

Gov. Porter's Reply,

TO THE PITTSBURG COMMITTEE.

HARRISBURG, 24th August, 1840.

GENTLEMEN:— Previously to my departure from Pittsburg, I had the honor to receive yours of the 13th inst., inviting me, on behalf of "the great mass of my democratic fellow-citizens of Pittsburg and vicinity, to partake of a public entertainment to be given in testimony of their respect and personal esteem, and of their confidence in me as the Chief Magistrate of the commonwealth."

You have not over-rated, gentlemen, the difficulties with which I have had to contend. I took occasion, in a late letter to my democratic friends of Philadelphia to refer to them, and I cannot forbear now to repeat, that those difficulties called on me for the exercise of all the ability and all the firmness with which I have pleased God to endow me. Surrounded on all sides with embarrassments, I was constrained by circumstances to adopt that course which seemed to be best with the least; and I am sorry to say, during the darkest period of those embarrassments, there seemed to be a want of cordial support, and mainly assumption of responsibility on the part of the co-ordinate branches of the Government, to whom as well as to myself, the people had entrusted the management of their public affairs.

Every rational man knows, that you cannot erect or change governments in a day. Mistakes and abuses of half a century in taking root, cannot be extirpated at a single blow; and when intemperately blended with our business and public interests, as the banking institutions of this commonwealth were, the evil must be examined and corrected with great caution and skill. Remedies are often suggested, that at first glance appear sound and complete, but upon a more thorough consideration are quite as bad as the evils they are designed to cure. When men are responsible to the public for all the results of measures that they recommend or approve, it is doubly incumbent on them not to be misled by busy counsel, or false appearances. They are sworn to weigh things well, and to act according to the dictates of their best judgment, perfectly fearless of all that human power can do against them. Impressed with this, as the paramount obligation of my official duty, I have both done and refrained from doing various things, on which a diversity of sentiment prevailed among my political friends and supporters; and frankly and fully submitting my reasons to my fellow citizens, have relied on their candor and sense of justice to vindicate my course. My confidence in my fellow citizens has been more than realized. They have appreciated the obstacles in my way, and have made ample allowance for the peculiar circumstances in which the people of the commonwealth and its Executive have been placed. I am sure there is but little real difference of opinion among the various members of the democratic party on the great subjects of public policy that have occupied the attention of the people for several years past. There may be differences of opinion, it is true, as to details, but upon the essential principles involved, we all think very much alike. How idle and unreasonable would it be then to ask of our neighbor, to agree with us implicitly, in all the minute details of a system, when we see alike in relation to every fundamental principle of which it consisted? And how absurd and unjust would it be, to impugn his motives and denounce his conduct, because he could not recognize in our opinion the only infallible standard of perfection? Were this otherwise, it would be indeed a social tyranny of the most grinding and insupportable kind. It would destroy at once that freedom of opinion which is not only the glory of our republican institutions, but the very life and soul of their existence. God forbid that the day should ever arrive in this country, when the most exalted individual in power may say to the humbler: "I am the standard of infallibility—agree with me in all things, or be branded as a recreant and a knave—stand off from the altar of patriotism—I am holier than thou." I freely concede to every man, the right to form such opinions upon public men, as he sees fit, and to act on the best dictates of his judgment in supporting them. I claim as a reciprocal right the same privilege and shall exercise it, as I have hitherto done, and I shall continue to rely on the intelligence and integrity of my fellow citizens to sustain me. I know not a public officer, who can bare his very heart to the public scrutiny, with a consciousness of recititude of intention, has nothing to apprehend from the people. That scrutiny I cheerfully invite—it cannot be instituted too often, or too rigidly applied to the conduct of public functionaries.

I hope, gentlemen, not to be misunderstood. These remarks are not designed to be applicable to any particular class of individuals, if in fact any can be found, who might feel disposed to appropriate them to themselves. They are made for the sole purpose of explaining my own views on the course it becomes me to pursue, under such circumstances as have been indicated, and I have not yet seen any just cause to depart from them, on any occasion.

You have been pleased to refer with approbation, to my recommendation of a tax for the support of the credit and the honor of the Commonwealth, as well as for the completion of the unfinished works of improvement. It affords me pleasure to receive such testimonials of commendation from those who among others are to bear the burden of this imposition. I felt conscious of the peril I encountered in making this recommendation to the legislature, but in fact there was no other available alternative. The debt was already incurred—the improvements finished or undertaken—we were but indirectly responsible for providing for the necessity which we had not produced, and it was simply a question, whether the plighted faith of the state should be redeemed or violated. As a man of honor, as the Executive of a high-minded and honorable people, I could not hesitate. I cheerfully suggested a measure, in the burden of which, with my fellow-citizens, I was to take a share. I regretted as sincerely as any one, its necessity, but regret, however great, could not justify a failure to perform my official duty.

You have been pleased also to refer with approbation to my recommendations for the reform of the Banking System; to my opposition to the increase of the number of banks; and to the certainty now afforded, that the banks of the commonwealth will receive specie payments on the day fixed by the resolution, or "sink never to rise again."

I deeply regret that the recommendations which I made to the legislature in my annual message at the opening of the last session, for the reformation of our vicious system of banking, were not adopted. Had they been, I believe much good would have resulted to the public, but as it is, I can do no more than to renew them, as I shall do, and urge them upon the attention of the next legislature. My views on the subject of increasing the price at number of banks, are fully set forth in my veto of "the Lancaster Loan Company Bank." I believe they have been very generally approved by my fellow citizens; and I will here take occasion to say, that as the banking capital of this commonwealth had been increased about \$40,000,000 within three years immediately before my induction into office, I cannot perceive the slightest necessity for any further augmentation. While I continue to be entrusted with the executive functions, I shall not yield my assent to any increase of our banking capital, but on the contrary, if any change on this subject be made, I think it should be to reduce the overgrown amount already existing.

So far as relates to the resumption of specie payments, I have already in the letter above referred to addressed to my democratic friends of Philadelphia, stated that the period fixed in the resolutions as they finally passed, was more remote than I thought expedient; but as the time, (provided it was reasonable,) was not a matter of principle, and as I considered some definite and speedy legislation indispensable, I sanctioned the resolutions. Had I defeated the adoption of the resolutions, I apprehended the banks would be too potent to allow of the passage of others, more reasonable, if indeed any others could have been passed. I signed them as the least of two evils. This is not the first law I have sanctioned for the same reasons, and no man in his senses can expect the executive branch of the government to, which merely approves of what is done by its co-ordinates, to have every measure precisely its own way. I have exercised the veto power without hesitation whenever I considered a question of principle, or of vital public policy concerned, but not in cases of less import.

As I considered the suspension of specie payments extended to a longer time than was necessary, I shall not sanction any further extension. If the banks cannot meet their engagements on the 15th of January next, it will be a serious misfortune, but it is one in the production of which I have had no share, and for the consequences of which I shall feel no official responsibility. The banks themselves must answer for the result; for it must be perfectly obvious to the world, that any bank which cannot then resume, with such notice and indulgence, will never be able to resume at all.

You have also been pleased to notice in connection with my name, that of our distinguished President, and likewise that great measure of his administration the Independent Treasury. My favorable opinion both of him and of the Independent Treasury Bill was fully and frankly expressed in my Inaugural address and my late annual message to the legislature. It was made up on reflection and has been strengthened by the occurrences almost daily taking place. I may further add, that as the Independent Treasury is now the law of the land, and in full operation, time will soon demonstrate its salutary tendencies, and I have no doubt, prove that its friends have not been mistaken in their anticipations of benefits to arise from it.

The banks had by their own act of suspension in 1836, shown their incapacity to perform the functions of fiscal agents of the Government. With \$15,000,000 in their vaults, of the public moneys, the government was compelled to borrow funds to carry on its operations. With what justice, therefore, can they or their friends complain of the government, (having already suffered so deeply by their delinquency,) for attempting to provide a safer and better method of keeping and disbursing the money belonging to the people? I have thus, gentlemen, hastily, but with candor, expressed my views on several of the leading topics embraced in your letter of invitation. Whatever may be the opinion of some others, as to the right of the people to ask of candidates for high office, and of persons occupying official stations, what are their views on great subjects of policy affecting the prospects and interests of the public, and as to the duty of such persons to respond to them, I am one of those who believe that on such occasions, there should be no concealment of opinion, nor flinching from proper interrogation. Having already avowed this right to make inquiry, on the part of the people, and this duty to respond on the part of their public servants, I need hardly assure you, for the information of those who have recently assailed me for frankly expressing my sentiments on several vitally interesting public subjects, when they had been introduced by others, that they differ widely from me who think that I

disfranchised myself from taking part in the discussion of our national affairs, assuming the duties of the station, to which I have been called by the voice of the freemen of Pennsylvania.

Reiterating my thanks for the invitation with which you have honored me, and the manner in which you have offered it.

I am, gentlemen, With the highest respect, Your fellow citizen, DAVID R. PORTER.

To Messrs. Charles Shaler, Rudy Patterson, R. C. Grier, and others.

THE AMERICAN.

Saturday, September 26, 1840.

ELECTORAL TICKET.

- JAMES CLARKE, of Indiana, } Senatorial. Geo. G. LEIFER, of Delaware, }
1. George W. Snickel. 12. Frederick Smith.
2. Benjamin Millin. 13. Charles McClure.
3. Frederick Stoeber. 14. J. M. Gemmelt.
4. Wm. H. Smith. 15. G. M. Hollenback.
5. John F. Steinman. 16. Leonard Pfoutz.
6. John Dowlin. 17. John Horton, Jr.
7. Henry Myers. 18. William Patton.
8. Daniel Jacoby. 19. John Morrison.
9. Jesse Johnson. 20. Westly Frost.
10. Jacob Able. 21. Benj. Anderson.
11. Geo. Christman. 22. William Wilkins.
12. Wm. Shoener. 23. A. K. Wright.
13. Henry DeHull. 24. John Finlady.
14. Henry Logan. 25. Stephen Barlow.

STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

- HON. J. C. BECKER, }
OVID F. JOHNSON, }
JAMES FRACKER, }
BENJAMIN PARKER, }
JOHN M. FORSTER, }
E. W. HUTTNER, }
MICHAEL BURKE, }
JACOB BAAR, }
HERMAN ALBRICHS, }
PETER HAY, }
JOSEPH C. NEAL, }
DAVID LYN H, }
H. H. VAN AMRINGE, }
Daphin. Philadelphia. Philad. Philad.

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES.

- FOR PRESIDENT, Martin Van Buren.
FOR VICE PRESIDENT, Richard M. Johnson.
FOR GOVERNOR, Gen. David R. Porter.
FOR CONGRESS, JOHN SNYDER.
FOR ASSEMBLY, CHARLES W. HEGINS.
(Who had 14 votes in the Democratic Delegation.)
JESSE C. HORTON.
(Who had 13 votes in the Delegation.)
FOR COMMISSIONERS, WILLIAM SHANNON, JACOB RHODES.
FOR AUDITOR, HUGH H. TEATS.
WHIG CANDIDATES, FOR CONGRESS, JAMES MERRILL.
COMMISSIONER, JOSEPH BOUND.
AUDITOR, ELIDA JOHN.

That modest editor of "unblushing merit," H. L. Defflach-E-R, in "a card" published in the Sunbury Gazette, calls us a "conceited ignoramus." This must certainly excite a smile in those who know the man Defflach. We hope that the public will never suspect us of having any desire to act in "concern" with him. He says we falsified in asserting that he said that the people on this side of the river had no intelligence. We were so informed by a highly respectable gentleman, who afterwards informed us that it was James Deffenbacher of Northern Indiana, a brother of the Ledgerman. He supposed that they were one and the same. It matters but little, as they are both right hard men of Boston. We informed Deffenbacher, when in our office a few days since, of the above fact. He then denied that his brother had said so. A gentleman present at once told him he had made use of the very language, as he himself had heard him. We have the names of five or six highly respectable men who will testify to the fact.

In regard to the other charges about the national bank, &c., said to have been made to him at Price's bar, we told him that he had based and merely misrepresented what had been said, and asserted what he knew to be false. His inability to extricate himself, was a satisfactory evidence to all present of his guilt and low conduct.

We always keep a copy of the "Milton Ledger" in our office, so that when any person wishing to subscribe has any doubts about taking the "American," we lay the Ledger along side of it; it is the best argument we can possibly use. It is like laying a "gold piece" along side of an old "copper" and telling a man to take his choice. If however the appearance of the Ledger don't satisfy them, (and it has never yet failed to do so,) we ask them to read its contents, (unless when we are afraid that the tone of its morals might injure the prospects of the party,) nothing can be more satisfactory.

We will answer the charges of Mr. Youngman in his last paper, and we hope respectfully. We never knew until this moment that a paper had not been sent you. You know we were the first to exchange.

You say that you read the Miltonian, and have seen nothing in it about removing the seat of justice from Sunbury. We will not be so unscrupulous as to call you a falsifier, but if you will look in the Miltonian of the 12th inst. and do not find the article just as we published it, we are willing that you shall call us all the hard names you can invent. Every man, woman and child who reads that paper, will tell you that it is a fact. We ask our friends to look, and then tell us who prints what is not true.

If you did not head your article "Donnell and Dewart opposed to the Shamokin coal region," (for we quoted from memory,) you at least accused them of it in the body of the article, which is all the same. The use of hard names is a sure sign of a bad cause. We expected better things of Mr. Youngman. The Ledger is capable of almost anything.

We say again that if Mr. Hegins' friends would have gone for any one else it would have been John McKinney. Horton never would have received the nomination. After the delegates had got through, their powers were at an end and they could no more agree to a nomination a few weeks afterwards than they could a few years after, and I had then no more power than other private individuals. The nomination in the Forks was, therefore, a farce—a cheat upon the people.

As to your referring to our paper, it is all we want. We ask for nothing more. It will speak for itself, and in such a tone as not to be easily misanderstood.

As to the other charges we have not room to answer them at present, but we will stand by all the statements we make.

The Ledgerman has been made to say that the proprietors of this paper "did not own three cents worth of it." For the information of the editor, who has been school in, and whose only source of information is, that academy of fine arts, styled the "Milton Post office," we will state, that either one of the proprietors of this paper are capable, not only of purchasing, but of paying and holding in their own name, the American, and have still enough left out of means acquired by honest industry to purchase, not only the Ledger, but its nominal editor with it. We boast not of wealth, but thank fortune we have a competency sufficient to render us independent as editors.

The Milton Ledger says, it, (the "Sunbury American") is printed on old type, from the "Keystone" office, that had been thrown away by the editors of that paper.

We would like the reader of the Ledger to compare the two papers, (the impression we mean,) and then tell us upon what the Ledger is printed.

The Sunbury Gazette, not being able to contradict our statements, is now trying to make it appear that we are not in favor of Van Buren. They know this to be false. They know that we have written more and stronger articles in favor of Van Buren, since we commenced our paper, than they have in a whole year. We ask the people to examine both papers, and judge for themselves. We can show, as subscribers to our paper, some of the strongest and most distinguished democrats in Pennsylvania, men of high standing throughout the state, and whose democracy has never been doubted; men, who are among the best and most intimate of Gov. Porter's friends. We have among our supporters many of the best and strongest democrats in the county. How then can Mr. Youngman stoop so low as to make such charges—charges he knows to be false! Such conduct should be scorned by every honorable man.

The Sunbury Gazette announced in advance of the publication of this paper, that its politics would be changed after the election. Do not, we pray you Mr. Youngman, make yourself the standard by which to judge us. It is a very common practice, but a very unsafe and unjust one. We are aware, so are the people, that you understand how to box the political compass, as well as the conductor of any other press in the country. Your paper supported the antimasonic candidate for the legislature in 1832, in opposition to the regularly nominated democratic ticket. You supported Joseph Ritter in 1832, and have been guilty of several other wanderings from the democratic ranks. Your son, who is now the ostensible editor of your paper, is too young to remember these things, but for his benefit we will repeat an old adage in a new dress: "People, the appetures of whose domicils are vitified, should not project fragments of granite." Do not, we beg of you for your own sake, attempt to denounce any democrat, or the people who know you, will certainly think that you have got on the wrong side again.

We would merely say to the Ledgerman, that the people of Shamokin claim no affinity with him, and are not therefore given to hissing, like animals of his genus.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM SHAMOKIN.

Saufltown, Sept. 18, 1840. "The meeting that Horton's few friends held here last Saturday, has made a great many votes for Hegins. Squire Teats and Geo. Miller denied Hegins the privilege to show the journals in the meeting. This shows that they were afraid the truth would come out, and the people now believe that what they say about his voting for the extra pay and the \$4 a day is not true. I saw the journal, and am satisfied that Horton's men tell false-hoods against Hegins. We are opposed to the Gazette here."

Will Squire Teats send us, for publication, the letter he received from a person in Northumberland, saying that Hegins would not have five votes in Paint township? We should like his neighbors to know the name of the man who would write such a notorious falsehood! The truth is, Hegins will beat Horton in his own township.

Mr. Best of the Danville Intelligencer, is one of the great little men who has an amazingly high opinion of himself. To bear him in his own paper, one would suppose he was a modern Atlas, and that at least two-thirds of the "Star of the North" was resting upon his shoulders. Hence the terrible outpouring of his wrath, malignity and personal abuse. But unfortunately for himself, he has never been able to impress upon others the true value of his greatness. Although a resident of one of the strongest democratic counties in the state, he has invariably been rejected by the people whenever he placed his name before them. Thus it ever will and should be with small intermeddling politicians, who will never be satisfied unless they can bend the popular will to suit their own selfish purposes. Mr. Best has thought fit to obtrude himself upon the people of Northumberland county, and has volunteered his services to abuse C. W. Hegins. His support is a sure passport to defeat. His friendship ever proves fatal. He has more than once been the cause of defeating the democratic candidates in Columbia county. Being himself defeated in the nomination, it is said he is now secretly opposing Mr. Healdy, the regularly nominated candidate for senate. If he will persist in intermeddling, and slandering candidates of other counties, let him at least confine himself as nearly to the truth as possible. Why will not the man learn wisdom by experience?

We think we are well enough acquainted with the mainly generous character of Gov. Porter, to assert &c. [Milton Ledger.]

Take care that we don't tread on each other's toes, as the turkey said when in company with a number of horses.

The Ledger thinks us mighty soft for saying that two papers can be supported on this side of the river. Now, there are two papers in Milton, and why cannot two papers be supported on this side, where a large majority of the voters of the county reside. Old democratic Augusta itself could support a newspaper, and we think there is spirit and intelligence enough in it to do so. We have, at least pretty good evidence of the fact from the number of our subscribers in that township. The Ledger presumes a great deal too much on the ignorance of the people on this side of the river. They will however teach him that they know too much to vote for such a man as Jesse C. Horton, or be humbugged by the stories of his editor.

The Sunbury Gazette says our press cost fifteen hundred dollars. The Milton Ledger says that its made up of old type thrown aside by the Keystone. Now who is to decide between these two consistent, worthy Doctors?

The conferees of Union, Lycoming and Northumberland, have unanimously nominated Mr. John Snyder of Union for Congress. Mr. Snyder's election is there fore rendered certain.

TRUTH.

The Ledger threatens to "show us up" because we stated in our first number that he had told "the truth by accident." Yet he denies that he done it designedly. Strange man—a sprinkling of truth, even though it should get in by accident might serve to season the rest of his matter, if nothing else.

A Chance.

The friends of Horton in order to deceive the people, have reported that this press after the election will come out in favor of the Whigs. Now we state to all who are subscribers to our paper, or may choose to subscribe, that they may withdraw their subscriptions as soon as we change our politics, and that we will not charge them one cent for the subscription to our paper in that event.

Penrose Press.

A few months since, Mr. C. B. Penrose, in company with several other iron masters, made a visit to Danville, for the purpose of inspecting the anthracite furnaces in blast there. While there, Mr. John C. Boyd, one of the most enterprising men in the state, deeply interested in the coal and iron trade, prevailed upon Mr. Penrose and his friends to visit the Shamokin coal region, where a company are now erecting two anthracite furnaces, and are busily engaged in sending about one hundred tons of coal daily, on the rail road, to Sunbury. Mr. Hegins, very properly as the representative of this county, went to Shamokin, and pointed out to Mr. Penrose and his friends, upon the spot, more effectually than he could in the halls of legislation, the many important advantages of the Shamokin coal region to the county, as well as to the Pennsylvania canal, in the increased tonnage that must shortly be thrown into it from this source. On their return to this place in the evening, Mr. Penrose was shown the difficulties we labor under in shipping coal under the present arrangement. This act of courtesy to a stranger, on the part of Mr. Hegins, induced the Sunbury Gazette a few weeks since, to make a charge against him, which must have caused the writer's cheek to mantle with shame, while perpetrating an act so despicable. The public we know how to appreciate the conduct of a man whose public spirit prompts him to promote the general welfare and prosperity of the people, and to distinguish him from one who could give publicity to charges, which his own heart tells him are false.

Mr. Penrose's visit to Danville, and accidental visit here, they say was in effect to bribe Charles W. Hegins to become a member again, in order to put off the resumption of specie payments. We would not envy the feelings or reflections of the man, when reposing his head upon his pillow at night, whose malignity could induce him to give vent to such charges, at which his conscience must revolt in his cooler moments.

The fact, that this occurred several weeks before the nominations were made, will be sufficient to show how shallow and ridiculous the charge is, and what reliance should be placed upon statements emanating from such a source.

Sheriff Gossler's Candidates.

- Assembly, JESSE C. HORTON. Auditor, HUGH TEATS, Esq. For the next Sheriff, BENJAMIN PFOUTS, Commissioner, 1841, CHRISTIAN BOUSHLOG.

A few days after Gossler was elected sheriff by the large majority of 100 votes, although he was on the democratic ticket, he said "he could now manage this side of the river. Horton should be the next assemblyman. Pfouts the next sheriff, and Boushlog the next commissioner," and we believe he has since promised an office to every prominent man who will support his candidate, Horton, who is one of his bail. Will the people on this side of the river be dictated to by Sheriff Gossler? We think not. He will find that he and his bail can't rule the county.

The Gazette.

Mr. Youngman gives as a reason why he opposes Mr. Hegins, that "he was not in favor of re-treating the banks." Don't you know, Mr. Youngman, that Mr. Hegins did vote for a bill containing wholesome restrictions upon the banks, just such as the democratic party have always wished, and that every democratic member voted with him for the same bill! This bill has been published in our paper for the last two weeks, and you can't deceive the people about it. Confess the true reason honestly then. Tell the people that Horton and his friends have got you 100 subscribers to pursue your present course, and don't talk about principle. This is not the first time you have made your principles bend to suit your interests.

Democracy.

The Ledger says that Mr. Dewart is no democrat because he did not support Sheriff Gossler. If that is the test of democracy, a great many old democrats will be thrown out of the party. Let such fellows dictate a little longer, and the democratic party of this county will be a slim affair.

Whose fault was it?

We, in common with the democracy of the county, regret that our county convention was unable to agree upon a ticket. The friends of Mr. Horton made a proposition to the friends of Mr. Horton to drop both candidates, and unite upon some other person. But Horton's friends absolutely refused to agree to nominate any other man, and one of them said, that "they had the intelligence on their own side of the river, and they would have the member." We ask then, whose fault was it, that the party was not united, and a nomination made? Mr. Hegins had the highest number of votes, and yet his friends, for the purpose of uniting the party, offered to withdraw him, and if Horton's friends had acted with the same conciliatory spirit, there would have been no difficulty. But they were determined to force Horton on the ticket, as their subsequent conduct has shown.

Jesse C. Horton.

Why do not the Sunbury Gazette and Milton Ledger tell the people something about this gentleman's qualifications for the office to which they wish to have him elected? Can they not invent something in his favor?

New York Interests.

The citizens of this county would have an eye to their own interests, by considering who Jesse C. Horton is. Very few persons ever heard of his residence in this county, until he forced himself before the people in the character of an office hunter. The reason why he is so much of a stranger is obvious. He was, until within a few years, a citizen of the state of New York, a yankee, without a solitary Pennsylvania feeling, identified in person, by connections, and interests with the citizens of that state, and those of the county of Luzerne, whose local interests are all in direct opposition to ours. The members from Luzerne are always in favor of the project of making an out-let lock at Black's eddy, on the Delaware canal, so that the coal from Lehigh and Delaware may be thence carried across the river, and through the Delaware and Raritan canal to the city of New York, taking all the trade from Philadelphia, and making that the coal mast of the United States. The Luzerne people have their rail road from Wilkesbarre to Whitesville on the Lehigh, which connects at the latter point, with the Mauch Chunk canal, and through this route they intend to divert all the trade of the state of New York, and from the Luzerne mines, (all of which is now carried through the North Branch canal,) to the city of New York, leaving our own improvements from Wilkesbarre to Northumberland, and from Black's eddy to Bristol, unemployed stagnant ditches.

Erie Convention.

The convention at Erie, in favor of Van Buren and Johnson was well attended. Twenty-five thousand freemen were on the spot, to testify to the approval of the measures of Mr. Van Buren's administration. Twenty-five thousand, it will be recollected, were also assembled a short time since at Lancaster, in favor of Van Buren. Thus it will be seen that 50,000 of the freemen of Pennsylvania have left their homes, some of them traveling about 3 or 400 miles, to show their approval of the measures of Mr. Van Buren. If we only suppose that one half of his friends were in attendance, and who does not know that more than two-thirds remained at home? what stronger evidence could we desire of his popularity and the certainty of his getting Pennsylvania. Mr. Buchanan, Wm. F. Packer and other distinguished democrats addressed the multitude. Gov. Porter was also in attendance. The following resolution in his favor was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we heartily respond to the voice of our democratic brethren at Lancaster, in regard to the re-nomination of Gov. Porter, believing, as we do, that a more fearless and independent democrat, a purer and better statesman never wielded the destinies of our beloved Commonwealth.