Star & Republican Banner.

At $3 per annum, half-yearly in advance.

GETTYSBURG, PENN.

MONDAY MORNING, SEP. 5 1836.

☞The Anti-Masons of Erie county have nominated ELIJAH BABBITT and THOMAS R. MILLER for Assembly.

☞ISAAC M'CORD has been nominated for Assembly by the Anti-Masons of Perry county.

The Masonic Stone Candidate!

☞Besides being the candidate of the Lodge, it ought to be known to every *freeman*—to every friend of *liberty* in the true sense of its meaning, that MARTIN VAN BUREN *is in favor of Slavery, and the candidate of the Slavery party!* Let *Pennsylvanians* read the following extract of a letter to the Editor of a Van Buren paper in Georgia, and then decide as *freemen*:—

"NEW YORK, July 22, 1836.

GENTLEMEN: I have lately had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Van Buren, and I can assure you that he is the firm and undoviating friend of Southern rights. He is fully with us upon the Slave Question AND FOR TEXAS! On the contrary, should the Whigs, as they call themselves, by any possible chance, succeed in electing White or Harrison, God help us *all*! The South, for I look upon Mr. Van Buren's election as the only hope we have against these rascally and abominable Abolitionists."

☞The Van Buren party in York and Lancaster have added "another laurel" to their Chief's flag—viz: *Fanny Wright's Petticoat!*

Renunciation of Masonry.

☞The following Renunciation of Masonry is taken from a letter addressed to Mr. Culbertson, of Lowistown, by JAMES MERRILL, Esq. of New Berlin, Union county. Let others imitate Mr. Merrill's example.

NEW BERLIN, July 30, 1836.

I was a Mason about the beginning of the year 1826, took three degrees and attended the lodge pretty punctually, for three or four years. Since that I have not been in a Lodge, and I DO NOT *intend* to go *again*; and so little do I know about it, that I could not obtain admission now upon examination. So far as I know, our Lodge has not met for the last six or seven years; and according to the rules of Masonry, has forfeited its charter, and we have forfeited our standing as Masons—though I have no knowledge that the forfeiture has been enforced.

Of my own knowledge, I know nothing of the enormities so confidently charged upon Masons; though the ENTIRE HORDE of their MISCONDUCT and CRIMES in some counties, and in some parts of our own country, COMMANDS BELIEF. I NEVER SAW and as far as I know the members of Masons, with whom I acted, THEY NEVER DID, suppose that their obligations, as Masons, could be drawn into conflict with, much less, superseded their obligations as citizens. This rendered me slow to believe the accusations, and I believe yet, that many of them were exaggerated; but ENOUGH HAS BEEN PROVED to satisfy my mind, that *in our age and country, Masonry IS NOT REQUIRED*; and that the PEACE OF SOCIETY SHOULD NOT BE RISKED IN ITS SUPPORT.

JAMES MERRILL.

From the Friend of Man.

The Tenure of our Rights!—Printers!!—Look at this!!!

☞"Contrary to the feelings of a majority of our citizens!"

So said the self-constituted DICTATORS of the press in Cincinnati, in respect to the existence of Mr. Birney's Philanthropist in that city. Therefore they resolved it should be put down by lawless violence. And it was put down; and Mr. Birney's exercise of his inalienable and constitutional rights under the circumstances, is set down as the blame worthy cause of the out-rage!

Without stopping to enquire into the truth of the statement, that "a majority" does which is unimportant; nor into the meaning, which is equivocal, let us just see how the principle here assumed will operate, when it comes to be the established doctrine of our country.

A majority of the citizens of New York city are, perhaps, presumed to be Van Buren men. And at a public meeting of that party, (without waiting for the leave of a majority of the citizens by any formal vote—or of the people of the state, by any legal enactment) proceed to appoint a committee, and wait on the Whig editors, and call upon them to cease publishing any more papers. If they are so "fool-hardy" as to persevere, then the majority, and there, they may treat the Van Buren papers in the same manner! In another place, a majority are grieved because an Universalist has established a paper. In another a majority are decidedly opposed to having a Presbyterian, or Baptist, or a Methodist paper, printed in the city or village and so they may severally be suppressed in the same manner.

Who would wish to live in such a country! Who would not prefer the legal dictatorship of the press, as it exists in Europe, where there would at least, be some stability and certainty, to be depended upon.

Not only so. According to the Cincinnati precedent, it is only for any set of persons who choose to declare themselves the majority—and every press obnoxious to their displeasure falls before them, with no remedy while the doctrine prevails short of physical resistance, and civil war.

We affect to wonder at our forefathers, we talk wisely of the dark ages; we marvel at the histories of persecutions, and boast the march of *liberal principles! But where are we?* The Quakers "outraged the feelings of the majority," and for their insolency were hung! The Puritans in England did the same, and were obliged to leave their country. The Reformers, the Apostles, the Prophets; nay, the Savior of the world himself, did the same, and suffered martyrdom. The principle avowed by the public meeting at Cincinnati will throw the blame of all these bloody transactions—*not* upon the persecutors—but upon their *victims!*

FROM THE SOUTH AND TEXAS.

By the steamboat Kentucky from Norfolk, we have received the Charleston Courier of the 26th inst. in which we find the subjoined intelligence. The Texans, it appears, are resolved to act on the offensive, and it is not improbable from appearances, that the war in that country may present the anomalous spectacle of an army raised for the purpose of invading a rebellious province, flying, over its own territory, from before a vastly inferior force of the insurgents.

The contract for the removal of the Creeks, is taken by the "Alabama Emigrating Company," at $28 50 a head. A party of 300 were to start between the 20th and 25th inst.; the remainder in 60 days—the contract is deemed advantageous to Government.

A meeting of Officers and privates in the Florida Campaign, was held at Charleston on the 22d inst. to express their approbation of the conduct of Gen. Gaines during the campaign, and to solicit the President U. S. to restore him to his rank.

A company of volunteers encountered a party of Creek Indians, near the Florida line, killed ten warriors and took eight women and children prisoners. A squaw, mother of several of the children, to release them from captivity *poisoned* them, and made her escape.

Col. Wood, of Randolph, (Ga.) with 38 men, encountered a party of Indians, on the 2d inst., and in "*fair fight*" killed 27 warriors—See next the first stranger the fifth children they could not carry, by stuffing their mouths and nostrils with mud moss.

Intelligence from Key West states, that a vessel commanded by a Spaniard and an American, recently touched at Indian Key, full of negroes, supposed to have been received from the Seminoles in exchange for ammunition.

The elections in Lousiana are over—the Van Burenites have a majority of *two* in the House—the Anti-Van Burenites a majority of *three* in the Senate.

A slight shock of an earthquake was felt at Milledgville (Ga.) on the 17th inst.

Capt. EMUEL GATES, of the 1st Reg't. Artillery, died at Augusta, Georgia, at Micanopy, East Florida, on the 7th inst. He was a graduate of West Point, and we learn has left a Widow and five children.

The St. Augustine Herald of the 16th inst says: "One hundred and ninety sick troops from Micanopy and Black Creek, are expected to arrive here daily in the steam boat *Santee*.

VAN BUREN AGAINST THE PEOPLE—IN FAVOR OF PREVENTING THE POOR FROM VOTING.

If Van Buren is a democrat, Aaron Burr is a patriot. If a democrat is one who endeavors to transfer power to the people, and deprive them of their rights, then is Van Buren a first rate democrat "dyed in the wool." Read the extract from his speech to the New York Convention in the Globe paper. It affords the most positive proof that he was in favor of depriving poor men of the right of voting—the best right they possess. It is preposterous and insulting, in the extreme, to attempt to pass him off upon the people as a democrat. He is not a good counterfeit. We most solemnly affirm that he has never done a single public act, in all his life, which was prompted by a friendship for the people. So far from this, he is, we candidly believe, as haughty an aristocrat as there is in Union. Answerable for this, we cite the facts that he prefers the nobility of England to the democracy of his own country—that he has an English coach and six English servants, and that he was a favor of depriving his own poor countrymen of the right of voting.

Democrats! read the extract—mark what Van Buren says of the poor—bear in mind that he—the haughty little aristocrat held them as unfit to mingle their votes with those of the rich—and remember that old Tippecanoe always has been your friend of equal rights, and the firm and zealous opposer of aristocratical distinctions in society—that he is a plain republican farmer, and that, should he be elevated to the Presidency, he will administer the Government upon strictly democratic principles, so as to promote the welfare of the people, and to shield them from oppression. He will stand by them against aristocracy.—*Richmond Whig.*

MR. VAN BUREN'S LETTER.—We perceive that many of the papers are indulging their readers with long articles, explaining and combating Mr. Van Buren's letter to the Hon. S. Williams, of Kentucky. This we consider, perfectly unnecessary. For the substance of the letter we refer our readers to Gen. Jackson's various messages, and for its refutation to the answers to *ditto*. It is a mere echo of the opinions of the "much-injured public servants," as the President *to be* calls the President that *is*. According to this letter, Van Buren is now committed as anti-distribution, anti-Clay's land bill, anti-clearing-out creek-and-ports-of-entry, anti-bank, philo speciecurrency, and an expunger. And that is all about it.

Character of Martin Van Buren.

The Hon. Samuel McKean, in a letter to the Montrose (Pa.) Register, dated September 15th, 1832, thus spoke of the "GOVERNMENT CANDIDATE:"

"My personal respect for the President, and the connexion (unfortunate, I must call it, both for the country and General Jack son) which recently existed between him and Mr. Van Buren, has hitherto deterred me, in some measure, from speaking of the latter as I think he deserves. The unparalleled Jackson party in North Caroiina voted about 25,000; and the Anti-Jackson party less than 5,000 votes, being five to one in favor of the former. Behold now the change, in four short years, in consequence of the attempt to *force* the Kinderhook statesman upon the Jackson party. At the election of August, 1836, at which about 35,000 votes have been polled, the Whig candidate for Governor has a majority of 5000! Such a change in the same period of time, is unprecedented and unparalleled, even in these changeful times, and must be truly ominous to the cause of the Favorite.—*Balt. Pat.*

INDIANA.—The Indianapolis Journal, published at the Seat of Government of the State, gives a complete list of the members elected to the two Houses of the Legislature, the aggregate of which is as follows:

	HARRISON.	VAN BUREN.
Senators,	29	18
Representatives,	55	44
	84	62

From the Portland Advertiser.

DETROIT, August 11, 1836.

SIR—I have seen published in the "Baltimore Chronicle," the "extract of a letter from Ohio," pretending to give an account of a rencontre (which if true would be disgraceful to a gentleman) between a general Boynton of Ohio, and myself, in the streets of Detroit. I need not say to you, I trust, that the alleged affair as stated by your letter-writer, is a base fabrication: an imposition upon your credulity as the conductor of a public journal, and merits the severest reprobation. No such occurrence has ever taken place, neither have I the honour of having ever before heard the name of "general Boynton of Ohio." I would not under ordinary circumstances, attach importance to a publication of this character; but as there are personal considerations connected with this, I have to request, if consistent with your obligations as an editor, the name of your Ohio correspondent. You have the assurance that nothing offensive is intended in the tone of this letter, and that your early answer will oblige.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

STEVENS T. MASON.

To the editor of the Portland Advertiser.

[As an act of justice to governor Mason, we publish this letter, and will add that the extract which we publish was taken from a letter from general Boynton, of Amherst, Ohio, to a friend of his residing in this city.] —*Portland Advertiser.*

The Clerk's Office of the United States Court at Clarksburg, Va. was partially consumed by fire on the night of the 12th inst. evidently the work of an incendiary, who aimed at the destruction of the papers, and unfortunately succeeded. The shutter was bored so as to withdraw the fastenings, and the fire was thence thrown upon some valuable papers close at hand. In remarking upon this fire at Clarksburg, the Wheeling Times says, it is another edition, on a limited scale, of the attempt to burn the treasury buildings. "Extensive frauds had been committed on the treasury by persons agents, through forged papers. Suspicions had been aroused, prosecutions entered, and the documents were on file in the clerk's office. Fire was the resort of the guilty to conceal the evidence against them, and they have succeeded thus far; but retributive justice will yet overtake them. The loss of individuals from the destruction of valuable papers has been great, and we learn that a few individuals have had better opportunities than myself of marking his political manœuvres for the last twenty years, during which time he has established all the powers and qualities with regard to politics, of the chameleon, assuming every hue and color which his ambitious purposes, in view of the exigencies of the moment, seemed to require. To speak plainly, I know him to be void of political integrity, and most of those high qualities of the mind, which, wherever they may be found, I humbly trust no mere differences in matters of human opinion will ever prevent me from duly acknowledging or yielding a just respect. Cunning, and a certain species of popular talent, he indeed possesses; but these only render him the more dangerous in times of public excitement and illusion. When he first entered General Jackson's cabinet, I expressed my serious misgivings of the result to Judge McLean, (then Postmaster General) and others; and the mischiefs which I then apprehended have been more than verified.—His whole course has been that of a political disorganizer, whenever it could promote his selfish schemes. Party arrangements, and even the sacred ties of personal friendship, he has both by turns been coldly sacrificed upon the altar of his insatiate ambition."

☞

President JACKSON was met, on his recent journey homeward, by a committee of citizens of Nashville, about thirty five miles from that city, where he was addressed in form and at great length by GEO. W. CAMPBELL, Esq. chairman of the committee.—The sum George W. Campbell, Esq. whose name has become familiar to the "American people" as the honored correspondent to whom he was addressed, in days of yore, the celebrated "Duane letters." The Press correspondent replied to the address from his old correspondent at almost equal length—his response, as given in the Nashville Union, occupying upwards of two columns of that paper. We have given this reply a hasty perusal, and we may observe that the only thing we have met with in it, in any wise remarkable is the substantial retraction of the former liberal doctrine, as set forth in the letters to President MONROE against the "monster party," and the assertion, though not in so many words, that "to the victorious belong the SPOILS OF OFFICE." Thus thoroughly has the old Hero become imbued with the doctrines of the Albany Regency!

NORTH CAROLINA ELECTION.—The exact majority of Gen. DUDLEY, the *Whig* candidate for Governor of North Carolina, has been ascertained to be 5,007. The change in North Carolina is really "a caution" to opusls in boots," and all other pretenders. At the Presidential election in 1832, the Jackson party in North Carolina voted about 25,000; and the Anti-Jackson party less than 5,000 votes, being five to one in favor of the former. Behold now the change, in four short years, in consequence of the attempt to *force* the Kinderhook statesman upon the Jackson party. At the election of August, 1836, at which about 35,000 votes have been polled, the Whig candidate for Governor has a majority of 5000! Such a change in the same period of time, is unprecedented and unparalleled, even in these changeful times, and must be truly ominous to the cause of the Favorite.—*Balt. Pat.*

MURDER IN MISSOURI.—The St. Louis (Miss) Bulletin, of July 14th, states that the bodies of two men had been found dead in a harvest field near Grand River; also three women, all murdered by the Indians. Several children also have been carried off. Several volunteer companies of the State have been called out by an order of the adjutant general, dated city of Jefferson, June 29.

One hundred dollars damages have been obtained by Mr. John Jones, against the proprietors of the Canada mail coaches and steamboat company, for damages sustained by the upsetting of a coach in which the plaintiff was a passenger.

MORE HEAVY FREEZES.—Major George Dickenson, of Deerfield, Mass. has sheared this season from a half blooded Bakewell Buck, 14 months old, eleven pounds of well washed wool, producing 85 for the fleece. —So says the Greenfield Gazette.

WISCONSIN.—The corner stone of the first Presbyterian church in the territory of Wisconsin, was laid in the town of Du Buque on the 18th ult. with the usual ceremonies, by Gen. George W. Jones, Justice Dunn and a large concourse of citizens.

SEED WHEAT.—The Centreville Times states that there is a great scarcity of seed wheat in Queen Anne's county, Md.

LAND TRAFFIC IN MICHIGAN.—Michigan according to the following account of land sales at Kalamozoo, is selling off at a great rate. Kalamooza must be one of the greatest Land Marts in creation or elsewhere. We take the statement from the Michigan Statesman of August 6th.

Months.	*Days.*	*Acres. Amount rec'd.*	
January,	26	10,723,110	$134,026 34
February,	24	11,730,133	147,376 67
March,	27	14,915,709	186,446 36
April,	13	20,232,837	252,910 50
May,	23	38,221,874	477,773 09
June,	3	5,500,692	68,871 16
July,	20	44,852,514	560,031 40
Total,	136	147,194,871	$1,827,435 52

Our Western cities are as large as life in all their operations, and make appropriations that would have sent their Corporations to the mad house for insanity a few years ago. The little city of Detroit lately described by a unanimous vote of the Corporation, the sum of forty thousand dollars to the stock of the St. Joseph's Rail Road Company.

N. Y. CANALS.—The number of boats which passed through the lock three miles west of Schenectady, from the opening of the navigation up to the 1st of August, was 11,781. The number last year was larger by 775. In the meantime, however, the locks have been reduced in number, and the tonnage of boats increased. The number of boats passed through the locks at Lockport, from the opening of the navigation to the 1st of August, was 11,781,