STAR & REPUBLICAN BANNER.

BY ROBERT WHITE MIDDLETON.

Office of the Star & Banner:
Chambersburg Street, a few doors West of the Court-House.

I. The STAR & REPUBLICAN BANNER is published at TWO DOLLARS per annum (or Volume of 52 numbers,) *payable half-yearly in advance:* or TWO DOLLARS & FIFTY CENTS *if not paid until after the expiration of the year.*

II. No subscription will be received for a shorter period than six months; nor will the paper be discontinued until all arrearages are paid, unless at the option of the Editor. A failure to notify a discontinuance will be considered a new engagement and the paper forwarded accordingly.

III. ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding a square, will be inserted THREE times for $1, and 25 cents for each subsequent insertion—the number of insertions to be marked, or they will be published till forbid and charged *accordingly*; longer ones in the same proportion. A reasonable deduction will be made to those who advertise by the year.

IV. All Letters and Communications addressed to the Editor by mail must be post-paid, or they will not be attended to

GETTYSBURG, PENN.
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1838.

☞FLOUR in Baltimore, $7 50 & 62

National Magazine and Republican Review.

☞We learn from the Potomac Advocate that the first No. of this publication—(the advertisement of which we published a few weeks since)—will contain under the title of *«Scenic and Characteristic outlines of Congress,»* a graphic sketch of members, scenes, &c. of members of Congress,—after the model of Grants «Random recollections of the Lords and Commons of great Britain.»—From the pen of a person well known as a writer on the subject. The Publishers say—«One of our designs is to perpetuate the personal appearance, characteristics, and the peculiarities of the sound of voice, of our distinguished political friends and foes, and we shall therefore furnish, monthly, glances such as these, in numbers, under the above title."

THE COUNTY MEMBERS.
The Investigation.

☞The Legislature meets to-day and much anxiety being felt in relation to the members from Philadelphia county, we have copied the annexed article from the Harrisburg Intelligencer relative to the course which may be pursued. Speaking on the subject the Philadelphia Inquirer copies the article alluded to and remarks:—

"It is calm and to the purpose, and is entitled to attention. It is conceded on all hands that great and flagrant frauds were committed at the recent election, especially in the county. It is believed that from 1,000 to 1500 illegal votes were polled. It is known that a daring and high-handed fraud was practised by the Loco Judges. It can be proven that in some wards, more names were registered than there were taxables; while more than one instance of individuals attempting to vote twice, was detected on the day of the election. Nay, we learn that in the Third Ward, Southwark, one hundred persons more than were entitled to the right of suffrage, voted at the election, come forward and alleged that they voted for that Ticket. In Kensington, the Loco Foco majority is put down at upwards of 800. A thorough investigation of the transactions in that district, will, we think, reduce it to 500. These are but a few of the facts and suppositions connected with the recent election, but they are all sufficient, not only to undue an investigation, but to show that, if confirmed, the Whigs will be entitled to their seats. But our political friends of the County seek higher objects. They claim that the members, who they believe themselves fairly entitled to them. The chief consideration with them, however, is, by an exposure of the recent frauds, to prevent a recurrence of similar atrocious conduct; and thus to protect the elective franchise and guarantee the rights of the people. They would scorn to hold their places a moment after it should be ascertained they were not entitled to them. They desire inquiry and investigation, however, and thus not only prove themselves willing to abide by the laws, but anxious to have the case settled in conformity with the testimony that may be elicited. We heard on Saturday, and from good authority, that several of the Loco Foco members were circulating petitions, praying an investigation—knowing that determined to abandon the disreputable plan of seizing upon seats by physical force. We trust that this report may prove true. All that the Whigs desire, is fair play, an honest investigation, and a fair trial throughout, in obedience to the laws of the Commonwealth. No matter what may be the result under such circumstances, they will yield like good citizens.

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY.

About the Philadelphia county members of the Legislature we are disposed to be reasonable. If our party friends are duly elected, we wish them to take and hold their seats. If not, in the name of our republican institutions, let those elected properly act the legislators. But the dispute as to who are elected must be settled in the proper manner, and not by the *ipse dixit* of Charles Pray, Samuel J. Wilson, Benjamin Parker or Francis R. Shunk. It must be settled by the law, and by no other power can it be settled. And we are prepared for extremes rather than tamely submit to any usurpations.

The Democratic members claim their seats in the House and Senate, on two grounds:—first, they allege that they received a majority of the legal votes polled on the day of election—Second, they claim to be duly returned.

The Loco Focos also claim their seats on *received* grounds, they will contend that they received a majority of all the votes polled—Second, they declare the return which gives the democrats seats, illegal.

The question, who received a majority of all the votes polled is involved in much mystery. The question, who received a majority of the *legal* votes! is clearly answered in our minds, the system of Loco Foco tactics, concerning being well known to us. But both these points must be examined by the competent authority of the Legislature, and can only be decided by that authority, not by newspaper *judgments*, which go no farther than their party circle. In the meantime the democratic members will be entitled to their seats at the opening of the session, even if subsequent investigations should cast them out, as we do not believe they will.

They are entitled to seats UNDER THE LAW, because they are duly RETURNED to the Secretary's office, and will be by the Secretary sent to the clerks of the Senate and House; and all the humbugs of the Loco Focos about the return not being full, complete and legal, will be of no avail to them, until duly investigated by the authority aforementioned.

Now, it is hinted that the Clerk of the House will refuse to read the return which will be sent him by the Secretary, but will declare it ILLEGAL! We have before said that we do not believe Mr. Shunk will perpetrate so gross an outrage, as it would be directly at variance with his duty and the laws, which cannot be tortured to give him the power of judging of the legality, of any paper sent him by the Secretary. But as the political friends of Mr. S. declare that he will do so, we may take them at their word for a moment, to inquire what would be the consequence of such a manœuvre.—

THE CONSEQUENCES WOULD BE OF NO TRIVIAL CHARACTER. They would be momentous, and an awful weight would rest on the head of Mr. Shunk, for his agency in the matter. If he dares to take the step urged upon him by his partizans, it will be the SOLEMN DUTY of all the democratic members of the House to organize separately, and leave the Loco Focos to act out their iniquity by themselves. This will be the only means left to COERCE the Loco Focos into a sense of DUTY, and sustain the LAWS. And as our party goes for the "Supremacy of the Laws," on all occasions, we have no doubt but it will be done.

☞The Pittsburg Times has passed into the hands of Mr. DAVID CLARK, printer, and Jas. C. M'Farlane, Esq. editor. Mr. Forster in his valedictory, and the editor of the Pittsburg Gazette, speak in commendable terms of Messrs. Grant and M'Farland. We wish them success.

☞The Governor of Mississippi has appointed Thomas H. Williams to fill the place, in Congress, in the place of James F. Trotter, resigned.

Counterfeit.

☞The Columbia Spy says—Our town is literally flooded with counterfeit bills of all the denomination of five dollars, purporting to be an issue by the Bank of Pennsylvania. We saw five in one day. These bills have the appearance of having lain by for years in some damp place, and look exactly what stickey and clammy. Where can they have come from—by whom were they issued—why was so large a quantity of them then note circulating in a period of but two or three days! We solemnish our friends to be on their guard respecting them, as they are well calculated to deceive an unwary observer, and some of them, we know, were taken in haste by good judges.

Letter from Mr. Adams.

The Baltimore Chronicle says—We have been kindly permitted to take a copy of a letter addressed by Mr. ADAMS to the officers of a Literary Society in Baltimore. It will be read with great interest, and is certainly a very admirable paper of its kind.

WASHINGTON, June 22, 1838.

GENTLEMEN: I have no words to express my gratitude for the kind feelings and more than friendly estimate of my character contained in your letter of the 9th instant, and am not less at a loss for language to explain the sincerity and depth of my reflections upon the kindness of your invitation. Nothing but your partiality can have dictated the flattering terms in which you have bestowed your kind invitation to be present at your approaching festival, and on an occasion so gratifying to me, and so honorable to my country, as that of the 4th of July, I had anticipated with pleasure the hope of being with you, and of joining in the toast of the day, "the Union of the States, and the Union of the hearts." Nothing but a sense of duty, and