

WEEKLY POLITICAL BEACON.

JOHN P. DUNN, Editor.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

FOR GOVERNOR

JAMES WHITCOMB,

OF VIGO.

FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

JESSE D. BRIGHT,

OF JEFFERSON.

LAWRENCEBURGH:

FRIDAY, : : : MARCH 3, 1843.

THE CHANGE.—It will be discovered that the proprietorship of this establishment has changed. In future the Beacon will be conducted by the undersigned. We do not consider it important that we should go through with the usual formula on such occasions. We have but to announce the fact of the change, and that the paper will be found advocating the true Jeffersonian democratic doctrine, as we understand them. Our course shall be characterized by decision and forbearance—always affording our friends a fair proportion of our space, when applied for, so long as we shall have no opposition in our line of business. It is our province to exercise a censorship over the acts and writings of public men—this we shall not forego. Our opinion, we claim the right to express upon all questions in issue before the public, being ever responsible for an abuse of the immunity.

We thus go before the public, asking only to be patronized commensurate with the merit of our labors.

JOHN P. DUNN,
SQUIRE WATTS.

An election for township officers will be held at this place on Monday next. Three constables to elect.

CANDIDATES.—The time is approximating when candidates begin to think of presenting themselves for the suffrages of the "dear people." No candidate can have his name announced in the Beacon without first tendering a fee of one dollar. We have opened a department exclusively for these "people lovers."

OHIO.—On the 25th ult., the Senate passed a bill incorporating the Bank of Dayton by a vote of 20 to 15.

The Cincinnati Gazette of the 1st inst. quotes Illinois has passed a resolution against receiving her distributive share of the surplus revenue, under the bill dividing the proceeds of the land sales among the States.

To the Mechanics of our city.—In looking over the advertising columns of the Beacon we were led to enquire of our journeymen whether there was any shoemakers, blacksmiths, wagon-makers, or cabinet makers in our city. Not an advertisement greeted our columns of any of these mechanical branches of business. This is wrong. Their motto ought to be—support one another. Send in your advertisements—don't be backward.

There has been an unprofitable controversy going on in our ranks for some weeks through the medium of the two papers of this county. It is seriously hoped that it has terminated. Every democrat in this county and congressional district should save his ammunition for the battle that must come off between the two great parties. It is necessary that the artillery be pointed at the enemy and not to the centre of our own camp.

We feel entirely confident, that though the contest has waxed warm, it was the result of envious jealousy between certain individuals, and the misconstruction of action and conversations.

Let there be one effort at reconciliation on the part of disinterested democrats, and that well directed. This will do the work effectually. As we are now situated, wrangling and contending one with another, we as a party, are made a laughing stock and the sport of our whig friends and neighbors—they glory in our shame. Not that they are more fond of contention, strife and pique than the democrats; but they feel that our loss, politically, is their gain.

That we may be understood on this head, we once for all say, this press will be closed against all personal controversy in future.

The Wahash Express suggests a new idea, in the way of liquidating the debt of our State due in Europe. And it is not a bad one. It is, that foreign ports shall be thrown open for our produce, when we will throw into them a stipulated amount annually until the debt is discharged. And if they won't do this, the Editor says let us wait until we are able to meet the debt in coin. We second the motion—slung.

In looking over the Cincinnati Gazette, a week or two ago, we observed an estimate of the number of hogs slaughtered in the Queen city, and neighboring towns, in which no mention was made of our place. We would ask the Cincinnati Gazette, if what was slaughtered here are included in the 233,000 head claimed for Cincinnati? There certainly was a number killed here this winter, say 20,000 head, which ought to be counted to some place. There appears to be a studied silence by all the neighboring papers in regard to our city and its business.

Now we do not wish to boast of our city or its business, but we believe that we have, within the last season, manufactured more flour and whiskey than the Queen city itself; and if the editor of the Gazette will look over his New York and Boston papers, he will observe that the "Miami Mills" flour sells higher, and is known better than any city mills. We hope the Gazette will make the amendment honorable for this neglect.

The 27th Congress adjourns to-day. After a very boisterous session of three months, without bringing any momentous question to an issue at all calculated to advance the interests of the country, the members will return to their constituents, with whom many of them will never be able to make fair weather.

OUR CITY AND ITS BUSINESS.—We observed a large quantity of merchandise landing the other day for one of our heaviest houses, preparatory to this season's operations. We have no doubt there are bargains to be had by calling. When they send in their advertisements we will be able to speak with more certainty. We would say to our merchants, if you want the people to know where bargains are to be had, advertise in the "BEACON."

W. FORWARD, Secretary of the Treasury sent in his resignation to President Tyler on the 22d February, to take effect on the 1st March inst. Mr. Secretary Spencer it is said is to succeed Mr. Forward. And rumor has it, that James M. Porter, of Pa., is Mr. Tyler's choice to succeed Mr. Spencer in the War Department.

The Hon. JOHNSON WATTS.—We have given this gentleman's circular letter to his constituents in our paper to-day. The people will read, and pass upon it in due time. But from the allusion he makes to the tented field, and other pretty things in the letter, we infer that he would not decline a nomination for Congress at the hands of a whig district convention.

The gentleman very magnanimously tells his constituents, that his term of office has expired, and he returns the power delegated to the people who conferred it. *Quere.* Had he any power to return? By his own showing he had not.

GEORGE P. BUELL Esq.—The following note manifests the right spirit. Mr. Buell's name is before the voters of this District as a candidate for Congress. He shows a willingness to withdraw it, if necessary to perpetuate harmony in the ranks of the party. We presume a convention will be held and a nomination made. If Mr. Buell shall be thought most available, as a democrat, he cannot consistently decline a nomination. Before the meeting of the convention we shall not express a preference between individuals—we shall make no invidious distinction, by attempting to forestall the action of the delegates. We regard such a course as reprehensible—unjust to individuals, and in all respects prejudicial to the interest of the democratic party.

To the Editor of the Beacon: I observe in the last Register a proposition to unite by general consent, on Thomas Smith as the democratic candidate for Congress. And so far as I am individually concerned, in order to do away the necessity of calling a District Convention, I hereby ask of my friends the privilege of withdrawing my name from the list of individuals spoken of as candidates.

Yours, GEORGE P. BUELL.

ANOTHER FEATURE.—By the paper from New Jersey, we learn that a large meeting was recently held at Trenton, which nominated Mr. TYLER for the Presidency. The Tyler organ of Cincinnati, the Republican, says "it was a democratic movement." This we incline to question, although democrats doubtless attended and participated in the business of the meeting. It may, however, have been a spontaneous movement of the mass.

The resolutions, in part, are of the true democratic stripe. One declares against an assumption of the State Debts—one

against a distribution of the proceeds of the land sales, so long as the funds are required by the national treasury for purposes of revenue—one condemns Mr. Clay's notions of the veto power—one favors the refunding to Gen. Jackson the fine imposed by Judge Hall, and others read as follows:

Resolved, That we regard Thomas Jefferson the great apostle of liberty, and adopt his political creed in its broadest sense. That we are most happy to receive the assurance of President Tyler "of his firm resolve to administer this government so long as he remains in the executive chair upon the principle advanced by him, the great father of the republican school, and his political instructor;" and that we regard his official conduct as a guarantee of the sincerity of that assurance.

Resolved, That we regard the harmony and good feeling which prevail in the democratic party in reference to the Presidential canvass, and the willingness manifested by every candidate opposed to the whigs to submit his claims to a Democratic National Convention, and abide its decisions, as a sure sign of our triumphant victory.

Resolved, That whatever candidate may obtain the nomination of that national convention, he shall receive our cordial, united and unflinching support; and we will use all honorable means to secure his election.

The editor of the Courier, New Castle, says that the Whigs of the "fifth" district are about to hold a convention to nominate a candidate for Congress, and that "Messrs. Cravens, Gregg, Matson, Dunn, Hackleman and others are spoken of as candidates."

Is he not a sensible fellow? Neither of the individuals named reside in the fifth district, and one of them is a thorough-going democrat.

The same editor talks of "reviewing" Mr. Whitcomb's address to the people of Indiana, and styles it all "shamblegery" and Mr. Whitcomb an "aristocrat." The "aristocrat" may be looked for as soon as neighbor Gibbs can possibly find leisure to attend to it. Would it not be good policy for the democrats to give Mr. Gibbs a little back money? It would be to bait him, that address "scattered, hatched, riddled and perforated."

In regard to the proposition of the whigs, to assume the State debts by the General Government, but one course should be adopted by the democracy of this State—namely, to ignore it. Let us shut our eyes on the approach of this monster with "seven heads and ten horns," and permit him to stalk forth at noon-day, unmolested. But every one should be ready to grapple with, and beat him back to his cavern.

The petition sent out by whig members of Congress should be shunned as a pestilence, and scouted from public places, and its authors held up to the public gaze, for the finger of scorn to point at, while they drag out their existence here on earth.

This proposition of the whigs, reminds us of that of his *Satanic Majesty*, (related by Matthew,) when he took the Saviour up into a high mountain and showed him the kingdoms of the world, and the glory thereof, saying, these things will I give thee if thou wilt fall down and worship me. The truth was, the old second-hand did not own one foot of the possessions he offered to bestow as a reward for the treason he sought to induce.

Just so with the whig party, they have no power to bestow the proffered bounty upon the States. Let them not thus tempt the people, lest they receive the rebuke—"get thee hence Satan."

The Queen of the West lies sunk to her guards, on a bar opposite Shawneetown. The accident occurred by running her against some part of the machinery of the steamer Winchester, lying sunk at Shawneetown. The Queen is considerably damaged, and it is thought she cannot be raised. So says the Republican.

The editor of the Rushville Whig, by the way a gentleman whom we have ever respected, (excepting always his politics,) thinks he has demolished our citadel and left us at the sport and mercy of the enemy. He has discovered that we misplaced Mr. Whitcomb's constituency in 1836. Truly this is a very material matter. Suppose we had left out "the people of Vigo" in writing our article? It then would have read "Mr. W. constituents specially instructed him to vote for the bill." The fact that Mr. W. now resides in Vigo, led us into the error. So much for that. But our neighbor has found out that Mr. Palmer held an office under the improvement law. We did not say that no democrat held office under it. We said only, that in the dispensation of the offices created under the improvement bill, the whig family almost invariably were the

beneficiaries. For can Mr. Hackleman, who says he has a file of the "Beacon" acquire" from which he proposes to quote in future. We hope he will not forget to do it—fairly. He is referred to an article in the Beacon of last week as we have not leisure to attend to him now.

This district is whig by at least a thousand of a majority, if the people can be induced to go to the polls and cast their votes in favor of their real principles—Rushville Whig.

That is, if the people could be induced to believe that whig principles are compatible with the interests of the country, then this would be a whig district by a thousand majority. You are about half right Mr. Hackleman. But that if is in the way, and eternally will be in this district. The people cannot be induced to swallow shillery. The national bank and the two hundred million national debt would stick in their craw, and they know it.

The editor of the Rushville Whig says: "All the districts will be whig" when the people come to understand the policy of the two parties."

If they wait for that understanding doom's day will overtake them. The policy of the democratic party has been well defined and understood from the foundation of the government up; but that of the opposite party by whatever cognomen it may have been recognized, has been so fluctuating that none, save a few of the tacticians, have been able to understand it. Every new moon finds a different feature to the whig policy. The only enduring principle to which that party can lay just claim is opposition to equal rights—the grand substratum of our boasted institutions.

The Whig should be chary of its admissions about the democratic majority in this district. Some of his political brethren hereabouts rather claim a majority now. We don't believe it though.

Some of our whig cotemporaries of the press seem rather *tardy* in consequence of our having speculated with regard to the probable candidates for Congress. We really meant no harm gentlemen. It was our privilege however, to say to our readers, that certain individuals had been named in connection with the station. We disclaim any desire or intention to interfere in the selection of a whig nominee. The worst we have said, was, that we believed either Mr. Easton, Mr. Gregg, or Mr. Watts would be the candidate. We have not changed our opinion yet. This is not choosing for the whigs—and is not a recommendation of the republican trust.

We have but little choice between the whole of the baker's dozen of whig exponents. If we were to select in view of qualifications our choice would fall on Mr. Gregg—but if we would merely look to the weaker man, another would be named. The matter of designation is with our whig friends, and there we leave it.

RISE SUN SEMINARY.—We cheerfully give place to the subjoined communication. The institution of which it speaks is in good standing, and under the supervision of competent and experienced gentlemen.

RISE SUN SEMINARY.—The examination of the students of this institution was closed on Friday, the 24th ult. The highly satisfactory manner in which the students acquitted themselves, reflects credit on the superintendent, Rev. C. McKenney and Mr. W. H. Moore, the assistant. Both of these gentlemen are graduates of Oxford University, and have had experience in training the youthful mind for parents could not entrust their children with more meritorious and trust-worthy persons.

The hardness of the monetary affairs of our country, has doubtless kept many students from entering it, that, in ordinary times, would, and necessarily deprive the superintendent from that reward, that such distinguished and persevering talents generally command; but yet we hope, he sees a bright opening in the dark prospect. It is a thing to be lamented that so many naturally bright youths are growing up in our town and immediate vicinity, whilst they refrain from enjoying the many advantages proposed by this invaluable institution. She is not ephemeral—she commenced 15 years ago and like men in business, her ways have not, all the time, been strewn with flowers; although the founders' wishes have been more than fully realized, when we come to consider the difficulties under which she has labored. Many can now attest, after taking their stands in the world, the beneficial effects received from her.

Rising Sun is admirably situated for an institution of learning. The healthy and eligible location of the town, backed by a fine country are important considerations in sustaining a literary institution.

The exercises have been suspended for two weeks, at the expiration of which time the duties will be resumed, when we hope those who design attending will commence with the session.

Those that come from a distance, can be accommodated with good boarding, at a low rate, in the vicinity of the Seminary, or in the family of the superintendent.

A PATRON.

For the Beacon.

Messrs. Editors: In the last Register I discover a publication proposing that the Hon. Thomas Smith, of Ripley co., should be nominated by acclamation, and without the intervention of a district convention. The writer expresses the opinion that a convention would be detrimental to the cause of democracy. In this I cannot agree with him. It is well understood, that by meeting in consultation, the people may better understand each other, and agree upon a mode of operations that would more likely prove successful than in any other way. If Col. Smith is thought to be the most available of the individuals spoken of, he will doubtless be the nominee. Another good effect would follow the convention. It will unite the party throughout the district upon the candidate thus selected.

I do not recognize the claims of any individual, to any office. All the offices belong to the people, and they may confer them upon whom they see fit. I would not be understood as making the slightest objection to Col. Smith, and would be entirely satisfied to see him put in nomination by a convention.

But other names are before the public, and each gentleman is looking forward to a convention to decide between him and others. Let that mode heretofore practiced be now acted upon, and if thought advisable when the convention assembles, let a resolution be adopted doing away the system in the district. To this no one would object. I have as little confidence in conventions as the gentleman who writes for the Register, owing to the manner in which they have recently been conducted. But I do think this district should persevere now, that the work has been entered upon.

I have nothing to say regarding the *jeers* of the writer, about "little green men"—nor yet of his reflections upon the character of the delegates usually selected, who he says may be "thought with the promise of a drink of grog." &c. &c. No one of his right abuse of the individuals in office. This I leave to him and those he classically denominated "No way nuts."

ANOTHER VOTER.

CONGRESS.

Feb. 21.—The Senate passed the bill to amend the "Act" by a vote of 24 to 18. YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Bigsby, Benton, Calhoun, Calhoun, Eaton, Gales, Henderson, Kump, Linn, McDuffie, McRoberts, Rivers, Sevier, Mangum, Smith of Conn., Smith of Indiana, Sprague, Strong, Tallmadge, Tappan, Walker, Wilcox, Williams.

NAVY.—Messrs. Archer, Barrow, Bayard, Benton, Claiborne, Clayton, Conrad, Crafts, Crittenden, Dayton, Evans, Huntington, Kerr, Merrick, Miller, Morehead, Phelps, White and Woodbridge—20.

The Globe says, the bill as now passed, is in our opinion, more decisive in its reflection on the Judge, than that of the last session. His identity, according to the present philosophy, is given to restore what was taken from the General (for an alleged contempt) leaving to inference direct that the allegation was not sustained, and the restoration of the penalty is the consequence.

The Assumption subject was laid on the table on the 22d, by a vote of 24 to 18—Cin. Era.

CONGRESS, FEB. 17.—A very interesting debate in the Senate upon the bill to refund Gen. Jackson's fine sprang up, but before final action could be had upon it there was an adjournment.

In the House, the Assumption of State debts was discussed till the expiration of the morning hour. The Appropriation Bill then came up, and the amendment of the Senate appropriating \$109,000 for the improvement of the Ohio, Missouri, Mississippi, and Arkansas, was concurred in—Yeas 105.

CONGRESS.—This body, we think the wise framers of our Constitution, will be compelled by the limits of law to dissolve on the 4th of March next, just nine days from the present writing, during which time, we think we can congratulate the country that the "intellectual imbecility" and utter worthlessness of the majority will prevent them from doing much mischief as they go from affecting any good. Such a majority never disgraced those halls before, and never will again till the orgies of coonery again become the nightly influence with the people.—Id.

INDIANA.—We find, from a perusal of an address lately put forth by the Democratic party in Indiana, the following facts, which may be relied on.

The Senate of that State has at all times been whig, and the House of Representatives, with but two or three exceptions. There never was but one democratic Treasurer. Only two democrats, when in office, have been Secretaries of State. The Auditor, who more than any one else regulates the scale of taxes, has always been a whig. Ditto the President of the State Bank and the Cashier. Ditto, all the fund commissioners who negotiated the State Bonds. Ditto, a majority of the State Board of Internal Improvement. Ditto, a majority of

the Directors of the Branches of the State Bank, and of the State Bank.

The author of the address, with a degree of tact that speaks well for his ingenuity, argues from these facts that the whigs, and not the democrats, are responsible for any and all the financial troubles in which the State is involved.—[Cincinnati paper.

The Somers Case—Strange facts coming out—Boys bagged as grouse.—A most singular development was made in reference to the conduct of Commander McKenzie, before the Recorder, on Wednesday, on a writ of *habeas corpus*. It will be found in another column.

On the home voyage of this celebrated craft from St. Thomas to New York, it appears in evidence, that Commander McKenzie double-crossed several naval apprentices, and had them tied up, besides, in bags or sacks, as you would shot grouse. Is this a specimen of naval discipline, or of the humanity of the Commander? The assignment of the Court and audience was unprecedented. No wonder that it was so. We beg, for heaven's sake, that the Court Martial will listen to acquit Captain McKenzie—approve his conduct, and let him have a chance of safety and peace, before it is too late. These facts of the kind will raise a storm that cannot be allayed by the theory of Professor Espy—and it may perchance lessen the McKenzie before the 21st of March, the day set down by Prophet Miller.—N. Y. Herald.

A Prince of Democracy going to Europe.—We understand that Captain Robert Tyler intends to visit England and France, during the ensuing summer.

The son of the President of the United States will be an important personage at the courts of France and England. When John Van Buren visited England, he was received at Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle, on the footing of a prince of the democratic blood, because of his lineage. John (ever since called Prince John) was a great favorite with Queen Victoria. He was so full of wit, humor and nerve, that he made her Majesty laugh so much one day, that she nearly burst her coronet. In those days, Prince Albert was in distress. Captain Robert Tyler is not exactly so witty as Prince John, but he is more full of literature, poetry, romance and philosophy. He will create a sensation in England—and puzzle Prince Albert with the philosophical points and the repeal of the Irish Union.

We beg leave to bespeak the best reception for Prince Robert at the courts of France and England—a Prince not indeed of the first democratic blood, but of a most capital mixed breed, consisting of one-fourth whig, one-fourth State right, one-fourth democracy—and one-fourth democracy.

MURDER THE MURDERER.

This case will be tried in New Jersey, the crime having been committed in Gloucester county of that State, opposite Philadelphia as the boat conveying them across the Delaware was about landing.

On reading a full account of the circumstances preceding and following this occurrence, we are of the impression that the plea of insanity will be successful in Mercer's defence. His mind was excited to frenzy before the murder, and for thirty-six hours he partook of neither food or refreshment, but watched with the vigilance and unyielding resolve of a wronged man for the object of revenge. Day and night he kept watch, and when seen just before the crime was committed, was in a state of excitement apparently little less than insanity; after the fatal deed, he was in the custody of Belton's friends, to whom he quietly yielded, he exclaimed, "Don't hurt me," said he "I'll go with you." "What," he cried, "let's have a fiddle! Now let's have a dance! but ha!" Then he in a moment became silent and staid.

Mercer is represented as but 20 years of age, "high-minded, ardent, enthusiastic, excitable, and devotedly attached to his sisters and parents." Eminent council have been retained.—Cin. Eng.

The Louisville Journal of yesterday states that the steamboat Crescent City, with a full cargo of cotton struck a snag near the lower Peach tree, in the Alabama river, on the 1st instant, and sunk. She had about 1,500 bales of cotton on board, and it is said \$27,000 in specie. The latter was saved. The cotton which floated off would be picked up by other boats, and it was expected all but that in the hold would be saved without much injury.

At the time of the accident, through the explosion of some of the pipes attached to the boilers, several persons were severely scalded. They were deck passengers and hands—one of them a child, supposed to be dangerous.—Id.

Efficacy of a short speech from one who seldom speaks.—Mr. Gustine yesterday introduced brief resolutions from the Pennsylvania Legislature, urging the re-enactment of the law of 1838, granting pensions to the widows of the officers and soldiers of the Revolution. Mr. G. after the resolutions were read, said that he was induced to "break the silence he had heretofore observed," from the character of the appeal made by his State Legislature; and after enforcing it in a few eloquent remarks, awakening the feelings of honor, philanthropy, and patriotism of those to whom he appealed, a bill was brought up, which had been previously prepared by the Committee on Pensions, and was instantly passed, by suspending the rules, and dispensing with some of the readings. This shows that "brevity is very good" on some occasions. What Mr. Gustine said, being well said, and soon said, was no sooner said than done.