

The next step in Mr. Van Buren's progress, places him on higher ground than any he has yet occupied. We have seen him one of the most active and conspicuous politicians in his native State; we are now to consider him as the acknowledged rival in influence and renown, of the most celebrated of her sons—De Witt Clinton. In 1817, that gentleman was nominated by the republican convention as a candidate to succeed Gov. Tompkins, who had been chosen Vice President of the United States. Mr. Van Buren was in the minority in the convention, though in accordance with the usages and feelings appropriate to such occasions, he acquiesced in the result. Mr. Clinton was subsequently elected, almost without opposition, but—whether with or without cause, we stop not to inquire—gave little satisfaction to the democracy of the State. A division of the party soon after took place: the great mass, with Mr. Van Buren in their numbers, opposed his re-election, and from this time until the death of the former, they stood at the head of the great political parties of New York.

In 1816, Mr. Van Buren was re-elected to the Senate, and remained in that body until 1820, when his term of service expired. From the commencement to the close of his legislative career, he was found among the supporters of every measure connected with the great interests of the State. In April, 1816, the assembly passed a bill providing for the immediate construction of a portion of each canal, and authorizing loans to the amount of two millions of dollars. The surveys and other data on which this bill was passed, were exceedingly scanty, and, as afterwards ascertained, most imperfect and erroneous. When the Senate received the bill from the Assembly, there were but two days of the session remaining. Not deeming it expedient, upon the information then possessed, to pass a bill of so much importance, when so little time was afforded for examination and reflection, the Senate, on motion of Mr. Van Buren, expunged so much of the bill as authorized the borrowing of money, and the immediate commencement of the canals; and limited the duty of the commissioners to the procuring of accurate surveys and additional information. The wisdom of this course was fully demonstrated at the ensuing session, when the new report furnished a body of authentic information, which enabled the friends of the canal policy to carry through both branches of the legislature, the memorable act of 1817, which directed the commencement of the work. This bill was strenuously opposed in the Senate, and probably owed its passage through that body to the active support of Mr. Van Buren, who delivered an able and eloquent speech in its favor, at the very crisis of its fate. On all subsequent occasions, he was among the most efficient and decided advocates of the system.

Mr. Van Buren at the commencement of this era, was Attorney General of the State; but the Council of Appointment, at whose pleasure the office was held, was devoted to Mr. Clinton. This, however, did not prevent him from pursuing with frankness and decision the course which his judgment had prescribed; though he was aware the loss of office would inevitably follow. He was accordingly removed in July, 1819. Opposition to Mr. Clinton was the only cause assigned for this measure, which was to Mr. Van Buren, one of the most fortunate events in his public life. It commanded him more than ever to the confidence and affections of the republican party, who remembered his uniform adherence to their cause, and above all, his vigorous support of the government, at the most gloomy period of the war. It also largely contributed to the peculiar result of the election in 1820, when the opponents of Gov. Clinton, though they failed in preventing his re-election, carried both branches of the legislature. A restoration to the office of Attorney General was tendered to Mr. Van Buren, by his political friends; but being declined, he was appointed, in February, 1821, a Senator in the Congress of the United States, and took his seat in December, 1821. In 1827, he was re-elected to the same station.

The same superiority which marked his political career in his own State, attended him at Washington. He took a leading part in the presidential election of 1824, and the canvass which preceded it. Believing the election of Mr. Crawford more likely, at that period, to bring back the government to the Jeffersonian policy, than that of any of his competitors, he gave that gentleman his vigorous support. His perseverance under the most adverse circumstances, in the support of that upright and persecuted statesman, is well known, as is also the overwhelming defeat, both in his own State, and in the Union, which terminated the contest.

That catastrophe, his enemies—ignorant or forgetful of the recuperative power of talents and integrity—vainly imagined they saw the downfall, if not the end of Mr. Van Buren's influence, reputation and success: but before another year had elapsed, he occupied a position more elevated than ever. The first step towards that position, was the wise determination to take no part in the decision by the House of Representatives—a resolution adopted by the friends of Mr. Crawford, with the double motive of retaining their usefulness after the contest should be decided, and of preserving themselves from the charge of coalescing with their opponents. After the election, Mr. Van Buren advised his friends at home to abstain from all acts of hostility towards Mr. Adams; to give him a fair trial and to judge of his administration by his acts. His course in the Senate was governed by the same principles, and it was not until the great question of the Panama Mission, that he found occasion to depart from it. His opposition to that measure; the interesting considerations connected with it, and the judgment which the people have pronounced on the conduct of those who supported it, is well known. It was after taking this stand, an act which drew upon him the marked hostility of the cabinet, and the open denunciation of their supporters, that he was re-elected to the Senate, by the legislature of New York.

With the electors of President and Vice President for the State of New York, a governor of the State was also to be chosen, to succeed the distinguished and lamented Clinton. Yielding to the pressing demand of the republicans of New York, Mr. Van Buren consented to become a candidate, and was subsequently elected. He entered on the duties of this high trust on the first of January, 1829, and on the 6th transmitted to the legislature the annual Message—a document equally creditable to the State and its author. Headmastered the government until the 12th of March following, when he resigned, in consequence of his appointment as Secretary of State, of the United States. Of the ability and uprightness with which he discharged the duties of the Executive Department, there is high and honorable proof.

Hopeful Youth; or Sunday Evening Exercises.—Misfortunes never come single; on Monday morning we are sure to have a collection of criminals of similar color, country, or profession, or offences, brought up; at one time a batch of bakers, at another a batch of blacks, or a batch of boxers, or a batch of boys.

Example 1.—John Miller, John Cashan, John Ryan, and Thomas Cooke—all under twenty-one, and over eighteen years of age—were complained against by Constable Glover, of the Derne st. Watch, as dangerous and disorderly persons, and never since the establishment of the Court, was any charge more absolutely substantiated.—About ten o'clock, all four of these promising young chickens, entered, without knocking, the house of Charles Sackett, the "Indian Doctor," in Myrtle street, and represented themselves to be sailors, which they are not. After they had taken possession of one room, and frightened away a lady, they demanded liquor of the Doctor, who assured them he did not deal in the article, but at the same time offered to give them medicine in any quantity. They, however, declined taken any of his pills, potions, or herbs; but insisted upon the vital, and would not stand by his bolusing nonsense. Not knowing any other way to get rid of his obstreperous guests, than by yielding to their insolent demands, he gave them some spirit. It is somewhat singular that it did not occur to the skillful Doctor to infuse some subtle ingredient into the liquor, which would have warped and twisted their peristaltic canals a few—treated them, as it were, to a feeling and touching specimen of the spasmodic—in short, smuggled a young Asiatic Pestilence into their preciousregions abdominal. Instead of doing so, good honest creature, he gave them bona fide grog of the best brand—the effects of which, so far from soothng them, rendered them more outrageous than ever, and they all became vociferous in their inquiries for girls. One of them actually got into a bed. After they had satisfied themselves by searching—for they would not take No for an answer—that there were no available candidates in the house, they went down the back stairs, into the yard, and broke open the two next houses. After knocking down one man, they left the premises, and created so much noise in the street as to raise an alarm of fire, and cause the dragging out of a neighboring engine. Watchman in Hersey, hearing the noise, ran to the scene, and in going down Belknap street, met Miller running up, suspecting him to be one of the rioters, he made a dive into him, but Miller, in attempting to avoid being driven upon, floundered and fell; Mr. Hersey then very kindly lifted him up, thinking he might have hurt himself by stumbling. Miller was quite desirous of relieving Mr. Hersey of any further attentions—however benevolent they might be—in the premises; but he pressed his services upon him with a perseverance and importunity that was quite officious—or official. In the mean time, Cashan came sputtering up, and claiming Miller as his friend, demanded in the name of all that was terrific, who knocked his dear friend down, and threatened to drill eyelet holes in the carcass of him who did the deed—accompanying the flourishes of his indignation with the flourishes of the bare blade of a two-penny-ha'penny sword-cane. Hersey then arrested both him and his toasting-fork, as well as Miller. Ryan and Cooke were taken to the watch-house by some firemen. Committed for want of bonds to keep the peace.

Desecration of a Harem.—On Tuesday night, the attention of the Watch was called to an old wooden building, in Market Place, near Boylston streets. It had been for months the rendezvous of the outcasts of society, male and female. State-Prison Birds and House-of-Correctionists ever found a welcome, secure and appropriate home there, and a suitable depository for the storage and division of their spoils. It was in fact the Thieves Exchange. The ostensible head of the establishment was Timothy Loker, who received his degree of S. P. C. in the Municipal Court, three years ago. He maintained a certain degree of dignity and state, and kept a seraglio of unique specimens of female beauty: there was Sarah Cummings and Catharine Nelson; Margaret Roach and Elizabeth Overy; Betsy Roach and Mary Brown, who all acknowledged him as their liege lord and protector, for the time being. The last lady, Mrs. Brown, filling the responsible office of duenna in the interior apartments, and being rather too much dilapidated to toddle to jail, was left as a keeper in the premises, while Loker and the other five ladies were taken into custody. There was but one bed in the house, and the only cooking utensil was a tin teakettle, which was half filled with rum. When the officers entered, the floor of the lower room was completely flooded with rum. Veteran Reid declared, that he "knew them all, and every leg of 'em would drink like ducks." Another witness had seen rum carried into the house in mugs, pitchers and pails, out of which he had seen the women drink; and, when they had taken so much that they could not stand, they would lie round on the floor, in true Turkish style, while Loker carried round the pail for them to drink from as they lay sprawling. One night, through drunken negligence, they set the house on fire, and came very near being consumed in the flames. The ages of the women ranged from seventeen to seventy. The youngest was Betsy Roach, who wore a brazen satin bonnet, of the latest fashion, and trimmed with green ribbon and flowers. Of stockings, also she wore a pair, but not mates; likewise a shoe she had on her right foot, and on her left a pump—the former out the toe, the latter down to heel. She shed tears freely—not on her own account, she declared, but her mother's. What filial affections in "shreds and patches." The mother, too, was touched by her daughter's lachrymosity, and tried hard to shed a tear; but the briny secretions had long since dried and scorched up by constant inhalations of alcohol. Catharine Nelson was the oldest, and professed to be shockingly scandalized by the charge preferred against her. Her eyelids were red and inflamed, and looked like nothing so much as the crimsoned pouting lips of a wax-work beauty, hue, by weeping at the wickedness that surrounded her, she replied, that she "could never have believed there was so much sin in the world, if she hadn't witnessed it." United in crime, the group were not divided in punishment, but all six sent to the house of correction for six months.

GREATER HARRISON MEETING IN INDIANAPOLIS.—The following communication was handed us by an old tried Democrat from the country, with a request to publish it—We do so, trusting that the anti-caucus men who are interested in this matter will correct him, if he is in error. Although he is one of the "bone and sinew," we think him well informed in arithmetic to count twenty:

Ind. Democrat.

MESSRS. EDITORS. Having strolled into town last Saturday, (it being a leisure day with us bone and sinew men,) and hearing that the *availables* were drumming together their forces to hear the victories of the "Hero of the North Bend" set forth in their best possible manner, I happened to catch a glimpse of their glory, and to hear some of their promised speeches; but instead of finding a crowded house as I expected, I could count but twenty-one real availables, among whom were a certain Reverend gentleman who appeared to officiate as chairman, his Excellency, a Tavern-keeper, two Constables, two disappointed candidates for the office of Constable, and a few Merchants and Merchants' Clerks. Where think you we are in legislation, nor yet become their representatives by marrying them. English paper.

The numbers of our Correspondent H., on the subject of Internal Improvement, are awakening public attention, and so far as the papers in our state are concerned, there appears to be but one opinion on the propriety of the most spirited efforts, on the part of our State Legislature. The election appears to have recently turned on this question, in Franklin county, in the canvass for State Senator—and the result has proven, that there are two to one in favor of internal improvement in that quarter of the State. The editor of the Connerville Watchman who gives us credit for our boldness on this subject, by his quotation from our proposals to increase the circulation of the Democrat, may rest assured, that although we nail our colors to the mast, in defence of Democracy and her candidates; yet Indiana and her interests stand foremost in our affections—and her works of internal improvement should be prosecuted, at every hazard. We wish no cowards in the ranks—we go for ten millions of dollars, if necessary; and we give the editor of the Watchman the right hand of fellowship, in our defence of State interests; allowing him the privilege, occasionally, of using his political "Grid-Iron." We are rejoiced to find our fellow citizens interested in the great Western road from Louisville to St. Louis passing through our State, alive to the subject. The late highly respectable assemblage of Delegates at Paoli shows that the people are beginning to understand their rights; and the delegation in the State Legislature, from the counties interested in this important work will be properly instructed. Ind. Democrat.

Building by Contract. A correspondent of the New York Daily Advertiser, writing from Lowell, gives the following amusing manufacturing story:

N. E. Far.

"One of the most amusing stories I have heard about manufacturing in this manufacturing region, relates to the fabrication of buildings of the largest class. A contract was made with a builder in one of the interior towns of Massachusetts, to build a country-meeting house by a certain day. The time approached within a few weeks, and not a stick of timber was upon the ground. The cellar was dug, and the foundation indeed laid, but it seemed from all appearances that the contractor had given up all intention of performing his agreement. A lawyer was consulted concerning the proper manner to proceed for damages; but, after some time longer delay, and I believe within two or three weeks of the time, a long train of carts and wagons entered the town, with all parts of the meeting-house exactly prepared, fitted, and marked, fresh from the mills, where the contractor made his meeting-house by the job. Once on the ground, and a sufficient number of hands attending, the frame was raised in the twinkling of an eye, the pews, pulpit, galleries, &c. were knocked together, the building was boarded, floored, shingled, glazed, and painted without delay, every thing scrupulously performed to the strict letter of the contract, up to the lightning-rod, ball, and weather-cock, and the key delivered over to the building committee some days before the stipulated time.

From the Somerset (O.) Post.

STAND AGHAST! YE LITTLE ONES!!

Perry against the World.

Among the potatoes raised by Mr. Samuel Read of this vicinity, was one weighing 51 lbs. and hundreds of others weighing 3 lbs. and there abouts.

Dr. Griggs, has handed us the following specimen of the productions of part of his farm:—

2500 bushels of potatoes from six acres—20 of the largest measuring one bushel.

10 large Red Turnip Beets weighing 874 lbs. the largest weighing 124 pounds.

One Cabbage head when trimmed for crout weighing 154 lbs.

SALT IN WHEAT. The following extract from an article in the New York Farmer of 1831, by one of the correspondents of that paper, will show the necessity of guarding carefully against every means by which seed wheat can become infected with this disease. Results similar to this are frequently witnessed.

"A neighbor of mine, having purchased some very excellent seed wheat, the same was delivered in the farmer's bags of whom he had bought the wheat with a promise that he, the purchaser, would return the bags immediately after the grain was sown or deposited in the drill. My neighbor complied with this request, and having drilled about half the quantity, from those bags in which he had received the wheat, he took opportunity on the following day, which day had been very wet and unfavorable for drilling the remainder, to empty those bags, in order that they might be returned. Thus was this excellent, clean, and till then unadulterated seed wheat, put into his (the purchaser's) own bags, which before had contained some very foul and diseased smutty wheat, as he, together with his farm servants, acknowledged the fact. On the third day the remainder of the wheat was drilled on the same soil, and in the same field, but not from the clean bags of the seller of the seed wheat.

"Now, mark the result at harvest—The clean seed wheat, which had been emptied into the farmer's own filthy, smutty, bags, produced about one twentieth part of smutty ears; whereas, from the first day's drilling, not a single ear of smutty wheat could be found."

A GOOD JOKE.—A correspondent at Charlestown informs us of an amusing occurrence, which took place in that town on Saturday. A mechanic had been employed by a sportsman to make him some *decoy ducks*; which when finished, were placed on the top of a three story building in the rear of Main-street, for the purpose of drying the paint. Very early in the morning a citizen discovered them through the fog, and supposing them to be genuine, resolved to have some of them for his dinner. He accordingly borrowed a gun, which he loaded very heavily, and having stationed a friend near by, on the ground, with a musket ready cocked, to bring down such as escaped on the wing, he went up through the scuttle of an adjoining house, and fired in the midst of them. He was thunderstruck to find that none of them moved, and had about made up his mind that he had killed them all so dead that they could not even flap their wings, when a loud and hearty laugh from the by-standers, who had collected to witness and enjoy the joke, informed him that he had made a slight mistake.

CHARLESTOWN, Ia., Nov. 5.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—We are informed that on Saturday last, a little girl, the daughter of Mr. David Dennington, of this county, by incautiously coming too near to the fire, had her clothes ignited, and before necessary assistance could be afforded she was so severely burnt that she died the next morning.

PRESENTMENTS.—"Does not that bell tolling," observed his companion to Coll. —, on hearing a funeral knell, put you in mind of your latter end? No, but the rope puts me in mind of yours.

The Harrisburg Chronicle of Monday contains the full returns of the last election for governor of Pennsylvania—all of which except two counties are official. The whole number of votes given to Ritner was 92,695; to Wolf 63,965, and to Mullen 29,738.

The votes on the question of a Convention for a reform of the State Constitution are in favor of that measure by a majority of about 10,000.

—The Rochester (anti) Democrat says of Pennsylvania, "It will be time for us to hurrah when we are clear out of the woods." We honor your opinion. You will, however, get out, in 1836, though not very much inclined to hurrah; plucked clean enough.

Buffalo Rep.

A wine merchant died recently in London, exhibiting all the pangs incidental to the life of a villain. It appears that he had risen from a state of poverty to opulence and wealth; and he confessed with his last dying breath, that his wealth was obtained by purchasing sour wines and mixing a poisonous ingredient with it, which brought it back to its original taste. His customers died off one after another, yet he persisted in his hellish purposes until within a few weeks of his death.

The Bangor Advertiser tells a good story of a Yankee who had been refused a dinner at one of the down east taverns, until he had shown the landlord his *pecker*. Boniface, then did his best, and at the sound of the bell in walked the Yankee, and taking a general survey of the table, turned to his host and said, "Mister, you've seen my money, and I've seen your dinner—good afternoon."

TENDER AND LACONIC CORRESPONDENCE.—A certain gentleman, by mere chance, strolled into a coffee-house, where he met with a captain of his acquaintance on the point of sailing for Europe, and from whom he received an invitation to accompany him. This he accepted, taking care to inform his wife of it, which he did in these terms:

"Dear wife—I am going to Europe.
Yours truly.
Her answer was not at all inferior either in laconism or tenderness:

"Dear Husband—A pleasant voyage.
Yours affectionately.
June 27, 1835.
GOEANICE."

GENUINE WIT.—The following anecdote may be relied on as a fact:

A gentleman from Southampton passing along a street in Baltimore, came face to face with a negro man whom he well knew, and who had been for several years a runaway from one of his neighbors.

"Ah! Mingo," said Mr. —, "is that you?"

To which Mingo promptly replied, "No massa, dis aint me," and brushed past his old acquaintance in great haste.

Norfolk Beacon.

REMEMBERING A TEXT.—I had a negro, as blundering a rascal as I ever laid eyes on. His skull was as thick as a millstone, and about as senseless. I sent him to church always, and requested the text of him, that I might be sure he had been there; yet never a word could he remember. One Sunday, however, we had for our text—you know the verse—something like this—"Let not the strong man glory in his strength, nor the rich man in his riches." Jake came to me in great glee when church was over. "O, master," said he, "I remember now." "Well, what was it, Jake?" "O, master, it was—"Let not the poor man glory in his strength, nor the rich man in his wristband." I never asked the rascal again.

Galaxy.

EDITORIAL PHILOSOPHY.—At a recent election at Nashville, Mr. William Nichol was elected mayor of that place, to the exclusion of Wm. Hasell Hunt, Esq., the Editor of the Banner. Mr. Hunt conveys with his supporters in the following Card:

W. Hasell Hunt returns his sincere thanks to the ninety-nine friends who voted for him at the recent city election: he hears his friends give many plausible and probable reasons for his unexpected defeat, but as enumerating them might possibly give pain to some, and it is his rule 'never to cry over spilled milk,' he thinks it best at present to give but one reason, and that is—he did not get a sufficient number of votes to elect him! which he thinks sufficiently conclusive."

SLAVES IN THE WEST INDIES. The British Register states that the whole number of slaves in the West Indies, is 780,998; their aggregate value \$225,000,000. The appropriation made by Parliament to pay for their liberation, is something less than \$100,000,000.

Fruits of northern abolitionism. The Courier and Enquirer of the 5th inst., contains the following:

Extract of a letter from Forsyth, Geo., 15th Oct. 1835.

"We had an insurrection in this county last week. The negroes rose against the whites, with the intention to kill all the men and aged women, and take the young women as wives. Fortunately their intentions were discovered in time. About 100 negroes have been arrested, and will be tried today in this town. It is supposed that many of them will be executed."

LOVE TO ENEMIES.—It will not be denied by any one, that christianity requires