THE GETTYSBURG STAR & REPUBLICAN BANNER.

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

## Legislative Proceedings.

☞ FROM HARRISBURG.

Correspondence of the Gettysburg Star.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 16, 1836.

A great number of petitions were presented to-day, of which not less than thirty were for Banks and Savings Institutions!—Messrs. Gamble, Reed and Trego presented petitions for the incorporation of the Central Bank of the City of Philadelphia; Messrs. Krumbhaar, Hubbell, Conly, Weyant and Norton, for the Franklin Bank of Southwark; Messrs. Trego and Hubbell for the Schuylkill River Bank; Messrs. Trego, Atkinson, Buckman, Weaver, Weyant and Norton for the Central Bank of the Northern Liberties; Mr. Kauffman one for the Leather Manufacturers bank of Philadelphia; Messrs. Jones, Woodward, Weygandt, Huston of Northampton, Stout and Stevens for the incorporation of a bank at Honesdale, in Wayne county. Petitions were also presented by Messrs. Wagner and Conly for the repeal of the act abolishing imprisonment for debt in certain cases. A petition was presented by Mr. Buckman for the incorporation of the farmer's hay and straw market, in the county of Philadelphia.

Mr. Speakman, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom were referred sundry petitions for the repeal of the act abolishing imprisonment for debt, for a sum not exceeding five dollars and thirty-four cents, reported unfavorably to the prayer of the petitioners.

Mr. Walker, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to whom the last message of the Governor was referred on the subject of the finances, and relative to the expediency of a loan to meet the demands of the Commonwealth, reported a Bill on postponement, authorizing a loan of three hundred and fifty thousand dollars; which to-day passed the House of Representatives through its several readings, and was sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The people have been grossly insulted and deceived; the financial condition of the commonwealth has, from time to time, been represented by the late Executive, in his annual messages, to be in a highly flourishing and prosperous condition, when the Treasury is to all intents and purposes, bankrupt! A change of administration was loudly called for, and it is sincerely to be hoped, that the interests of the Commonwealth will be better guarded by the plain Republican Farmer who now is at the head of affairs, than when in the hands of George Wolf, the Deputy Grand Master of Pennsylvania.—Ours is a Republican Government; therefore, the necessity of having a Republican at the helm. It is a solecism, a gross inconsistency to suppose that Kings and Lords and Knights, are able to appreciate a Republican form of government, and to administer the laws so as to do justice alike to all. We have already experienced a melancholy instance of the fact, that the titled order of nobility will never do for us.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 18, 1836.

Numerous petitions were presented to-day on various subjects—fifty of which were for banks, principally in the city of Philadelphia.

The committee appointed by the House to investigate the evils of Free-Masonry and other secret associations, held their session in the Hall of the House of Representatives, which was crowded. Some of the Masonic nobility attended before the committee according to notice, amongst whom were Geo. M. Dallas, Josiah Randal, Joseph R. Chandler, Charles Stout, Mr. Speaker, and several others whose names I do not now recollect. Mr. Dallas, in a real ranting, bullying manner, so congenial to the God-like spirit of that christian order, denied all right assumed by the House or any committee it might adopt, to compel the attendance of Masons before the committee. When called by the Chairman, he replied, "*here I am!*" and when asked by the Chairman to come a little nearer, his reply was, "*I am near enough, Sir!*" However he drew up before the committee and drew out his protest, and read it in the style of a true Masonic hero, resolved never to reveal those unholy rites and ceremonies of the harlot Masonry. Every one called upon, read a protest, and refused to be sworn, but the others acted with more moderation and decency, than *g. m. dallas.* The effect will be salutary, and tend still further, to condemn that unhallowed order, that institution of wickedness, before the highest earthly tribunal, the bar of public opinion. It is as pollluted as the Stygian pool, and can sink lower than ever an existence.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 19, 1836.

Monday and Thursday being the days assigned for the presentation of petitions, the time heretofore allotted to that subject in the morning, was occupied in transacting other business.

The Bill to incorporate the Wrightsville, York and Gettysburg Rail Road Company was brought up to-day, but in consequence of some documents relative thereto not having been printed, the further consideration of the bill was postponed until to-morrow.

Mr. Stevens, from the Committee on Inland Navigation and Internal Improvement, reported a bill relative to the repeal of the State tax, and for the extension of the system of internal improvements and other purposes—the consideration of which has been made the order of the day for to-morrow. The bills referred to for to-morrow, are of an interesting nature; the former, although of a local character, is one which creates considerable interest. The latter is of a general character, in which the public generally is interested.

Mr. Trego, from the committee appointed some time since to enquire into the condition of the locomotives on the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail Road, made a long and able report on the subject, a copy of which I will send you as soon as printed.

The bill for the incorporation of the Exchange Bank of Pittsburg, was read the second time, which occupied the greater part of the session.

The Committee to investigate Free-Masonry had another session this afternoon; a number of the Masonic nobility again made their appearance; but, as on former occasions, refused to take the oath; each of whom was supplied with a written protest, in imitation of the gentleman who lately held the reins of government in his hands; I mean the illustrious George Wolf! A certain Mr. Sproll, Chaplain to the Grand Lodge, appeared before the committee, and acted the same important part, performed by g. m. dallas on yesterday, and would no doubt have gone further, had not his impudent career been checked by the talented, fearless and unwavering Chairman of the Committee; who still remains steady to his purpose, and bids defiance to every effort of the cable-towed nobility to divert him from his purpose.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 20, 1836.

The bill reported on yesterday by Mr. Stevens, entitled "An act to repeal the State Tax on real and personal property, and to continue and extend the Improvements of the State by Rail Roads and Canals and for other purposes," was called up this morning for consideration, when a motion was made to postpone the further consideration for two days, which was agreed to. The bill is general in its provisions, and involves principles of vast magnitude and importance, to the people of this Commonwealth.

Immediately after the postponement of the aforesaid bill, Mr. Stevens from the Committee appointed to Investigate the Evils of Free-Masonry and other secret societies, made a report, accompanied with the following resolution, viz:

*Resolved*, That the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives be, and he is hereby directed to take into custody, all the witnesses named in the report and bring them to the bar of this House, to answer for a contempt committed against this House in refusing to be sworn or affirmed to testify before the Committee, and that the Speaker issue his warrant accordingly.

The discussion on the resolution and the amendments offered from time to time by the friends of the order, for the purpose of frustrating the design of the original resolution continued until half past one o'clock, when the House adjourned to meet again at half past three o'clock. As soon as the House met, the debate was resumed, and continued until half past five o'clock, when the question was taken on the resolution and determined in the affirmative, Yeas, 47, Nays 43. Never, I suppose, has there been a a debate in this House, which excited such an intense interest as this.

The resolution was advocated in manner, that must redound to the credit of those who participated in it, in the estimation of all impartial persons, for the profound views advanced by them, and must place them amongst the first statesmen of Pa. The gentlemen who spoke in favor of the resolution are Messrs. Stevens, Reed, Speakman, Cox, Walter of Erie, Prew and Watts. Those who opposed it, are Messrs. T. S. Smith, Hall, J. B. Smith, Bidlack and McClure. From the hour of meeting, the lobby and gallery were crowded with strangers, who listened with the greatest attention. Good order and deathlike silence prevailed, during the time occupied by some of the speakers.

To-morrow in accordance with the resolution, the Sergeant-at-Arms will bring before the bar of the House, those witnesses that refused to testify before the committee. What the further action of the House will be, should they again refuse to testify, I am unable to conjecture; there is however no doubt, but that the action will be prompt and decided, and in such a manner as to maintain its honor and dignity, with a due regard to the constitution and the laws; such as becomes the Representatives of the freemen of a great and patriotic State. I shall in my next, give you the proceedings of to-morrow, which will doubtless be highly interesting and important.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 22, 1836.

Yesterday being petition day, a large number were presented; some for a repeal of the School law, two for the repeal of the act abolishing imprisonment for debt. Mr. Stevens also presented a petition from citizens of the counties of York and Adams for the extension of the Railway from York to Gettysburg by way of East Berlin.

Immediately after the morning business was over, the Sergeant at Arms brought before the bar of the House George Wolf, George M. Dallas, Josiah Randall, Joseph R. Chandler, Rev. W. T. Sprole and about twenty others of the Masonic order, to answer for a contempt committed against the Committee of the House in refusing to be sworn. When called upon before the bar of the House to be sworn, they all most respectfully declined, and refused to the reasons assigned before the Committee for doing so. A resolution was then offered by Mr. Stevens, that the witnesses be taken into custody by the Sergeant-at-Arms, and there remain, until otherwise ordered. Various amendments were offered and lost, when the House adjourned.

To-day the again appeared. The whole day was consumed in discussing the subject, until a late hour in the evening; when the question was taken on an amendment offered to the resolution of Mr. Stevens, discharging the witnesses from the custody of the Sergeant at-Arms, which prevailed by a vote of 48 to 45! And the resolution as amended was agreed to, and the witnesses discharged!! Masonry IS Supreme! as the friends of Anti-Masonry have long since justly alleged. By the refusal to testify, every doubt must now be dispelled, respecting the guilt Anti-Masons who voted to discharge the witnesses, were Messrs. Garretson and Kirk of York!

Mr. Stevens spoke against the amendment, for about an hour, in a strain of eloquence that nothing but the Omnipotent power of Masonry could withstand. It was a master effort in vindication of the Constitution and the Laws, against the dangerous and corrupt machination of Masonry.—Many able speeches were delivered. Mr. Cox made a happy effort and acquitted himself admirably. But notwithstanding every appeal that could be offered in defence of an outraged community, the cry of distress prevailed! I will not attempt to give you anything like a perfect account of the proceedings; for which, I must refer you to the proceedings, as they will doubtless be published in our papers.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 23, 1836.

There was not much of general interest transacted in the House. The Bill reported by Mr. Stevens, some time since, relative to the Wrightsville, York and Gettysburg Rail Road, came up on second readings the language of the bill was stricken out the same evening. Messrs. Walker of Erie, and Spackman, and opposed by Messrs. Garretson, T. S. Smith, and Bidlack.- An amendment was offered by Mr. Bidlack, the tendency of which, if agreed to, would have been to destroy the intention of the whole bill—the amendment was negatived, and before the question was taken on the first section, a motion to postpone the further consideration of the bill for the present, prevailed.

The Bill authorizing the Governor to appoint the Canal Commissioners on the First Monday of January, which passed the House of Representatives before the adjournment, was sent to the House from the Senate with amendments; one of which is to change the time of appointing the Canal Commissioners to the First Monday of February, which was agreed to.

To-day, in compliance with a resolution of the House of Representatives the Secretary of the Commonwealth transmitted to the House a list of the Aldermen and Justices of the Peace appointed by Governor Wolf during his official term, and the number appointed since the second Tuesday of October—By which it appears, that the whole number of the Justices of the Peace is **1339!** The number appointed since the second Tuesday of October, **241!!**

Massachusetts.—The Committee appointed in the Legislature to count the votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, reported the following votes:

For Governor.—Whole number of votes 64,903; necessary for choice, 32,452: Everett, 57,555; Morton, 25,227; Armstrong, 1901; scattering, 220.

For Lieutenant Governor.—Whole number of votes 64,142; necessary for choice; 32,072; Hull, 32,953; Foster, 30,668; scattering, 506.

## CONGRESSIONAL.

### President's Special Message.

☞ The following Special Message from the President of the United States, on the subject of France, was received and read in the U. S. Senate, on Monday last:—

MESSAGE

From the PRESIDENT of the U. States.

*To the Senate and House of Representatives.*

Gentlemen—In my message at the opening of your session, I informed you that our Charge D'Affaire at Paris had been instructed to bring the final determination of the French Government, in relation to the payment of the indemnification, secured by the treaty of the 4th July, 1831, and that when the advices of the result should be received, it would be made the subject of a special communication.

In execution of this design, I now transmit to you the papers numbered from 1 to 13, inclusive, containing, among other things, the correspondence on this subject between our Charge d'Affairs and the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, from which it will be seen, that France requires, as a condition precedent to the execution of a treaty unconditionally ratified, and to the payment of a debt acknowledged by all the branches of her Government to be due, that certain explanations should be made, of which she dictates the terms. These terms are such as that Government has already been officially informed cannot be complied with; and, if persisted in, they must be considered as a deliberate refusal on the part of France to fulfil engagements binding by the laws of nations, and held sacred by the whole civilized world. The nature of the act which France requires from this Government, is clearly set forth in the letter of the French Minister, marked No. 4.

We will pay the money, says he, when "*the Governments of the United States is ready, on its part, to declare to us, by addressing its claim to us officially in writing, that it regrets the misunderstanding which has arisen between the two countries; that this misunderstanding is founded on a mistake; that it never entered into its intention to call in question the good faith of the French Government, nor to take a menacing attitude in words France:*" and he adds, "*if the Government of the United States does not give this assurance, we shall be obliged to think that the misunderstanding is not the result of an error.*" In the letter marked No. 6, the French Minister also remarks, that, "the Government of the United States knows that upon itself depends henceforward the execution of the treaty of July 4, 1831."

Obliged by the precise language thus used by the French Minister, to view it a peremptory refusal to execute the treaty, according to its terms, incompatible with the honor and independence of the United States, and persuaded, that, on considering the correspondence now submitted to you, you can regard it in no other light, it becomes my duty to call your attention to such measures as the exigency of the case demands, if the claim of interfering in the communications between the different branches of our Government shall be persisted in. This pretension is rendered the more unreasonable by the fact that the substance of the required explanation has been repeatedly and voluntarily given before it was insisted on as a condition—a condition the more humiliating, because it is demanded as the equivalent for a mere act of justice. Does France desire only a declaration that we had no intention to obtain our rights by an address to her fears rather than to her justice?

She has already had it, frankly and explicitly given by our Minister accredited to her Government, his act ratified by me, and my confirmation of it, officially communicated by him, in his letter to the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, of the 23th of April, 1835, and repeated by my published approval of that letter after the last adjournment of Congress. Does France want a degrading, servile repetition of this act, in terms which she shall dictate, and which will invade an acknowledgment of her assumed right to interfere in our domestic concerns? She will never persist in it. The spirit of the American people, the dignity of the Legislature, and the firm resolve of their Executive Government forbid it.

As the answer of the French minister to our Charge d'Affairs at Paris, contains an allusion to a letter addressed by him to the representative of France at this place, it now becomes proper to lay before you the correspondence had between the functionary and the Secretary of State, relative to that letter, and to accompany the same with such explanations as will enable you to understand the course of the Executive in regard to it.—Recurring to the historical statement made at the commencement of your session, of the origin and progress of our difficulties with France, it will be recollected that on the return of our Minister to the United States, I received any official approval of the explanations he had given to the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, to be made public. As the French Government had noticed the message without its being officially communicated, it was deemed proper, that it should be made to pass by the money due to us, they would notice any public explanation of the Government of the United States for the same purpose. But, contrary to these well founded expectations, the French Ministry did not take this fair opportunity to relieve themselves from the false position, and to do justice to the United States.

Willful, however, the Government of the United States was awaiting the movements of the French Government, in perfect confidence that the difficulty was at an end, the Secretary of State received a call from the Ministe of Foreign Affairs, in Washington, who desired to read to him a letter he had received from the French Minister of Foreign Affairs. He was asked whether he was instructed or directed to make any official communication, and replied that he was only authorized to read the letter, and furnish a copy if requested. The substance of its contents, it is presumed, may be gathered from Nos. 4 and 6 herewith transmitted. It was an attempt to make known to the Government of the United States, officially, in what manner it could make explanations, apparently voluntary, but in reality dictated by France, acceptable to her, and thus obtain payment of the twenty five millions of francs. No exception was taken to the substance of communication, which is often used to prepare the way for official intercourse, but the suggestions made in it were, in their substance, totally inadmissible. Not being in the shape of an official communication to this Government, it did not admit of reply or official notice, nor could it safely be made the basis of any action by the Executive or the Legislature; and the Secretary of State did not think proper to ask a copy, because he could have had no use for it.

Copies of papers marked Nos. 9, 10, and 11, show an attempt on the part of the Charge d'Affaire, many weeks afterwards, to place a copy of this paper among the archives of this Government, which, for obvious reasons, was not allowed to be done; but the assurance before given was repeated, that any official communication which he might be authorized to make in the accustomed form, would receive a prompt and just consideration.

The indiscretion of this attempt was made more manifest, by the subsequent avowal of the Charge d' Affairs, that the object was to bring this letter before Congress and the American people. If foreign power, in the present state of despetrment between their Government and this, wish to prefer an appeal to the American people, they will hereafter, it is hoped, better appreciate our rights, and the respect due to others, than to attempt to use the Executive as the passive organ of their communications. It is due to the character of our institutions, that the diplomatic intercourse of this Government should be conducted with the utmost directness and simplicity, and that in all cases of importance, the communications received or made by the Executive, should assume the accustomed official form.

It is only by insisting on this form, that foreign powers can be held to full responsibility, that their communications can be duly weighed, that the advice or interference of the Legislature can, with propriety, be invited by the President.—This course is also best calculated, on the one hand, to shield that officer from unjust suspicions, and, on the other, to subject this portion of his acts to public scrutiny and, if occasion shall require it, to constitutional animadversion. It was the more necessary to adhere to these principles in the instance in question, inasmuch as, in addition to other important interests, it very intimately concerned the national honor; a matter, in my judgment, much too sacred to be made the subject of private and unofficial negotiation.

It will be perceived that the letter of the French Minister of Foreign Affairs was read to the Secretary of State on the 11th of September last.—This was the first authentic indication of the pacific views of the French Government, received by the Government of the United States after the passage of the bill of indemnification. Inasmuch as the letter had been written before the official notice of my approval of Mr. Livingston's explanation and remonstrance could have reached Paris, just ground of hope was left, as has been before stated that the French Government, on receiving that information, in the same manner the alleged offending message had reached them would direct the payment of the twenty millions, and pay the money at once. To give them an opportunity to do so, and, at the same time, to elicit their final determination, and the ground they intended to occupy, the instructions were given to our Charge d' Affairs, which were adverted to at the commencement of the present session of Congress. The result, as you have seen, is a demand of an official written expression of regrets, and a direct explanation addressed to France, with a distinct intimation that this is all that is wanted.

Mr. Barton having, in pursuance of his instructions, returned to the United States, and the Charge d' Affairs of France having been recalled, diplomatic intercourse between the two countries is suspended—a state of things originating in an unreasonable assumption on the part of the French Government, and rendered necessary on our part by their refusal to perform engagements contracted with this nation, fairly ratified by them, and which by us they are to this day enjoying many important commercial advantages.

It is time this unequal position of affairs should cease, and that Legislative action should be brought to bear upon the subject in such measures as in the case requires. While France persists in her refusal to comply with the terms of a treaty, the object of which was, by removing all causes of mutual complaint, to renew ancient feelings of friendship, and to unite the two nations in the bonds of amity, and of a mutually beneficial commerce, she cannot justly complain if we adopt such peace and retaliatory laws as of nations and the circumstances of the case may authorize and demand. Of the nature of these remedies I have heretofore had occasion to speak, and, in reference to a particular contingency, to express my conviction that reprisals would be best adapted to the emergency then contemplated. Since that period, France, all the departments of her Government, has acknowledged the validity of our claims, and the obligations of the treaty; and has appropriated the moneys which are necessary to its execution; and though payment was withheld on grounds totally important to our existence as an independent nation, it is not to be believed that she can have deliberately adopted a course of conduct which is utterly indefensible.

In the altered state of the questions in controversy and under all existing circumstances, appears to me, that, until such a determination shall have become evident, it will be unwise and sufficient to retaliate her present refusal to comply with her engagements by prohibiting the importation of French products and the entry of French vessels into our ports. Between this and the interdiction of all commercial intercourse, or other remedies, you, as the representatives of the people must determine. I recommend the former, as most consistent with our interests, as the least injurious to our commerce, and as attended with the least difficulty of returning to the amicable state of friendly intercourse, if the Government of France shall render us the justice that is due, and also as a proper preliminary to other measures, if such course, should their adoption be rendered necessary by subsequent events.

The letter of our Charge d' Affairs is attended with public notices of naval preparations on the part of France destined for our seas. Of the extent and object of these armaments, I have no authentic information, nor any other means of judging, except such as are afforded by the journals and to the public; but whatever may be their object, we are not at liberty to regard them as unconnected with the unsettled state of our relations with the port of France may compel us to pursue. They at least deserve to be met by adequate preparations on our part, and I therefore strongly urge large and speedy appropriations for the increase of the navy, and the completion of our coast defences.

If this array of military force be really designed to affect the answer of the Government and the people of the United States on the questions now pending between the two nations, then indeed would it be dishonorable to pause a moment in the alternative which such a state of things would present to us. Come what may, the explanation which France demands can never be accorded; and no armament however powerful and imposing, at a distance, or even within sight of our coasts, can force us from discharging the high duties which we owe to our constituents, to our national character, and to the world.

The House of Representatives, at the close of the last session of Congress, unanimously resolved, that the treaty of the 4th of July, 1831, should be maintained, and its execution insisted on by the United States. It is due to the welfare of the human race, not less than to our own interests and honor, that this resolution should, at all hazards, be adhered to. If, after so signal an example as that given by the American people, during their long protracted difficulties with France, of forbearance under wrongs, and of generous confidence in her ultimate return to justice, she shall now be permitted to withhold from the tardy and imperfect indemnification, which, after years of remonstrance and discussion, had at length been tamely agreed to by the tenor of 1831, and to set at naught the obligation it imposes, the United States will not be the only sufferers.

The efforts of humanity and religion to substitute the appeals of justice, and the arbitrament of reason, for the coercive measures usually resorted to by injured nations, will receive little encouragement from such an issue. By the direction and enforcement of such lawful and expedient measures as may be necessary to prevent a result so injurious to ourselves, and so fatal to the hopes of the philanthropist, we shall therefore not only preserve the pecuniary interests of our citizens, the independence of our Government, and the honor of our country, but do much, it may be hoped, to vindicate the rights of mankind, and promote the general interests of peace, civilization, and improvement.

ANDREW JACKSON.

Washington, January 18, 1836.

Accompanying the above Message were several Documents, occupying more space than we can give to them. They were as follows:

No. 1. Letter from Mr. Forsyth to Mr. Barton giving instructions how to act after the return of Mr. Livingston, whose course is approved.

No. 2. Forsyth to Barton, Sept. 14, 1835.

3. Mr. Barton to the Duc de Broglie, Oct. 24, 1835.

4. Duc de Broglie to Mr. Barton, Oct. 26. 1835.

5. Mr. Barton to the Duc de Broglie, Nov. 6, 1835.

6. Duc de Broglie to Mr. Barton, Nov. 8, 1835.

7. Mr. Forsyth to M. Pageot, Nov. 27, 1835.

8. M. Pageot to Mr. Forsyth, Dec. 25, 1835.

9. M. Pageot to Mr. Forsyth, Dec. 1, 1835.

10. Mr. Forsyth to M. Pageot, Dec. 3, 1835.

11. M. Pageot to Mr. Forsyth, Dec. 5, 1835.

12. do to do Jan. 2, 1836.

13. Mr. Forsyth to M. Pageot, Jan. 2, 1836.

## POLITICAL.

From the Erie Gazette.

Mr. Sterrett—I observe in your last paper, my name as a member of the Erie county committee, appointed by the late Anti-Masonic State Convention at Harrisburgh, which put in nomination for the Presidency, *Gen. W. H. Harrison*, and for the Vice Presidency *Francis Granger, Esq.* As these committees were appointed to aid and advance the election of that ticket, I must most respectfully decline serving;—as I cannot bring myself to vote for Gen. Harrison for the presidency. His letters fully show that he neither knows nor understands the principles of Anti-Masonry. His meaning is equivocal, ambiguous, and evasive, his style trifling, flat and puerile—exhibiting alike uncertainty of principle and imbecility of intellect. He is not selected from the ranks of our party, this is one objectionable if he were one of the great luminaries of the nation, I should in this instance have acquiesced. General Harrison is unquestionally a weak-minded man, and all history proves that we have much more to fear from *weak rulers* than from *corrupt rulers*. Of this we have lamentable evidence in the case of *Gen. Jackson*. The errors of his administration however numerous or however important to the country, all I presume would concur in ascribing to unwaking purity of corruption. Gen. Harrison, like Gen. Jackson, is attempted to be elevated to the presidency by the mere force of *military* eclat; and if this *second* effort fairly, fine and successfully, the government of this country, like that of the Roman empire, will ever hereafter be in the hands and at the mercy of successful and unscrupulous generals. Christine discussions will be demented at hours, and wars encouraged with foreign powers, to enable men to acquire that distinction which is the only certain passport to the highest civil honors. We all urged this objection to Gen. Jackson, and how we can *now* consistently and honestly support Gen. Harrison, I am at a loss to discern.

Besides all this I am ignorant of Gen. Harrison's views or opinions on any and on all the great leading subjects of national policy, which are now agitating the American people. On the score of *non-committal* he stands ready to run the vastly the advantage even over his wiley opponent—the Magician. It may be said again, as it has already, that it is the duty of all to acquiesce in the nomination made by the majority but I apprehend that this duty is confined to cases where a selection has been made from the ranks of the *party*, and could not fairly be made to apply to a *Jackson man*, a Democrat, or a member of any other political party.

I regret that I cannot in this instance act in accordance with many of my political friends, but a contrary course would require me to undo, unsay, and unthink all I have done, said or thought for the last five or six years.—Very, &c. J. RIDDELL.

Erie, January 5, 1836.

### GEORGE WOLF'S LETTER.

In another column will be found the famous letter of his ex-Excellency, one who refusing to appear before the Committee of Investigation, denying the constitutional power of the House of Representatives to compel him to do so. The whole letter is one of the best specimens of Masonic defiance and assumption that we have ever seen. At the very commencement it assumes the position that Free-Masonry is the "HIGH LAW, ABOVE THE CONSTITUTION, ABOVE THE LEGISLATURE, and ABOVE THE PEOPLE!! He pronounces Masonry IRRESPONSIBLE, and in more than one place "*forced beyond the pale of the laws.*" He calls the Legislature "an Inquisition at whose shrine the rights and liberties of the People are to be invaded," should they submit to any testimony" before it. He pronounces their proceedings a violation of the constitution, and themselves a set of "*reckless demagogues.*" And Free-Masonry as no opposition of any moment to Van Buren, Gen. Harrison's weakness, therefore, will mainly be the consequence of the fact which is every day becoming more apparent, that he cannot be made to run for President, even if he could get the votes of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Maryland: and the evidence of this fact (not want of popularity) will probably deprive him of the votes of all these States.

White will no doubt receive the votes of the eleven slave States notwithstanding the nominal running of Harrison in Maryland.

[*Pittsburg Times:*

"WELL DONE, ALABAMA.—The Senate of Alabama has passed a resolution, instructing their Senators in Congress to vote for Benton's expunging resolution, by a vote of 14 to 11. Will not the Virginia Legislature do likewise, and save themselves from the contempt of the present age, and the scorn of posterity?" *—Lynchburg Va.*

Free-Masonry is still exciting a good deal of discussion in Great Britain. The Duke of Cumberland, Grand Master of Lodges, has been openly charged by a "brother" of attempting by means of Masonry to change the succession to the Throne.

In Ireland, recently the question was mooted whether the Free-Mason should sit upon a Jury in cases where one of the parties was a Mason and the other not. Triers were appointed as in the New York trials, and those who were proved to be Free-Masons were *set aside.*—*Boston Advocate.*

MARRIED.

On the 17th inst. by the Rev Mr. Rathrauff Mr. Adam Stoke to Miss Margaret Seltzer—both of Cumberland township.

On the 21st inst. by the same, Mr. William Hertzel to Miss Barbara Schriver—both of Cumberland township.

On the 20th inst. by John Garvin, Esq. John Muttersbaugh to Miss Barbara Noel—all of Franklin township.

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GETTYSBURG STAR AND REPUBLICAN BANNER

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GETTYSBURG, PA.

*Monday, January 25, 1836.*

## County Meeting.

☞ A MEETING of the Anti-Masons of Adams county will be held at the Court-house in Gettysburg, on

*Monday Evening, January the 25th, at 6 o'clock,*

to take into consideration the *strong* nomination recently made by a Convention calling itself "Anti-Masonic."

MANY ANTI-MASONS.

January 11, 1836.

☞ We hope the friends of Anti-Masonry will not forget to attend at the Court-house THIS EVENING.

☞ We call attention to the interesting letters of our Harrisburg Correspondent.

☞ Will some friend at Harrisburg inform us how many *Harrison-Wig-Anti-Masons* voted to pocket the insult offered to the Laws by the Grand Lodge? Give names.

☞ The Mr. M'Clellan mentioned by our Harrisburg Correspondent, last week, as giving testimony on Masonry before the Committee, resides in Pittsburg. Our correspondent must give the residence of *such* witnesses, or else perchance he might affect the "standing" of Masons, in other towns, bearing similar names!

☞ We learn with great pleasure, indeed, that the Secretary of State has appointed Joseph Walker, Esq. Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth. Mr. Wallace is one of the oldest and most steadfast Anti-Masons in the State—one of those whom the "*Harrison*" party sneeringly designates as the "pure, uncontaminated" Anti-Masons. While his appointment gives general satisfaction to the Freemen of the State, we have no doubt that those who are more *manœuvrishippers* will kick at it. Let them. The Governor is perfectly safe with such advisers as Barnows and Wallace.

☞ The Erie Gazette asks "Does he (Harrison) not go as far as the Jacksonmen? Why?"

In all conscience, we answer, yes—further, much further. The great and good Wirt told us, *he approved of our principles, and would unite heart and hand with us in carrying them out and in the maintenance of the Supremacy of the Laws.*

The wise and immaculate Harrison—unequalled only in profound wisdom by the learned Doctor Jackson whose place Billy wants! says the attempt to carry out our principles by a President of the United States, "*would be a mockade a usurpation of power pregnant if tolerated by the people,* [the Lodge he undoubtedly means] *with such a right is infinitely more fatal than those which it was intended to remedy!*" and that if Anti-Masonry is "BROUGHT INTO ACTION IN THE MANNER PROPOSED, [that is, *politically,*] COULD NOT FAIL TO BE THE PARENT OF MISCHIEFS INFINITELY MORE FATAL THAN THOSE WHICH IT WAS INTENDED TO REMEDY!"

Will not the Gazette, after such insulting language as Harrison uses towards Anti-Masonry, also admit that he goes much further than did the lamented Wirt?

### Important Correspondence.

☞ We call the attention of Anti-Masons to the facts disclosed in the following correspondence. Who knows that one may longer doubt but that the nomination of Harrison was the work of the Lodge to defeat Anti-Masonry, or merge it in a personal party? Will Anti-Masons, after such disclosures, consent to be led to their own destruction by the Lodge? We shall see.

From the Pennsylvania Telegraph.

CORRESPONDENCE.

STATE CAPITAL, Jan. 14, 1836.

Mr. Fenn:—Believing the nomination of Gen. Harrison, notwithstanding his explicit and offensive condemnation of *political* Anti-Masonry, to have been effected in pursuance of a deliberate design formed to destroy Anti-Masonry. I request you, as an Anti-Masonic editor, to publish the following correspondence.

I desire that the genuine Anti-Masons of Pennsylvania may see such evidence, as we may have the good fortune to discover of the apprehended plot; they may be fully able to judge how far the support of Gen. Harrison is consistent with their professed principles.

Yours, &c.

THADDEUS STEVFNS.

MR. STEVENS TO MR. WILLIS.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 14, 1836.

Friend Willis—I think I heard you state certain matters which occurred in a political meeting in Philadelphia, relative to an intention to surrender Anti-Masonry, and adopt some other creed in its stead. Will you please inform me of the particulars; and whether a letter was read purporting to be from an Anti-Mason of Harrisburg; its contents and the remarks made by the reader relative to the prostration of Anti-Masonry. The evident attempt now making to merge Anti-Masonry in the glory of some Hero, will, I trust be deemed a sufficient apology for the request, which I now make.

Yours, &c.

THADDEUS STEVENS.

To Henry Willis.

MR. WILLIS'S ANSWER.

HARRISBURG, 1st month 14, 1836.

Respected Friend:—Thy fator of this date was received by me, the contents duly noticed. Thee requests of me to state what I heard in a political meeting in Philadelphia last fall, relative to the important question of Anti-Masonry. To this request, I shall reply to as nearly as I can recollect from the length of time that has elapsed since that meeting was held. Some time previous to the time of the Anti-Masons of the city and county of Philadelphia, holding a meeting to send Delegates to the State Convention to be held at Harrisburg, I was in the city, when I was informed that a meeting was to be held in Bank Street, to be called a Harrison meeting. I felt a curiosity to know who it was that would propose that meeting, and likewise attended said meeting. After the meeting was organized, Jno. Kennedy rose and stated that it would be inexpedient for that meeting to fix on any time for the holding of a State Convention, to put in nomination a candidate for the Presidency, in as much as the State Anti-Masonic committee would soon publish the time for holding such Convention.

A number rose in succession and denounced that committee as a self styled, self constituted committee, and they were not bound, nor were they subject to obey their mandates. *Stating at the same time that they had helped the Anti-Masons to elect their Governor, and now they must or ought to help them to elect a President. We have followed them long enough, we will now make them follow us*, or language to this effect. When Dr. M'Henry, rose and stated *that he had recently received a letter from a prominent Anti-Mason in Harrisburg, who stated in that letter, that the Anti-Masons were determined to lay aside their Anti-Masonic principles and support Gen. Wm. H. Harrison for the Presidency.* He did not read the letter, nor did he say who the author was: These are as near as I can recollect the particulars of what passed at that meeting.

I am respectfully thy friend,

HENRY WILLIS.

To Thaddeus Stevens.

☞ We copy the following letters from the Boston Advocate. We believe the second to be the one read in the late amalgamation Convention at Harrisburg.

### *Letters of Judge White on Free-Masonry.*

Washington, Dec. 9th, 1835.

Dear Sir—Two gentlemen of the Anti-Masonic Society addressed me a letter which concluded by asking—"Whether you are a Mason, as well as your opinion upon the oaths and duties imposed by the lodges as contained in the evidence enclosed to you."

On the other half this sheet you have a copy of my answer to them, which I trust you will think is the only answer I could be expected to give in such a case, and with the feelings and principles I have had of looking into matters connected with Masonry.

A copy of my letter to these gentlemen I concluded would be most satisfactory to you in answer to yours of the 5th which is now before me.

I am,

most respectfully,

your ob't. servant.

E. L. WHITE.

Thomas C. Hambly, Esq.

Washington, Dec. 9th, 1835.

Gentlemen—Your letter dated the 4th inst. and a small volume on the subject of Masonry, were handed me on the evening of the 7th inst. to which I beg leave to return the following answer.

I have now, and never have been a Mason. I never have felt a wish or willingness to join any society, the objects, the principles, or the rules of which, as well as the duties and obligations it would impose on me, I must remain ignorant of, until after I became a member. As this must be my situation in relation to the Masonic society, I never applied to any Lodge for admission.

Never having had any connection with the fraternity, I have had very little opportunity until within a few days past, of making myself acquainted with the oaths taken by Masons, or with the obligations they feel themselves under to keep secret. I have read, and having had but little time to devote to an examination of the book sent me, I think it would be indiscreet to pronounce a hasty opinion, which might do injustice to a body of men, many of whom are respectable, or to myself, if upon more full information, or further reflection, I should believe my present impressions were incorrect.

Under these circumstances, I hope that you will be satisfied that I mean no disrespect, when I decline any answer to the last question contained in your letter.

With sentiments of respect,

E. L. WHITE.

☞ The following is an extract from an Oration delivered, during the past year, before the Lodge at London, Upper Canada, by Brother William R. Counsel:

"1835 years have gone since its usefulness was sanctioned by the authority of that divine being, who was a Mason by birth—a Mason in mind—a Mason by practice and in principle—in his life a Mason—on the cross a Mason—in his tomb a Mason, and a Mason on and after his glorious resurrection."

*Appointments by the Attorney General,*

Daniel M. Smyser, Esq. Deputy Attorney General for Adams county.

Thomas C. Hambly, Esq. Do. York county.

Robert M. Bard, Esq. Do. Franklin county.

*Appointments by the Governor,*

Joseph Mennich, Prothonotary, of Franklin county.

James Morrow, Clerk of Orphans' court, Quarter Sessions, and Oyer and Terminer of Franklin county.

Joseph Pritts, Register and Recorder, of Franklin county.

### Repeal of the State Taxes.

☞ It gives us great pleasure to learn, that a Bill has been reported by Mr. Stevens, to "Repeal the State Taxes, and complete the Public Improvements of the State, WITHOUT BURTHENING THE PEOPLE." This desirable and highly important object can be obtained by "granting a State Charter, with proper guards, to the Stockholders of the U. S. Bank." If the people desire to have their Public Improvements completed WITHOUT RESORTING TO TAXATION, let them encourage, immediately, the Legislature to pass the above Bill, accompanied with all necessary and proper guards. Pennsylvania is deeply involved—her Treasury, almost, if not quite, *bankrupt*—and unless she now accepts this offer, the present heavy Taxation will have to be increased, instead of lessened, and all honorable means be resorted to, to relieve the People of their Taxes.

CARLISLE, Jan. 7, 1836.

**Annual Statement**

*Of the Carlisle Saving Fund Society.*

| DR. | |
|---|---|
| Stock and weekly Deposits paid in | $ 8,675 97 |
| Special Deposites bearing interest | 26,152 90 |
| Transient Deposites | 1,292 94 |
| Surplus profit retained as Contingent Fund | 2,593 59 |
| Unpaid Dividend | 332 33 |
| | $42