in my room sir, and a good one it is.

Mr. WRIGHT: [Jocosely.] I make no speeches that are not good! And you will find your time well employed in reading it—and I know the gentleman's constituents will approve it.

Mr. LOWERY: The gentleman said in 1841, that man who would vote men out of office deserved to have the brand of political leprosy stamped on his forehead.

Mr. WRIGHT: That is certainly strong language; the tables have changed since then—the leprosy is now visible, and to prevent contagion we will kill the patient! [Laughter.]

Mr. DEFORD: It may have, &c.

Mr. WRIGHT: I thank the gentleman for his correction. Now, if the constituents of the gentleman from Crawford, do not take the same view of this subject that I have done, then will I be very much mistaken. Sir, I do not see any thing so very strange in all this. Why, we remove men from office every day. It is true there is not so much patronage attached to all of them.

But sir, there is some strange movements in connexion with the board of Canal Commissioners.—Touch them and you touch a torpedo. The House feels and electric shock—it vibrates with the speed of thought—here, there, and every where, and you know not where it comes from. Sir, I do not pretend to say that men have been whipped into the harness and it would be out of place as well as out of order, to impugn any gentleman's motive, but I know gentleman who said, when the bill was put upon our desks, that they would give it their support.

Mr. LOWRY: Does the gentleman allude to me?

Mr. WRIGHT: No, sir; I do not allude to any gentleman in particular. There are gentlemen who said they would vote for the bill, and now say they will vote against it. I do not desire to be personal. Their opinions may be changed from good and correct and proper motives. And, sir, I repeat, in conclusion, that what I have said are the honest sentiments of my heart. If I have misrepresented any gentleman, I have done it unwittingly. If I have preferred false charges, then I have done it without malice. But as the representative of a constituency I am proud to acknowledge, I stand here to advocate the matter, not on the ground of prescription, but as upon that question, I am a reformer. It is to my constituents; and to their decision I submit—should they condemn me, it would be unlooked for—and if they approve my course on the bill, it will be grateful to my feelings—because I fancied I honestly discharged my duty.—However, whether they condemn, or approve my course, I shall at least have the proud satisfaction and consolation of having discharged my duty faithfully in the great cause of reform; and I shall regard this as the proudest day in my political history, because in it I stood up an advocate of the cause of the people. When I saw corruption, I had the nerve to point it out—when men abused power, I charged them with it openly, and in the face of the nation. I have done battle to the best of my abilities for Pennsylvania and her interests, in the face of and against the wishes of those who wield her vast patronage, and I did it from a conscientious conviction of duty, and with no motive but an honest desire—and a fervent hope to advance the prosperity and welfare of the citizens of this great Commonwealth.

The Philadelphia Evening Mercury of Friday last, gives the following account of an amusing scene which took place in that city. This Millerism without doubt, is one of the greatest humbugs ever attempted to be practised upon poor human nature.

Millerism—The Climax!—An insane exhibition took place at the Museum last night, while the arch mischief maker, Mr. Miller, was addressing a large assembly in the Chinese Saloon. It is customary, when the services begin, to close the doors in order to prevent interruption by persons coming in; so that they who come too late, like the foolish virgins, are shut out. A large crowd of exclude persons collected on the outside of the building last evening, and clamorously demanded admittance, which was refused. They attempted to force an entrance, the noise produced an alarm inside, and several mischievous or fanatical persons exclaimed:—"The end has come! At this announcement, there was a general rush; the passages to the door were blocked up and numbers leaped out of the windows. Several were bruised seriously. Meanwhile, some of the females inside had fainted and others were screaming with the utmost capability of their lungs. A step was put to the proceedings of the meeting, and it was a long time before any degree of order was restored. We seriously ask the city authorities, if Mr. Miller should not be arrested and held to bail for producing such disturbances in this community.

Mr. Buchanan's Letter.—We have the pleasure of laying before our readers, to-day the correspondence between the democratic members of the legislature, and Hon. JAMES BUCHANAN. The reply of Mr. Buchanan is peculiarly characteristic of the man. It breathes throughout, a lofty spirit of patriotism, and in all its sentiments, is purely democratic. They are the sentiments that all should cherish, and their open frank, and candid avowal will tend still more to endear Mr. Buchanan to the democracy of Pennsylvania.

CORRESPONDENCE.

HARRISBURG, January 12, 1843.

To the Hon. James Buchanan.

Dear sir.—The undersigned members of the Senate and House of Representatives of Pennsylvania cannot avoid the expression of their pride and gratification in announcing your reelection to the Senate of the U. States. As a renewed testimonial of our high regard for your unflinching adherence to the great principles of democracy, your stern integrity and eminent talents as a statesman, we once more most cheerfully entrust you with the interest and honor of your native state. Nor do we claim any merit in selecting you to fill the exalted station. It was the united voice of the democratic party, and our act was the legitimate representation of its wishes.

We witness in the distinguished statesman and champion of popular rights, the ripe and matured excellencies of the youth who marched during the late war in defence of his country; and in the legislative hallably advocated and nobly sustained the proper and efficient means of defence against the common enemy, and who has since by a long series of brilliant services in the councils of the nation, earned a reputation which will endure as long as the history and glory of the republic.

On account of these services, as Pennsylvanians, we cordially unite in the sentiment that you are not only entitled to fill the distinguished part to which you have been elected; but we should desire to see you elevated to the highest office in the gift of the people, and we would therefore, proudly tender you to the Union as Pennsylvania's candidate for the next Presidency.

We remain,
Very respectfully,

Your friends,

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| B Crispin | Asa Packer |
| H B Wright | Joseph Kerr |
| William Bigler | Wm S Picking |
| Charles A Black | Ewd. McGowan |
| Joseph Bailey | Samuel Kerr |
| B Chamneys | Wm Karas |
| Asa Dimock | J R Kline |
| Henry C Eyer | Daniel Snyder |
| Samuel Fegely | Joseph Y James |
| Wm R Rogers | M H DeFord |
| John Hill | T J Postlawait |
| J C Horton | David Glenn |
| D B Long | Samuel Reber |
| Joseph Russell | John Marshall |
| Thomas McCully | Henry Myers |
| J X McLanahan | Jacob Walter |
| E A Penniman | George F Boal |
| W P Wilcox | Wm B Hahn |
| Samuel A Smith | S N Bailey |
| Franklin N Avery | Joseph Thomas |
| A L Rounfort | Charles Kugler |
| Jacob Geerhart | Wm Bell |
| T O Bryan | J K Heckman |
| Henry M'Bride | A Heebner |
| L Kidder | William Bean |
| Richard Bacos | Geo Frederick |
| John Shenk | M Overfield |
| Daniel L Sherwood | Francis Clinton |
| George Bush | S. Goodwin |
| John Sipes | M WM Kinnon |
| John Potteiger | Joseph Deal |
| G. Barrett, | J Baughman |
| George McCulloch | John Morgan, |
| Samuel Moore | John Apple |
| Thomas Tustin, | J P Crawley |
| J L Hancock | J Cummins |
| Emmor Elton. | |

REPLY OF Mr BUCHANAN.

Washington City, Feb. 2 1843.

Gentlemen—Your letter of congratulation, on my recent reelection to the Senate of the United States, has inspired me with feelings of profound gratitude. To have been thrice elected to this eminent station by the democratic Senators and Representatives of my native state, is an honor which ought to satisfy the ambition of any man; and its value is greatly enhanced by your assurance, that in selecting me for another term, you but acted in accordance with the united voice of the democratic party of Pennsylvania. So highly do I prize your good opinion, that I can declare with heartfelt sincerity, I would not forfeit this for all the political honors which my country could bestow. Their unsolicited and continued support have conferred upon me whatever of distinction in public life I may enjoy; and if it were possible for me now to desert their principles, I should feel that I deserved a traitor's doom. Instead of being elated, I am humbled by the consciousness of how little I have ever done to merit all their unexampled kindness.

Of all political parties which have ever existed, the democratic party are the most judicious and confiding masters. All they demand of any public servant is honesty and faithfully to represent their principles in the station where they have placed him; and this I feel proudly conscious that I have

done in the Senate of the United States, according to my best ability. I can, therefore, offer you no pledge for my future conduct, except the guarantee of the past.

You have been further pleased to say that as Pennsylvanians you desire to see me elevated to the highest office in the gift of the people, and you tender me to the Union as Pennsylvania's favorite candidate for the next Presidency. I can solemnly declare that I was wholly unprepared for such an announcement from the democratic members of the legislature, having never received the slightest intimation of their intention, until after their letter had been actually signed.

Both principles and a becoming sense of the merit of others, have hitherto prevented me from taking any, even the least part, in promoting my own elevation to the Presidency. I have no ambitious longings to gratify, conscious as I am that I have already received more of the offices and honors of my country than I have ever deserved. If I know my own heart, I should most freely resign any pretensions which the partiality of friends has set up for me, if by this I could purchase harmony and unanimity in the selection of a democratic candidate. Besides, however proper it may be that candidates for inferior offices should make personal efforts to secure success—I am deeply convinced, that the highest office under Heaven, ought to be the voluntary gift of the only free people upon earth. No man can justly claim it from the people as a matter of right. It ought to be their own spontaneous gift to the most worthy, and this this alone can render it the crowning glory of a well spent public life. This alone can prevent the danger of our institutions which must result from the violent struggles of personal and interested partisans. The principles of the man whom the people may thus delight to honor, ought to have borne the test of long and severe service, and ought to stand out in such bold relief before his country, as to place all doubt in regard to them at defiance. In my opinion, the candidate who would either intrigue, or personally electioneer for the Presidency, raises a strong presumption that he is unworthy of it. Whether it be probably that a man resolved, under the blessing of Providence, to act upon these principles, will ever reach the Presidency, you can judge better than myself. I ought, however, in justice to myself to observe, that whilst this is my fixed purpose, I do not feel the less grateful to those kind and partial friends who have deemed me worthy of the highest office, because I have never attempted to enlist them in my support.

With these views plainly presented before the democracy of Pennsylvania, if they should resolve to offer my name to the National Convention as a candidate for the Presidency, with that degree of unanimity which can alone give moral force to their recommendation, I feel that I ought to determine differently, this will not be to me a cause of the slightest mortification. One remark I am impelled to make before closing this letter. The principles and the success of the democratic party so immeasurably transcend in importance the elevation of any individual, that they ought not to be jeoparded, in the slightest degree, by personal partiality for either of the candidates. Every candidate who has been named, and hundreds of individuals whose names have not been mentioned, would ably and faithfully administer the government, according to these principles. No good democrat, therefore, out to suffer his feelings to be enlisted in favor of any one candidate, that he could not yield his cheerful and cordial support to any other who may be nominated by the National Convention.

With sentiments of great respect,
I remain yours, sincerely
JAMES BUCHANAN.

B. Crispin and H. B. Wright, Esqs, and other democratic members of the legislature of Pennsylvania.

Awful Calamity at Troy.—Thirty Lives Lost—About 4 o'clock P. M. of last Friday; a great land-slide occurred, from the very high hill called Mount Ida, at Troy, N. Y. Part of the hill gave way and slid down upon the town just as it did in January 1837, crushing houses and killing a number of people.

Some eight or ten dwellings, occupied by poor families, were crushed and buried beneath the mass of earth. In these, it is supposed there were not less than thirty or forty persons, only ten or twelve of whom escaped.

Within an hour, nine bodies had been dug from the ruins—five of which were without life, one partially injured and three not beyond recovery.

Had this avalanche occurred in the night, the destruction of life would have been still greater, as many occupants of the houses were absent at their labor or elsewhere.

Babies in their cradles, mothers with their arms, and stalwart men, who but two hours before breathed freely and in health have been taken from the ruins, mutilated and mangled corpses.

A man from the country, passing at the time with his team, leaped from his sleigh and escaped. The horses and load of wood were buried beneath the earth.

The Budget says, 'We just left the scene of disaster. It is one of horrid desolation. Thousands were congregated on the spot, and a corps of efficient men engaged in penetrating the earth and clearing away the fragments of buildings.

MONEYS IN THE TREASURY.

TREASURY OFFICE OF PENNSYLVANIA.
Harrisburg, Feb. 9, 1843.

Col H. B. WRIGHT.

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sir:—In reply to a resolution of the House of Representatives, of the 4th inst. which is as follows:

"Resolved, That the State Treasurer be directed to furnish this House with a statement showing the actual amount of money now in the Treasury. Also, what in his opinion, will be the receipts up to the first day of April next, and what the expenditures up to the same period, agreeably to the present appropriations, allowing \$300,000 for cancelling relief notes, between the first of February and the first of April."

I have the honor to state, that the amount of money in the Treasury (available) on the first day of this month, was one hundred & eighty-one thousand, eight hundred and twenty seven dollars and eighty six cents; and on deposit in sundry banks and Harrisburg Savings Institution (available) the further sum of eighty four thousand, four hundred and thirty six dollars and eighty three cents. There is in addition to this, unavailable deposits, to the amount of \$415,634 67, viz:

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|--------------------------|--------------|
| (acc't of Hunt's breach) | \$280,000 00 |
| Harrisburg bank, do do | 50,000 00 |
| Girard Bank, do do | 6,000 00 |
| West Branch, &c. | 5, 463 00 |
| Bank of Penn'a. | \$63,471 67 |
| Do office at Harrisburg | \$10,700 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 74,171 67 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$415,634 67 |

The foregoing statements do not contain the amount received from the General Government, on account of the proceeds of the sale of the public lands.

The amount that will be received into the Treasury, during the month of February and March, in my opinion, will not exceed one hundred and thirty thousand dollars; being a period when but little is received from the public works, and but few payments are made by County Treasurers.—The payment or demands on the Treasury for the same period, allowing to be cancelled of relief notes \$300,000, will amount to \$475,000, making a deficit between the receipts into the Treasury, including the \$40,000 retained on the 1st February, to meet the ordinary demands on the Treasury under the provisions of the act of 27th of July last, and the demands on the Treasury including the \$300,000 of relief notes to be cancelled, of \$305,000. But of the 300,000 to be cancelled, there has actually been \$100,000 cancelled, which leaves the actual deficit of \$205,000.

By way of explanation, I have appended hereto a statement.

It is evident that the Treasury will not be able to meet the demands thereon, and that the amount required by the Act of Assembly to be cancelled, I would, therefore, very respectfully submit to the Legislature the propriety of making provisions as to the manner of making payments at the Treasury, inasmuch, as under the present state of things, I am at a loss to know whether the whole amount of relief notes in the Treasury, and such as may be received until the amount directed to be cancelled is made up, shall be retained at the commencement of each month; all payments being suspended during that time, and after that, to pay the first claims presented or postponed all payments to the end of the month, and then make a pro rata dividend amongst the claims. In the event of the funds being insufficient to meet the demands, other than the interest on the funded debt, it ought not to be left to the State Treasurer, to determine what claims should be paid, and what postponed.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully your obedient servant,
JOB MANN,
State Treasurer.

STATEMENT.

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| Money in the Treasury, 1st | |
| Feb. A. D. 1843 (available) | \$181,827 86 |
| On deposit in sundry banks | |
| &c., do. | 84,436 83 |

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------|------------|
| Of this cancelled, | \$100,000 00 | 266,264 69 |
| Set apart 1st Feb. | | |
| ruary, for pay- | | |
| ment to domes'tic | | |
| cred'ts, | 118,203 97 | |
| Balance repair fund, | 8,060 72 | |

| | | |
|---------|--|-----------|
| Leaving | | 40,000 00 |
|---------|--|-----------|

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| Leaving, as provided by act of 27th July, to meet demand on Treasury, \$40,000. | | |
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| To this add the est'd receipts for mos. Feb. and March, | | 130,000 00 |
|---|--|------------|

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|--------|--|------------|
| Making | | 170,000 00 |
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|-------------------------------------|------------|--|
| To be cancelled on the last of Feb. | 100,000 00 | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|--|

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--|
| To be cancelled on the last of March | 100,000 00 | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--|

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| Demands on Treasury in Feb. and March, | 175,000 00 | |
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| | | <hr/> |
| | | 375,000 00 |

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|--|--------------|--|
| Supposed deficit; | \$205,000 00 | |
| There is of fund received from the General Government, | 60,313 27 | |
| And the amount due from Bank Pennsylvania; a | | |

part of which might be made available, by receiving it in 4th May issues of that bank, amounting, including branch, to

74,161 67

The First Battle between an English and American Frigate.—Mr. Morgan.—In the 'Evening Journal' of Saturday last, in the biographical sketch of the late Com. Hull, you were pleased to remark in capital letters that he was 'the first man of the nation who took an English Frigate in fair and single fight.'

In answer to this, and out of respect to the memory of the late gallant Paul Jones, of celebrated in the revolutionary war, and which justice demands, I would call your attention to the capture of the British Frigate Serapis, 44, Captain Pierson, by Com Paul Jones in the Bon Homme Richard, 36, after an action by moonlight of four hours the 'Serapis' at anchor and the 'Richard' made fast by grapnels by Jones himself.—'Tis true the Alliance Frigate was in company but stood aloof during the battle. And when it is known that the 'Bon Homme Richard' was formerly an old Indianan, and not having her full complement of men and her guns of different calibre, and that the 'Serapis' was just out of dock, with her full complement and acting as convoy to over one hundred merchantmen, you will I am sure, readily agree with me, that it was not only the first capture single handed but the most obstinate and bloody battle on record—the 'Richard' went down the next morning.

Paul Jones soon after arrived in the Texel, (Holland,) in triumph with the Serapis with her commander and crew as prisoners of war and were soon after exchanged for a like number of American prisoners then in confinement in England.—A Friend of the Navy.

The Red River Flood.—The Southern papers give a melancholy account of the loss of life and property by the rise in the Red River. Amid the general distress, Capt. Crooks, of the steamboat Hunters, proceeded to Mill creek, and rendered the suffers ever possible succor in his power, going from place to place picking up the survivors from the tops of houses & trees, thus rescuing from a watery grave seventy-five or a hundred persons.—Some were necessarily left to perish in the cane and timber, as there was no possible way of reaching them—their cries often being heard above the noise of the element. Six families of Indians, 14 miles this side of Jonesborough, are reported lost, and Col. Milam, of Kentucky with a lady, his niece, and a Mr. McKinney, perished. It is thought that over a hundred lives have been lost between Fulton and Jonesborough—how many we, as yet, cannot with certainty predict.

Affecting Case.—Seduction—Death, &c.

—The Evening Journal gives an account of a Rev. Mr. Lefevre, who is now in the jail of Bradford county, Pa., and who under the garb of religion shamefully won the affections and seduced the virtue of a lovely and amiable daughter of one of his congregation. The Journal adds:—"The consequences hold forth a fearful warning. About a week ago the daughter's situation was known and the guilt brought home to the reverend father. Her mother was thrown into convulsions, in which she was yet lying when our informant wrote, and still more dreadful, her father, who had through life cherished a spotless reputation for himself and family, on hearing his daughter's shame, and his pastor's villany, 'pressed both hands to his breast—gave one groan—and died!'"

Effects of Millerism—Murder, Suicide, &c.

—On Friday last the wife of Jonathan Garrison, of Newark, N J, who has for some time been labouring under the Miller delusion, after destroying the lives of her two youngest children, aged one and three years, by giving them arsenic, put an end to her own existence by the same means. Mrs. Garrison was the mother of five children, three of whom she had sent to her relatives before administering the fatal dose to the others.

A Bold and Extensive Robbery.

—On the morning of Friday week, about 3 o'clock, two young men, attached to Smith's extensive carpet warehouse, No 446 pearl street, New York, were aroused from their slumbers by two men who had gained admittance by turning the key in the door, which was locked inside. One of the burglars drew a pair of loaded pistols from his pocket, and threatened to blow out the brains of the young men if they attempted to stir; while the other broke open the iron safe, from which he abstracted about \$400 in money, and \$6000 in notes, payable, and decamped.