THE GETTYSBURG STAR & REPUBLICAN BANNER.

☞ Devoted to Politics, Foreign and Domestic Intelligence, Literature, Science, Agriculture, the Mechanic Arts, Internal Improvement, and General Miscellany. ☜

ALMANAC.

FEBRUARY, 1835.	SUN RISES.	SUN SETS.	MOON'S PHASES.
10 Tuesday	6 51	5 13	FEBRUARY.
11 Wednesday	6 50	5 14	Full M. 9h. 0m. A. M.
12 Thursday	6 48	5 15	First Q. 5 6 53 m.
13 Friday	6 47	5 15	Full M. 13 1 51 a.
14 Saturday	6 45	5 15	Last Q. 19 6 30 e.
15 Sunday	6 44	5 16	New M. 27 6 19 m.
16 Monday	6 43	5 17	

The Star AND REPUBLICAN BANNER.

GETTYSBURG, FEBRUARY 10, 1835.

☞ Dr. Jesse Gilbert, of this Borough, has been appointed by the Commissioners, Treasurer of Adams County.

☞ The Hon. John Quincy Adams will please accept our thanks for a copy of his truly eloquent Oration on the Life and Character of Lafayette.

☞ John Davis, present Governor of Massachusetts, has been elected, by the State Legislature, a Senator in Congress from that State, for Six years from the 4th of March next. His principal opponent was John Quincy Adams. *None a competitor* Massachusetts is here made to pay to the talented and distinguished Ex-President of the United States, *by the slaves of Masonry!* Had Mr. Adams' pen never been wielded against that iniquitous Order, he would have received the *unanimous* vote of the Anti-Jackson members of the Massachusetts Legislature. Strange, indeed, it is, to what lengths Masonry drives its votaries!

☞ The Compiler has become *quite interesting* of late! It has "*a* Harrisburg Correspondent!" A beardless—brainless *sapling* it is, too!

☞ The Hon. Daniel Webster has been recommended to the People of the U. States as a candidate for the Presidency, by the *Whig* members of the Massachusetts Legislature.

The attempt to Assassinate the President.

☞ We gave, in our last, the substance of the attempt to take the life of the President of the United States. From the National Intelligencer we learn, that the person who was the actor in this insane, and that "the persons who know him are not surprised at the occurrence, and would hardly have been surprised at any thing he had done or attempted." When questioned as to his motive in making the attempt, he replied "that he had intended to kill General Jackson, because Gen. Jackson killed his father." But it appears, that his father died a natural death in the District of Columbia, 10 or 12 years ago. It is further stated, that the poor maniac fancied that he was entitled to govern his country as King or Governor, and that Gen. Jackson was the only barrier between him and the Throne! Such notions were so well known, that the boys were in the habit of calling him "King Richard." Thus, together with other circumstances, strongly indicate that the attack is attributable alone to insanity, and a total ignorance of the peculiar manner of loading percussion pistols. We are rejoiced that the attempt proved a failure—and, with the Baltimore Chronicle, hope to "see Gen. Jackson live through the remainder of his term, and for a sufficient period afterwards to enable him to repent of the injuries which he has inflicted on the country."

☞ The Washington Globe, the organ of the Administration, in making an effort to connect the late attempted assassination of the President a political affair, took occasion after many vile and infamous insinuations, to introduce the name of John C. Calhoun, in such a manner as would lead the credulous to suspect him of being the "instigator!"—However much we deprecate Mr. Calhoun's nullification principles, we believe him too pure, highminded and honorable to be guilty of the *thought*, much less of the *act* of instigating assassination. And we are glad that he noticed the base article of the Globe in the manner and place in which he did—as will be seen from the following remarks made in the Senate, on the 2d inst.

In the Senate, at Mr. Calhoun's request, the following paragraph was read by the Secretary, from the Globe of Jan. 31st:

"Whether Lawrence had caught, in his visits to the Capitol, the mania which has prevailed during the two last sessions in the Senate—whether he has become infatuated with the chimeras which have troubled the brains of the disappointed and ambitious one who have depicted the President as a Cæsar who ought to have a Brutus—as a Cromwell—a Nero—a Tiberius, we know not. If no secret conspiracy has prompted the perpetration of the horrid deed, we think it not improbable that some delusion of intellect has grown out of his visits to the Capitol, and that hearing despotism and every horrible mischief threatened to the Republic, and reproaches and oh was and its train of calamities imputed as the necessary consequence of the President's measures, it may be that the infuriated man fancied he had reasons to become his avenger. If he had heard and believed Mr. Calhoun's speech the day before yesterday, he would have found it a ample justification of his attempt on one, who was represented as the cause of the most deadful calamities to the nation—as one who made perfect rottenness and corruption to pervade the vitals of the Government—insomuch that it was scarcely worth preserving, if it were possible."

Mr. CALHOUN rose to make a few remarks, not so much in reference to himself, for that was of little importance, as on the political bearing of the paragraph from the official Government paper, which had just been read to the Senate. There were some things, which, taken in themselves, were of so little importance as not to be entitled to notice, but which, standing in connexion with other matters, were frequently of great importance, and demand attention. Whatever might be the character of the paper (the Globe) from which the paragraph just read had been taken; however low, however or degraded its character might be, it was yet known to be the organ of the Executive will; and that it was sustained, patronized by, and dependent upon, that branch of the Government; and in commenting on a paragraph like the present, in which the Executive was personally concerned, it was not an unfair presumption to conclude that it had his sanction; had been authorized by him.

To pass over the personal insinuations, which, as he had observed, were unworthy of notice, he (Mr. C.) would say a few words on the new political principle set forth in the paragraph. It was impossible to read it attentively, and not see that it went on the ground, that whosoever condemns what he believes conscientiously to be the abuses and corruptions of this Government, was to be held up to the light of an instigator of assassination; and that no uncertainty on this point might be left on the mind of the reader, the article referred to a particular transaction in which he (Mr. C.) was personally concerned. He would not condescend to defend himself in relation to the matters contained in the paragraph that had been read; they needed no defence. Were they true, or false? The Senate were in debate on the Post Office reports. The Post Office, it was acknowledged, on all hands, stood convicted of enormous abuses, not to say corruptions. He had risen, in his place, to comment generally on the abuses thus exhibited; he had made no personal allusions whatsoever. He spoke of the corruption of the Post Office and of them mainly; though that he did say, that the evil was not so much to be attributed to any defect in the working of the machinery as in the administration itself. Yet these general denunciations, he had been taught to be asserted by the Government Official here, as warranting an individual to make this attempt at assassination. Could he have wantonly said that which would have authorized assassination, he would be little better than an assassin. What! to hold up abuses to instigate assassination! To what was the authority of this body reduced! or attempted to be reduced? According to the new doctrines, the Senate was to look silently on when these corruptions and abuses were imaginable with their eyes open, or forsooth, they might ultimately be called on to express their opinions in their judicial character.

This body, then, dare not express opinions, and, if they do express them, they may be called on to answer for their recorded sentiments from the Journal of the Senate.—Then, what next? No individual Senator is to be permitted to express any opinion as to particular individuals, but he is to be held to the world as the instigator of assassination! General denunciations of misconduct, corruptions or abuses, were to be held up as indicating assassination! Could they mistake the tendency of this? Did they not see clearly as the light of Heaven, the march to irresponsible power? Did it not confirm what he (Mr. C.) observed but the other day, that a stage had been reached in our political affairs that must result in reformation or revolution? He saw around him, in the ranks of the Administration, many old friends and acquaintances, whose patriotism and whose attachment to the institutions of their country, could not be mistaken. He asked them to look, to see what we come to, to see what was the melancholy result of this state of things. The degradation of parties, and the consequent growth of an irresponsible power. He understood the crisis to which the country had arrived. He knew the danger to be incurred by exposing abuses existing in the Executive branch of the Government. He asked no favors—he was no candidate. He desired no office. He would say, as an honest, conscientious man, who loved the institutions of his country, that he would do his duty in spite of menace, come from what quarter it would, or in spite of fate.

☞ The Chambersburg Whig, of Friday last, states that, on the Monday preceding, a young man, living in the vicinity of that place, was arrested in the Bank and committed for trial, having been detected with a forged check similar to others with which he had before succeeded in drawing several small sums of money.

☞ *Terrence Coyle & Patrick Gallagher*, implicated in the murder committed sometime since on the Baltimore Rail Road, were recently tried at Annapolis and found guilty of murder in the second degree, and each sentenced to the penitentiary for 18 years.

For the Gettysburg Star and Republican Banner.

THE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

A System of General Education is of such acknowledged importance, so intimately and vitally connected with a continuance and preservation of free government, that I have frequently been induced to believe, that a genuine republican and friend to liberty, in the consummate discretion of his duty as an individual responsible to that republic of which he is a citizen, is bound, by the most sacred obligations, to contribute his aid to the accomplishment of so great and such immense utility. Its advantages are too well known to those who have had the good fortune to experience its salutary effects, as well as to a large portion of the citizens of Pennsylvania, to render a recital of them necessary at present. The Legislature of 1833 and '34, deserve our immortal thanks for the creation of an act which will most inevitably be productive of an intellectual reformation of inestimable importance. By a solemn injunction of our constitution, it was made a duty incumbent upon our Legislature to enact a law of the character referred to; but every successive Legislature from the formation of the constitution, have, in my honest opinion, incurred the responsibility of neglect of duty. It was reserved for the patriotic exertions of the faithful representatives of 1833 and '34 to achieve this glorious work. A debt of gratitude which is due to them from our hands, and from the hands of our posterity, for an act of no less magnitude in some of its characteristic features, than the ever memorable charter of our National Independence. It involves a subject no less momentous, than the preservation of those principles which the other added to establish.

Reason and experience teach us, that the cause of education should be promoted and encouraged, for the benefit and satisfaction which it never fails to confer. It must be extremely mortifying to the feelings of a sensitive and high-minded Pennsylvanian, to be told by the enterprizing and intelligent son of the land of steady habits, that they are at least a century in advance of us. In what! Why in that most noble and heaven-directed cause, the cause of INTELLECTUAL IMPROVEMENT. And why? is perhaps the query that will suggest itself to the mind of the inquirer. Because we have neglected a General System of Education, of the advantages of which they have long since availed themselves, while we are sitting with folded arms, or wasting our precious time in idle and fruitless contention.

Pennsylvania has acquired the proud and enviable distinction of being the "Keystone of the Federal Arch." How long she will be entitled (if she really be at present,) to that lofty and flattering appellation, time, and her future conduct, will determine.—She is rich in every natural production: Inexhaustible mines of mineral wealth have been discovered in many parts, with a soil so fertile as to be diversified, adopted to the cultivation of almost every variety of vegetation. Nature has furnished her with noble rivers, which flow from one extremity to the others, and from the interior to her boundaries, in the most romantic manner, to the nearest and their places of destination—by which her extensive productions, mineral, agricultural and manufacturing, are transported to her thriving Commercial Cities. In addition to her natural facilities of transportation, the system of internal improvement, canaling, the construction of rail-roads and turnpike roads, has been carried on at the expense of many millions. But that system of internal improvement, which I solemnly believe promises infinitely more than all the wealth in fact which exercises such a salutary influence in the government of society, (I mean the internal improvement of the mind,) is so recklessly and wantonly disregarded. When a few dollars are demanded for the prosecution of this great work, the cry immediately is, that the taxes are becoming so burthensome that they will soon be rendered insupportable; and that in proportion as they yearn to enjoy, slavery must be their portion! Their apprehensions are predicated upon erroneous conclusions! The education of their children will scarcely, in the hundredth instance, be attended with the same expense as generally attends the imperfect knowledge they receive under the present unsystematic and unfavorable circumstances. It is true, we have at present some excellent schools, but the misfortune is here that most really are not. They are nothing really so horrible in the name of taxation, that we should shrink from it as we would from a pestilence; but it must be obvious to every one, that the system, in instance, there is a direct saving to more than nine-tenths of the community; and that, indirectly, not a single individual is a loser.

Many labor under a delusion, and I fear there are some who, from some sinister motives, instead of using their endeavors, as duty requires, to dispel the delusion, rather contribute a little to keep up the infatuation. It is a fact well known to those conversant with history, that those ill fated republics, which became the sport and sacrifice of petty tyrants and despots, invariably sank from their former state of intelligence and virtue, into a state of the most degrading ignorance, and its never failing attendant, vice, before those ambitious and designing demoguges could rivet the chains of slavery upon their free, intelligence and virtue, like Mentor and the son of the sage Ulysses, are constant companions; and so long as they are cherished and encouraged as their friendly presence deserves, so long will any republic be proof against all the evils and machinations of an insidious and wicked foe; but as soon as ignorance and vice are permitted to usurp their empire, heaven-born liberty takes her flight, the ethereal Goddess being too pure to remain where corruption and vice have erected their throne. Thus the unhappy subjects of a formerly favored republic, are left to pine in wretchedness, left to indulge in the sad reflections that themselves are the instruments of all their misery. Ignorance has contributed more than all other causes combined, to enable tyrants to keep the world in slavery.

It is a melancholy fact, that the mighty mind of man, the immediate emanation from a beneficient Deity, as the richest and noblest gift his inexhaustible treasure can bestow, and destined to survive throughout the endless ages of eternity, is to be a subject of neglect; whilst mines of treasure and oceans of blood are to be expended for the sordid gratification of one ambitious and designing man, by means of which, like some Cæsar or Napoleon, he may erect a throne upon the ruins of liberty, which dire calamity with the expenditure of a thousandth part, spent in the cause of education, might perhaps have been averted, without a solitary human sacrifice. Contemplate this wretched state of affairs, and shudder! Countless thousands of human beings are slaughtered, and millions of money are expended—For what? To create a tyrant, with permission to inflict upon us legitimately all manner of burthens which his tyranny can invent. And why this fearful transition, this sacrifice of liberty? Because the means of its continuance was vilely lost in ignorance, which like a deluge was permitted to overflow us; in this state of mental degradation, designing men arose amongst us, who seized upon the favorable opportunity, for the accomplishment of their infamous and ambitious projects.

Adams County deserves a passing notice. A number of the districts in this county is delightful in school, because the majority of the districts with the commissioners was opposed to the school—therefore, agreeably to the provisions of the act, it did not become general, those districts only being entitled to schools which decided in their favor, a majority of votes. According to the results of the election held for directors, it is manifest that a majority of the citizens of this county is in favor of the system. In almost every district where it was rejected, it was by very lean majorities, so much so, that the majority in the borough of Gettysburg in favor of schools, was equal to three or four of the largest majorities in the county opposed to schools. Admitting the principle that a representative is bound to obey the will of his constituents, the representatives of Adams can consistently advocate a continuance of the act, notwithstanding the numerous remonstrances that have been presented. The opposition have enlisted themselves with an energy and zeal worthy of a better cause, for the purpose of effecting a repeal of the act; but the friends of intelligence, residing in those counties opposed to the system, have much to anticipate from those members representing school counties, of which there is a large majority in the present legislature. From some, it I mistake not, there will be a hard struggle, if they be honorable men, of which I entertain no doubt, they will not shrink from a redemption of that pledge, for the performance of which they were elected. Should they would use their endeavors to effect a repeal of the act. I do not approve of the plan, that a representative shall have his course marked out for him previous to his election; circumstances may occur that will convince him that such a course would be injurious. As well might a general plan of the campaign be marked out by the Commander-in-chief, previous to the attack. The representative by this course is often placed in an unpleasant dilemma—he must either disregard his pledge, and incur the displeasure of his constituents; or perhaps sacrifice the best interests.

Every thing is not lost. From the wisdom and honesty of the present legislature, we have much good to anticipate. There are men in our halls of legislation, who will never turn a deaf ear to the interests of their country, men of moral courage and rapidity who would have shone with a brilliancy worthy of any age or country. They will not sacrifice an object of such immense magnitude for the gratification of private views and selfish ambition. I know that the present object, which has been hailed by grateful thousands, as that auspicious morn, the arrival of which, they have been so long and anxiously looking for, will not be defeated. Rest assured, friends of education, that all is safe. We have faithful sentinels on the watch towers of liberty, who will never desert their sacred trust in the hour of danger.

Junius.

For the Star and Republican Banner.

THE TOWN CLOCK.

Mr. Middleton,

Having frequently marketing to sell in Gettysburg, I was generally in the habit of regulating my time and business by your Town Clock; but am compelled to say, that, of late, he who is guided by that time, will never come out correctly. For instance: I was in Gettysburg the other day, with butter and eggs, and, on looking at the Clock, I thought I had sufficient time to sell and transact such business as I wished, as the hand designated an early hour. After a little however, it began to get so dark that I was loth to think that so late hand of the Clock yet pointed out the hour to be there, that the Great Solar Eclipse was about returning! On enquiry, however, I was informed by a friend, that the Clock was as deceitful as the *Old Serpent*, and seldom told the truth!!

I enquired of my friend, *who* had the management of the "critter." He told me, that it was a lame body, composed of 5 or 6 heads, called *The Town Council*.

As I am unable (and I believe it to be the case with a number of others,) to carry a watch, (although I have a little remedy *Yankee* at home that never lies, bought of one Sheldon Marks,) I must beg of you, Mr. Printer, to speak to that body, called the Town Council, and request them to "mend the ways" of an article that has cost the people much money.

Menallen.

[Communicated.]

COUNTY CONVENTION.

At a meeting of the Anti-Masonic Delegates from different townships in Adams county, held at the Court-house in Gettysburg, on the 2d of February, 1835, for the purpose of electing delegates to the State Convention to be held in Harrisburg on the 4th of March next.—JAMES M'ILHENY, Esq. was appointed Chairman and James A. Thompson, Secretary.

The said townships were represented as follows:

Tyrone—Wm. W. Paxton, James A. Thompson.

Reading—Christian Bushey.

Berwick—D. Diehl, F. W. Kolter.

Petersburg—Jacob Bender, Esqrs

Mt. Joy—J. Wilson, J. M'Ilheny, Esqs

Liberty—John M'Cleary, H. Martin.

Hamiltonban—J. Weldy, W. Blythe.

Tyrone—A. Myers, Esq. J. Neely.

Franklin—George Heagy.

Mt. Pleasant—Joseph Coshun.

After the organization of the meeting, on motion, the Delegates to the State Convention was held, and resulted in the choice of JACOB CASSAT, Sr., JAS. WILSON and JAMES RENSHAW, Esquires, with power to fill any vacancy that might occur—when it was

Resolved, That the Delegates to the Anti-Masonic State Convention from Adams Co. be, and they are hereby instructed to use their influence to have

JOHN SCOTT, Esq. RITNER,

Of Washington county, put in nomination, by that Convention, for the Office of Governor of Pennsylvania at the approaching election.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this Convention be signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and published.

James M'Ilheny, Chairman.
James A. Thompson, Sec'ry.

Public Schools.—In several districts around us which have adopted the school law, the Directors are engaged in locating and building School Houses, and some difficulties have arisen, we are told, in thickly settled places, between the citizens and Directors, in relation to the matter very pressing to build, as the former suppose, school houses enough. It is thought by many, it appears, that no school should consist of more than from 25 to 30 scholars.

We beg leave to state, to all such citizens, that this idea is a very mistaken one. By the improved systems of teaching which have been adopted in many places, one teacher can instruct 200, 250, or 300 scholars with as much ease as 30 can be taught on the old system, and more justice done to the children. We allude to the *Lancasterian*, system of instruction, such as is now, and has been for 15 or 20 years past, in successful operation, in the city of Philadelphia, and elsewhere, and which we believe, is admirably adapted, under the present school law, to all our towns, villages and densely settled townships. The saving in the expense, under this system—employing but one teacher instead of *several*—must strike every person at first thought.

To this system we would respectfully call the attention of the several Boards of School Directors, in the county, before they go today or building a useless number of school houses.

In association with several of the citizens of this borough, we are now engaged in collecting particular information, in relation to this subject, which, as soon as we have properly arranged, we shall do ourselves the pleasure of laying before our readers.—*Blairsville Record.*

Pennsylvania.—The question of nomination, between Gov. Wolf and H. A. Muhlenberg, is already settled. The office holders under the state government, have been too industrious for those of the general government, backed, as they were, by the office seekers. A majority of the delegates to the 4th March Convention, have been instructed by their constituents to support the nomination of Governor Wolf. His constituted authorities about; and the loyal subjects of the King endeavored to lull, or browbeat the patriots of our Revolution into submission. Yet who will be found now? hardy enough to say, that they did not do right to assert and maintain their rights!

Now our must close in haste, and bid adieu to Junius, and all in the county who think with either him, or us.

Author of the Latimore Resolutions.

January 27, 1835.

For the Star and Banner.

THE TOWN CLOCK.

Mr. Middleton,

Having frequently marketing to sell in Gettysburg, I was generally in the habit of regulating my time and business by your Town Clock; but am compelled to say, that, of late, he who is guided by that time, will never come out correctly. For instance: I was in Gettysburg the other day, with butter and eggs, and, on looking at the Clock, I thought I had sufficient time to sell and transact such business as I wished, as the hand designated an early hour. After a little however, it began to get so dark that I was loth to think that so late hand of the Clock yet pointed out the hour to be there, that the Great Solar Eclipse was about returning! On enquiry, however, I was informed by a friend, that the Clock was as deceitful as the *Old Serpent*, and seldom told the truth!!

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Menallen.

Post Office Corruptions Exposed!

☞ The Committee appointed last winter by the U. S. Senate, to examine into the condition of the Post Office Department, recently made a Report of their proceedings. It is a voluminous document, entirely too long for publication in a weekly paper. We have, therefore, in order that our readers may learn something of the corruptions, brought to light by the Committee, which have been carried on by those into whose hands, one of the most important departments of our country was unfortunately placed to reward political partizans for their servility, availed ourself of the labors of the Washington Correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot—in giving the following review of said Report—the correctness of which has been fully established by facts through other sources.

WASHINGTON, January 29, 1835.

Particulars of the Post Office Reports.—Review of the state of the Post Office.

I shall occupy this letter with a concise Review of the Report of the Committee on the state of the Post Office Department, which has been the engrossing subject of interest for several days. It concludes so much that is great and so much gigantic corruption, so many gross frauds, so much inefficiency and mismanagement, so many of a most important branch of the Government, so minute in its details, so clear in its proofs, so damnatory to the Department as well as to the individuals concerned in the dark transactions connected with it—that one cannot but regret the impossibility that so large a document, with the proofs, should find access to the majority of the People of the United States, who constitute the tribunal incumbent on the Periodical Press to disseminate as accurate and complete an account of the facts as possible, to enable individuals of the Department. I will give one instance, in an abstract from the Report, by way of illustration.

James Reside is certified to be of Western Bank of Philadelphia, under date of April 30, 1834, $30,000. The *Commissioner*, Thomas Ewing, says he never obtained a statement of certain affairs thereof with the Post Office Department. The people should have his sum was raised by Reside, on a draft drawn by himself in favor of E. C. Stockton, *and accepted by O. B. Brown*, dated April 29, 1834. The draft was paid when at maturity, (three months,) *by the Department.* Of course, Reside was entitled to one-third of the transaction, *and yet when R's accounts with the P. O. Department were settled he claimed the whole amount, compared to his credit.* O. B. Brown was called on by the Commissioner, and said he was Reside's agent, and said (under oath) that no settlement had been had with the Bank since it took place. The rest of this matter I transcribe from the Report:

"A member of your Committee *was in the hearing of the witness*, asked for the statement of the Cashier of the Western Bank of Philadelphia, and the paper was being in the Department, *the witness was dismissed until it should be brought in. After a short time the witness returned*, and stated that he had been mistaken; that the charge against Mr. Reside was entered on the books of the Bank, and he was take entered against R. C. Stockton, *but that he had promptly corrected the error*; and, to prove it, stated that it was now all right. Your Committee directed the witness to bring in the books in which the error was said to have been corrected: he did so, *and showed no less than seven erasures and changes of entry which he had caused to be made in the books in the interval.* The chairman of the Committee had requested him from examination. *The truth could not be elicited, as he positively refused to tell the emergencies of the occasion, can be reading daily appreciated by the Senate.*"

Loan, gifts, unaccountable receipts by Brown, of money to great amounts, all appear in the same mysterious manner. Thus affording an easy mode of fraud, whenever circumstances should require it, for the unscrupulous friends of those concerned!

3. Those accounts show very numerous discrepancies, occasioned by *frequent alterations and erasures.* The accounts kept with James Reside, a great mail contractor on many important routes, are particularly full of these alterations and extraordinary features.

4. O. B. Brown, the chief clerk in the Post Office, is the manager of all the *arrangements* with contractors in regard to the affairs of the Department, and the evidence discloses several large advances of monies to him by the favored contractors, who have received from the "Extra allowance," from one Tenant. This Brown, on being called upon by the Committee, to present an account of the state of the Department, in *April*, 1834, makes the following estimate UNDER OATH!

Total amount of the debts due *from* the Department,	$1,086,599 48
Available *dues* to the Department,	800,000 00
Leaving a balance *against* the Department,	$286,599 48

Now, the report of the Post Master General, in *December*, 1834, entirely contradicts the Chief Clerk, and proves the Department to have been in a condition of prosperity, *to the tune of two hundred thousand dollars.* And this account entirely corroborates the former Report of the Committee on the subject. *This affords an instance, among many, of the perfect abandonment of the Department, by the Post Master General, to the tender mercies of Mr. O. B. Brown, the chief clerk, and to the entire unity's mode of discharging the trust committed to him.*

5. Between April 1, 1829, and September 1, 1834, the Post Office Department, by his own letter shown, removed 1300 past masters from office! In these years, the Committee express the belief, and some instances are given below, corroborate their opinion, that *the removals were made for opinion's sake.* The difference in politics with the Administration was their only sin, *and it was fatal to them!* Even where the person removed was fit for the office, and his successor notoriously unfit, the change was made in reference to political opinion.

In some cases, experienced office-holders, and their administration of the duties of their offices showed that the leopard could not change his spots. Instances of gross frauds of embezzlement of funds, and of absconding, on the part of new post masters, who had displaced men of integrity have been numerous. In some instances, the Postmasters have suffered bonds of security to be given by large of time. The case of John Horton, appointed post master at Paterson, Ohio, in place of Henry Safford, *removed*, is in point. Another is that of Wyman, removed from the post office at Lowell, Massachusetts, in whose place is Elijah Elliott Case. This is a most damning illustration of the charges made by the Committee against the Department; it merits the reader's careful perusal, and scrutiny.

☞ Case was the *Editor* of the "Lowell Mercury," *a Jackson Paper* at a salary of $300 per annum. Wyman was an upright, honest, unexceptionable Post Master of that town. Case goes to Washington,—comes back,—*agrees to edit the "Lowell Mercury" obtain*, if the party will aid him in getting the Post Office, for which he has applied in Washington. A meeting is gotten up, at *Mr. Case's room, of the "Friends of the Lowell Mercury"*—complaints invented against Wyman—and carousing—and application made to him to form his removal, *with a recommendation of Case as his successor.* It was successful. The plan was perfected. Case became Post Master, and continued to be editor, *but without compensation!* The rule can make this sum comments!

It is clearly proved that enormous acts have been perpetrated by the department in *the manner of indictating postage, and for carrying the mail, and of receiving and accepting salaries obtained "improper sums."* This subject is very important enough to merit a separate notice. Further I have engagered, in the least, while denouncing the Post Office Department as the very school of corruption; and some of those connected with it, as speculators:

1. The Committee report, that *the accounts of the Post Office Department were in such a state of confusion, that they could not arrive at any accurate result, from an inspection of them!*

2. The accounts of the Department were kept, in many important particulars—*in pencil* marks! Thus affording an easy mode of fraud, whenever circumstances should require it, for the unscrupulous friends of those concerned!

3. Those accounts show very numerous discrepancies, occasioned by *frequent alterations and erasures.* The accounts kept with James Reside, a great mail contractor on many important routes, are particularly full of these alterations and extraordinary features.

4. O. B. Brown, the chief clerk in the Post Office, is the manager of all the *arrangements* with contractors in regard to the affairs of the Department, and the evidence discloses several large advances of monies to him by the favored contractors, who have received from the "Extra allowance," from one Tenant. This Brown, on being called upon by the Committee, to present an account of the state of the Department, in *April*, 1834, makes the following estimate UNDER OATH!

Total amount of the debts due *from* the Department,	$1,086,599 48
Available *dues* to the Department,	800,000 00
Leaving a balance *against* the Department,	$286,599 48

Now, the report of the Post Master General, in *December*, 1834, entirely contradicts the Chief Clerk, and proves the Department to have been in a condition of prosperity, *to the tune of two hundred thousand dollars.* And this account entirely corroborates the former Report of the Committee on the subject. *This affords an instance, among many, of the perfect abandonment of the Department, by the Post Master General, to the tender mercies of Mr. O. B. Brown, the chief clerk, and to the entire unity's mode of discharging the trust committed to him.*

5. Between April 1, 1829, and September 1, 1834, the Post Office Department, by his own letter shown, removed 1300 past masters from office! In these years, the Committee express the belief, and some instances are given below, corroborate their opinion, that *the removals were made for opinion's sake.* The difference in politics with the Administration was their only sin, *and it was fatal to them!* Even where the person removed was fit for the office, and his successor notoriously unfit, the change was made in reference to political opinion.

In some cases, experienced office-holders, and their administration of the duties of their offices showed that the leopard could not change his

THE GETTYSBURG STAR & REPUBLICAN BANNER.

☞ Devoted to Politics, Foreign and Domestic Intelligence, Literature, Science, Agriculture, the Mechanic Arts, Internal Improvement, and General Miscellany. ☜

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AT $2 PER ANNUM, half-yearly in advance.

GETTYSBURG, PA.

TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 10.

☞ We give, on our first page, the truly excellent Temperance Address delivered on the 24th ult. by the Rev. Mr. Watson, of this place.

A State Temperance Society is to be held at Harrisburg on the second Tuesday (14th day) of March next. "All Temperance Societies in the State are requested to send to said Convention two or more delegates, and their opinion respecting the morality of the traffic in Ardent Spirits."

THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS!—LEGISLATIVE DIGNITY!

☞ Owing to a press of other avocations, we were prevented from noticing, in our last, in such terms as the occasion calls for, the recent conduct of the House of Representatives of this State, in depraving of the Editor of the Harrisburg Telegraph of the floor of the House—the circumstances of which were given in the preceding number of our paper.

As a faithful guardian of the People's Rights, and believing firmly that Liberty cannot long exist when the Press is gagged, we feel it our duty to record our disapprobation of this high-handed measure of proscription on the part of the dominant party. Our view of the case is this:

If the offensive article, which has furnished the reckless majority in the House with a pretext for pouring out some of their long-treasured wrath against the Anti-Masonic party, had reflected in any shape, directly or indirectly, either on the character and dignity of the House collectively, or any one of its members, in his official relation or character as a member of that body, there would have been some propriety in the House taking it up, as they have done—for then, it would have certainly savored of contempt for its dignity. But the article in question possessed *neither* of those attributes. However improper and unbecoming in itself, (and this we are ready to admit it was,) it was a mere *personal* matter between Mr. McElwee and the Editor of the Telegraph. It was spoken of the former in his *private* relation and capacity; and disclosed a fact certainly not very creditable to him, either as a man or a *gentleman*. Here, then, in our view, is a distinction: It was a libel on Mr. McElwee, not upon the House, or a member of the House as such; and for publishing it, the Editor was liable at once to a prosecution for the offence, and to Mr. McElwee, himself, in damages for the injury. Here the House should have left it resting it to Mr. McElwee to pursue either or both of those means of redress or not, as feeling might dictate and *conscience* permit.

But this is not all. Mr. Fenn, to do away any suspicion that he designed a contempt of the House, had before them a most explicit disclaimer of any such intention, and made, what must be admitted by all to be, a very satisfactory apology for any offence of the kind, if it was intentionally given. Now, what more should the House have required? Had their object been merely to vindicate their dignity, they would have been satisfied with this, and left Mr. Fenn to abide the penalty of the laws for his offence. But it was, palpably, merely used as an occasion and a pretext, by the reckless majority, to indulge their spite against Anti-Masonry and Anti-Masons, by venting their malignity upon one of the prominent Editors of that party! We challenge the annals of legislation to furnish a parallel instance, when a Legislative Body, have so far forgotten what was due to decency and their own dignity, and gone so far out of their way to indulge low, petty, grovelling party animosity.

There is more in this case than meets the eye at first sight. *It is a direct attack upon the freedom of the Press;* and if it is suffered to pass "unwhipped" of public opinion, it will but herald further and more alarming assaults. We condemn, and deplore, as much as any one, the licentiousness of the press; but the law already holds Editors and Correspondents responsible for the abuse of its liberty. Subject to this accountability, our Constitution guarantees the Liberty of the Press; and he is a rank traitor to its principles who would take it away, or subject it to any other restriction.

We close our remarks, for the present, by giving it as our opinion, that, by the course they have pursued, the House have changed the relations of the parties, and made Mr. Fenn the aggrieved instead of aggrieving party—itself standing in the unenviable attitude of wanton aggression.

☞ The Harrisburg Intelligencer contains the proceedings and *Twenty-first Annual Report* of the "Harrisburg Bible Society," a perusal of which gave us considerable pleasure—a pleasure to find that men, associated together for the purpose of circulating the "lamp of life, the director of salvation," have been abundantly blessed in their great undertaking, and sufficiently induced to press forward in the "good work" to which they have directed their energies." We extract the following paragraphs from the Report:—

The American Bible Society, having determined, under the blessing of God, to supply the whole world—the whole world—with the Bible within the space of twenty years, has afforded to the servants of God, and the friends of man, an ample opportunity for the trial of their faith, the strength of their attachment, the fervor of their petitions and the liberality of their contributions. To carry this noble resolution into effect, translations are required, presses are needed, distributors are to be enlisted and employed, vacant places are to be met, and difficulties are to be overcome, the torrid and frigid zones must be traversed, the wilderness and the desert explored—in a word, numerous discouragements must be encountered, but for all these, the Lord's host on earth is fully adequate.

Friends of the Bible! Here there must be no hesitancy, no time consumed in the question of policy or expediency—it is a Christian work, and a Christian work, and a Christian work must be felt to assist in it. The motto of the honored Carey, who has just sunk to his rest full of years and glory, must be our—"Expect great things, attempt great things," then with the energy, piety, zeal and perseverance of the Apostles, the dividing leaves of Inspiration may be scattered over the globe and find a place in every habitation of man. And then, all the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our God and his Christ.

Finally, we report to you, that, the cause, the cause of God and truth, is one in which may be made safe and profitable investment of all we have and are—bring forward then your all and make the deposit; your certificate will be given in the answer of a good conscience, and the assurance of an ultimate and high reward by the spirit of promise.

We believe that the Society is blessed and will be with so many good institutions and societies, is doing nothing for the Bible cause—a cause which deserves the sympathies and best energies of mankind. Other towns and counties, in this and many other States, have their Bible Societies. Shall *Adams* county—shall *Gettysburg*, much longer be without such an association? We trust not.

☞ From Harrisburg.

Extract of a letter to the Editor of the Star and Republican Banner, dated

HARRISBURG, Feb. 5, 1835.

Dear Sir—The Committee on Lands have reported a bill to Graduate the price of Unpatented Lands, in pursuance of Mr. Stevens' resolution. I think it will pass.

Strange and unexpected changes are taking place in the politics of the new set of the Legislature relative to Extra-Judicial oaths. This day, in the Senate, Mr. Leet, a Jackson member from Washington, introduced a resolution for the purpose of expediency of reporting a bill to prohibit Extra-Judicial Oaths. It was violently opposed by Dr. *Burden* and Mr. *Reed*, both high advocates of Masonry—supported by Mr. Leet, (the mover,) Mr. Petriken, and Mr. Penrose, Jacksonmen, and Mr. Strohm, Anti-Mason, and passed by a vote of 10 to 13, as follows:—

YEAS—Messrs. Fullerton, Geiger, Hopkins, Hibshman, Leet, M'Cullough, MIDDLECOFF, PENROSE, Petriken, Sangston, Slenker, Smith, SMYSER, Strohm, Toland, Kern, (Speaker)—16.

NAYS—Messrs. Burden, Cunningham, Dickey, Fore, Harper, of Phil., Hassinger, Kelly, Klingensmith, Krebs, Matheys, Newhard, Reed, Rogers—13.

I was more gratified at Mr. Penrose's speech, (I did not hear all the others.) It was sound Anti-Masonry. I trust honest Anti-Masons now will soon see the fruits of their labor in the suppression of Unholy Oaths.

But the most important indication of the vote is, IT SHEWS WHICH WAY THE PEOPLE WERE COMING. Those aggrieved gentlemen, who supported it, never move until the people have pointed the way.

☞ The information imparted in the above letter, is highly gratifying. Messrs. Leet, Penrose, and Petrikin deserve, and they will no doubt receive, the thanks of the Anti-Masonic party throughout the State—whilst, at the sametime, we expect to hear them denounced by those of their party who are only fit to wallow in the mire of Masonry. Let it be so, then—Men, obeying the dictates of wisdom and an honest conscience, have nothing to fear.

Resolutions relative to the Public Lands.—The resolutions relative to a division of the proceeds of the public lands among the States, after having been debated for nearly a week, have been indefinitely postponed, in the House of Representatives of our legislature, by a small majority.—The resolutions had been altered in committee of the whole, so as to embrace the division of the whole surplus revenue of the General Government. No State is more interested in the division of the proceeds of the public lands, than Pennsylvania. Her interest is paramount, just commencing, must stop, unless it has some other basis than taxation. There is no difference of opinion on this question among the *people*. The dif