

# AMERICAN PATRIOT.

Published weekly by ALEXANDER HAMILTON, in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania.

*Heister turned Federal*

MONDAY MORNING, AUGUST 18, 1817.

NO. 48.

From the York Gazette of July 10.

The number of Heister's pamphlets sent into this county are immense, but we are happy to state they circulate altogether among the federalists, (oldschoolism being very scarce here) and it is our opinion they are like De Witt Clinton's travelling committee, destined to continue in that channel exclusively, as no republican here will acknowledge Duane and Co. as dictators.

There are numerous conjectures what will be the result of the election in this county, and the only one which we may venture to place in the rank of facts, is that the democrats who voted for Simon Snyder in 1808, and who wish for a continuance of his virtuous administration will vote for Wm. Findlay. Those who voted for Ross and Spayd in 1808, will vote for Mr. Heister, then the result will be, that Mr. Findlay will get about 3000 votes and Mr. Heister 1500. The population of this county having since 1808 become more dense, if the republican strength of it comes out, 5000 votes may be polled, and the republican majority be not far from 2000.

The disinterested patriot Joseph Heister has found the traffic in politics during a long succession of years, perhaps more profitable than any other man in the United States.

The reason why he seceded from the democratic party in 1805 and joined the federalists, is perhaps not so well known as it ought to be. In 1804 he published an address in which he said:

"Fellow citizens, a union with the federalists I cannot in the least approve.

In one year afterwards we find him ring-leader of the federalists in their Cuckoo cries of "save the constitution." He proclaimed to the state that if Simon Snyder were elected governor, the constitution would be demolished, and an equal distribution of property made, and confusion and anarchy ensue. His supposed disinterestedness gave weight to his declarations. But the election of McKean soon removed the veil, and his love of office and pelf became manifest. His son was appointed prothonotary of Berks county. His son-in-law was made a president of the courts. He himself was made a major general by McKean, not on account of military but of political services in 1805. He was also appointed one of three commissioners, to ascertain claims by the state against John Nicholson. For this service in which he was engaged about four weeks, he received THREE THOUSAND three hundred and thirty-three dollars. This was the price of reward his for disinterested exertion in promoting McKean's election.

This sum was more than three thousand dollars beyond any equivalent for his services, yet how much was put into the treasury of Berks or any other county?

FROM THE COMMONWEALTH.

The editor of the Aurora has been the author, or rather inventor, of more political nick-names, than any other public journalist in the union. It was he who first began the odious appellation of Quids—he has now his oldschool and newschool democrats, which are again graced into *Cossacks, Neutrals, Treasury men*, and last of all *Squatters*.—Now, by this last term, it appears that Mr. Duane and his friend Leib, [that paragon of honesty and patriotism], mean that class of citizens, known in this part of the state by the appellation of *actual settlers*—that is, persons who have settled on the lands north and west of the Ohio and

Allegheny rivers, and Conewango creek, under the act of the state legislature, passed in 1792. A contest has taken place, and has been kept up for several years past, between this class of people, and another class who are denominated *warrant holders*—*alias* land monopolisers or speculators. These contests, however, are settling every day, in due course of law, to the satisfaction of all parties. But the restless spirit of the Aurora must meddle with every thing—and without "waiting for the word" as us soldiers say, from the "Mercury," or some other patriotic coadjutor in the cause of quidism and federalism—but he comes with his attack on the "squatters," in his paper of the 30th of June—in which he has displayed as much malignity as it is possible for man to display in so small a compass. He says:—

"The squatters seize upon other men's lands."

"The squatters denounce every man as an enemy and menace them with vengeance if they attempt to gain possession of their own lands."

"The squatters say the means are suited to the end."

It is some consolation to the actual settlers, or "squatters," as Dr. Leib and Mr. Duane denominate them, that none of them can be accused either of stealing the revolutionary certificates of orphan children, or of running away from their militia camps during the late war. Whatever may be said of their "stealing other men's lands," they have sense enough to know, that they can hold no lands which are not guaranteed to them by law—and they ask but for justice. It is a pity the Mercury man would not publish this precious morceau from the Aurora, as his paper circulates generally among these "thievish squatters," who are so fond of "stealing other men's lands;" they might then see of what materials the Heisterites are composed, and be prepared to act accordingly—but no, that would not suit. This kind of slang was only intended for the rich German farmers on the other side of the mountains—for that class of people, whom the patriotic Joseph Heister, in 1805, induced to believe that the forged toast about "an equal distribution of property," meant that the democrats and Snyderites wanted to destroy the constitution, and divide all the large farms into small ones, so that each man should have an equal share of land. This slang is not meant for the people on this side of the Allegheny mountains, who know too well their rights to be cajoled out of them by the mercenary and factious combination now opposed to the republican cause, under the denomination "independent republicans," alias Heisterites—or to be intimidated by the malignant abuse of the plunderer of orphan children, or the run-away adjutant general. These men, in one sense of the word, are deserving of the term "independent," which they have assumed—that is, they are independent of principle—and the actual settlers, or if it pleases the junto, the "squatters," will show them on the second Tuesday of October next, that their unprincipled intrigues will have no weight with them—that they will remain true to the republican cause, and to the principles of the American revolution.

PHILANDER.

FROM THE MILITARIAN.

"A THUMPER," from Thos. T. Stiles editor of the Philadelphia True American, the same who affects to despise "team men, and barbers, and watch makers," and who abuses foreigners, and is a foreigner himself, has appeared in his paper respecting Union and Northumberland counties. Stiles says—"a meeting of the citizens of Union county was held by general invitation," at New Berlin, on Friday, 11th inst. and that on ascertaining the sentiments of the people, as to the candidates for governor, there were 401 for HEISTER, and 57 for Findlay. The proportion in Union county, is about three to one in favor of Heister." O! SHAME!

\* A boy was dispatched at the instance of C. Maus, through the town, and he called at every house and put the question,—"Are you for Heister or Findlay?" If answered in the affirmative, they were requested to attend at Solomon's in the evening, and nicked on a shingle kept for purpose. The question was put to a gen-

tleman in the street, who replied, "what do you mean by that you little rascal?" "It makes no odds, said he, I get paid for it." The gentleman then said he was for Heister. "Well, attend at Solomon's this evening." For a very lusty man, he was requested to make a very broad nick. On counting the nicks, there were 47 for Heister and 57 for Findlay—but the wise Mr. Stil's ADDS 354 to Heister's nicks and makes them 401—at the same rate he will be able to make his sovereign master, a governor by a majority of 40157. The boy actually received half a dollar for his services; and let the Mouse out of the bag.

Meeting (of 16) held Thursday, June 26 Stiles also says—

"We are authorised to state, that a meeting of the citizens of Northumberland county was held last week [2d week in July] at Milton, and that the friends of Heister outnumbered their opponents, in numbers equal to 2 to 1. In Northumberland Heister will have two votes to Findlay's one."

We little thought the WISE and learned Mr. Stiles, would be imposed upon by such silly information; some school-boy must have authorised Mr. S. to make these lying assertions; but he will have to imitate Mr. Getz (by publishing certificates) to prove that meetings DID take place; no doubt persons will be found ready to CERTIFY that Stiles is correct. Yet we DEFY one man to substantiate, AN OATH, the correctness of these infamous libels, upon the republican reputation of the above counties.

A letter from Easton to Capt. Baldy, dated 13th July, says: "Findlay is gaining ground every day there, and that his majority will be from 800 to 1000 in Northampton county, and, at a moderate calculation, his majority will be 2500 in that district," viz. Northumberland, Lehigh, Pike and Wayne counties.

FROM THE EASTON CENTINEL.

Yes gentlemen, thus all good republicans and friends to their country ought to do.

I inform the public that I never authorised any person or persons to publish that I decline serving on the committee of vigilance to promote the election of Wm. Findlay, as is published without my approbation or knowledge in the Reading papers. I shall vote with the republicans at the next election, as I have always done—and advise the officious federalists not to make so free an use of my name again, or they might get trouble.

PETER KUTZ.

Maxetany, July 24.

Between the friends of Findlay and Heister the contest for the executive chair of this state, has been conducted for some time past, with great warmth and acrimony east of the mountains. In the west the same spirit begins to develop itself. Many hard things are said on both sides.—With us, we enjoy as yet, all the mildness of the temperate zone. From present appearances,—Mr. Findlay will receive a very decided vote in this quarter.

Crawford Messenger.

PENNSYLVANIA POLITICS.

From all quarters of the state our weekly bundle of newspapers gives the political news of the day respecting the approaching election for governor.—Here we are all quiet, here we enjoy a mild atmosphere—the result however is not the less certain. In this county and the adjoining ones, we hear of little or no opposition to Mr. Findlay.

Mercer Press.

We have scanned the toasts drank on the 4th of July, to glean the state of public sentiment as to the revolutionists of the South. We have seen with great delight, that the favorite sentiment from all quarters and from all parties has been *Success to the Spanish Patriots*. May victory accompany the cause of emancipation.—With what pleasure then will our citizens hear of the cheering prospects of McGregor!

From the Harrisburg Republican.

Leikens township, July 30, 1817.

Mr. Peacock,

I see in a late Chronicle that the Carlisle caucus men have appointed me one of their corresponding committee for this township, without my knowledge or consent. I would wish them to strike my name from their list, for I have always supported the democratic republican cause, and am at this time determined to support that cause, by all just and lawful means.

JOHN HOFFMAN, Junr.

N. B. Messrs. Gillmor and Hamilton will I presume have no objections to inserting the above in their paper.

J. H. Junr.

HEISTER'S VOTE IN CONVENTION

It has been said was harmless, because not affecting native citizens; and praise worthy, because it would be the means of depriving foreigners of the right of suffrage until they had become freeholders, &c.

Let us answer the above on its bearings. First, it was harmless &c. Indeed! Harmless to deprive a majority of the young men of Pennsylvania of the above invaluable right! That this would certainly have been the case will appear when we consider, that in the city and county of Philadelphia four out of five of the young men cannot be freeholders, and when we call to mind the great mass of the citizens being artizans, mechanics or manufacturers, engaged on the wharves, ware-houses, rope yards, and in various other mechanical and manufacturing pursuits few ever arriving at that degree of opulence to be the owners of real property in the city or county in consequence of its immense value. And when we consider that a majority of the citizens residing in the interior of the state (say our county towns) are of the above description, viz. mechanics and manufacturers, it will I am persuaded appear self evident, that had the motion voted for by Joseph Heister become a part of our constitution, a majority of our young men could not on the second Tuesday of October next have voted at our polls. Yet this is what is said to be an harmless act, in Joseph Heister!!

It has further been said that it was praise worthy, as the effect of his vote would be "not to extend the right of suffrage to foreigners on easy terms." It will at first view appear that it certainly would have had an effect diametrically opposite. A probationership of 5 years is necessary before any foreigner can attain the rights of citizenship. The words of our constitution are, "the sons of citizens between the ages of 21 and 22 years may vote," &c. Now young men, sons of foreigners, cannot vote between the above years, whether born in the U States or otherwise, except their father be a citizen; which privilege he cannot attain in a term less than 5 years.

But had Joseph Heister's amendment prevailed, viz. "the sons of freeholders between the ages of 21 and 22 may vote," &c. a foreigner on his arrival on our shores had only to repair a few miles into the country and for 8 or 10 dollars (at that time) make a purchase of one, two, or more acres of land: his son being of the age of 21 years, could vote although he might not have been one month in this country. Now look for a moment at the evil tendency of Heister's amendment!!

If the above amendment was conceived in enmity to foreigners, see how the dagger would have wounded the hand of him who wielded it.

BRUTUS.

Mr. Printer—In these electioneering times I suppose one has a right to speak his thoughts, as well concerning the candidates as their friends—I am no officer, nor office-hunter; and I think I may with more truth than H. Hamilton did, (when he failed in getting the post office) say that I despise the "meanness of office-hunting." I particularly disapprove of devoting the Sabbath day to electioneering purposes, as is done by some of the friends of Heister, who come up into our neighborhood. Their common practice is to go into a public house, and if they find some people collected, call for a half a pint of brandy, and then haul out of their pocket a pamphlet against the democratic candidate, read a part of it, and thrust it into their pockets