



THE GAZETTE.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1831.

I give room to the communication of "Observer," only remarking that at present he and myself disagree as to the relative merits of the candidates for the office of Governor. Perhaps, however, some of the gentlemen may withdraw their names—then, probably, "Observer" and myself "may be of one mind."

A new paper has recently been established at Rockville, Ia. entitled the Wabash and Rockville Herald.

The Nashville Herald, a new paper, edited by Wilkins Tannehill, Esq. has just been received. It is ably conducted, and is well worthy the favorable notice of our citizens. It may be seen at the office of the Gazette.

The Rev. Edwin Ray, of Terre Haute has issued proposals for publishing a semi-monthly periodical to be entitled the Western Spectator—devoted to the evidences and excellencies of the Christian Religion—the necessity and utility of establishing common schools in the western states—the local advantages, the moral, religious, and literary character of the Valley of the Mississippi, and General Intelligence.

The Western Sun announces John Decker, and John F. Snapp, as candidates for the next Legislature.

The river still continues in fine order for steamboats, which are passing and repassing daily.

A small locomotive Steam Car is now exhibiting in this place. It is really worthy the attention of the curious.

Evansville, April 15th, 1831.

MR. HILL—

Having discovered that you have been kind enough to announce my name as a candidate for Congress, (at the request of some friend to me unknown) I feel it a duty which I owe to myself, and to my friends, to withdraw my name from the list of candidates. I am constrained to this course in consequence of long, and continued ill health, with but little prospect of a speedy recovery. I hope that you, as well as other Editors who have announced my name, will give this an insertion, and oblige

R. M. EVANS.

[FOR THE VINCENTS GAZETTE.]

MR. HILL—

The time approaches when our citizens will be called upon to select suitable persons to administer the Executive government of our state; and as there are many indications of a struggle for other important stations, it may now be well to "take time by the forelock" by way of consulting upon the interesting questions involved.

For Governor, and for Lt. Governor, the progressive prosperity of our state requires men of correct principles and respectable talents—men versed in the proper economy of the country, and familiar with its resources and wants. To secure and promote the aggregate happiness of the people, should be the object of government; and whatever measures have this tendency our state rulers should have political capacity to recommend and advocate. Hitherto our soil has been sparsely inhabited, but the accession of emigrants within a few years is immense.—The face of the country is rapidly improving, and in a few years hence Indiana must rival many of the older states.—With not more than one-sixth part of the land within our state boundaries yet taxable, the entire population would now count near four hundred thousand souls. To direct and manage the Executive Department of such a state, it must be evident that our Governor should have the qualities I have sketched; and as there is no scantiness of talent among us, the people should in due time weigh the qualifications and claims of the candidates.

In making a proper examination, the people will, it is hoped, keep the general good in view, and look closely into the views and principles of those they are called upon to judge. It is not enough that candidates make professions, if their past conduct does not verify them. We have a large annual increase of property and polls; and we have the cheering example of our neighbours to adopt such a course as will soon provide for our increasing products. The people will reflect before they bestow their votes at this crisis—they will look closely into motives and conduct to ascertain whether or not they vote for men anxious to enable them to benefit by their position, by improving and extending the navigation of the Wabash to Lake Erie—or whether or not candidates are and have been advocates of that indispensable undertaking. The cabals of party will have no influence with the upright; to advance

the resources and character of the state, public good alone must be kept in view.

Generals Stapp and Noble have been announced rival candidates for the gubernatorial chair—both decent men; but very different in their notions of some matters interesting to the Wabash and White river counties. Gen. Stapp is well known as our present Lt. Governor; and his honorable and independent character adorned that station. He is a firm friend of the Wabash and Erie Canal, and every other useful and practicable improvement—possessing every essential qualification to discharge the duties of Governor.

General Noble, if friendly in any degree to the particular work mentioned, is viewed as rather conditionally so. Stapp is explicit, and uniformly candid—Noble is rather anxious for his own personal advancement. In this contest I do not hesitate to prefer General Stapp, and I feel that I am solely actuated by considerations affecting the public good, which I recommend all to consult.

Mr. WALLACE, of Franklin co. and Mr. GREGORY, of Shelby co. are out for the Lt. Governor's chair, to act as President of the Senate. Mr. Wallace has been a decided and eloquent advocate of our canal measure. He is a gentleman of very respectable acquirements, correct principles, and honorable deportment—he would do honor to the station. Mr. Gregory is not unknown in this quarter of the state—his education and qualifications to discharge the duties of the station he now covets are inferior—and in addition, his legislative course has been long noted for uncertainty. He is a cunning, managing man in his way; but correctness and impartiality are essential to preside in Senate, and I cannot recommend this candidate.

From what little I have said your readers will readily discover that I prefer Gen. MILTON STAPP, for Governor, and DAVID WALLACE, for Lt. Governor. On proper enquiry I am satisfied that the friends of our great state interests will think as I do.

OBSERVER.

[FOR THE VINCENTS GAZETTE.]

I hope, Mr. Hill, you will not fail to announce in your next paper, the very important intelligence, that our "talented, and serviceable, eloquent, and patriotic" representative in Congress, Rathbun Boon, Esq. has for some days honored our town by his presence—and, "wonder of wonders," although this man has had wit enough not to trouble Congress with much more than "aye" or "no," upon matters of interest to his constituents, he talks loudly of his reelection; the most wonderful part of which is, that he is a friend to the true American system—he is a friend to internal improvement—he is a friend to western interests!! Well, I do think this people have been deceived by such clack long enough.

Another important, and may be not irrelevant fact, you should also announce. A steam carriage and rail road model is to be exhibited in this town, for 25 cents each head; and this is viewed only as one of the stratagems of the day. Such models have been exhibited elsewhere, without fee or reward; but rail roads in miniature are very important indeed to the Wabash country, just at this crisis! You and your readers will comprehend this, if the Wabash and Erie canal be duly considered. I hope the benefit and durable advantages of the canal, to our state, will not be controverted, and public obligations nullified, and public interests kept out of view, by such models. The course of Mr. Boon, on many important questions hereof, renders it very proper to ascertain his precise opinions in relation to our rivers, roads and canal. Where canals are practicable, or where materials to render a rail road permanent exist, the utility of rail roads is not questioned; but these considerations do not apply to our canal route, and the causes of preference are rendered decisive by our obligations for a canal, and that a failure to commence it will involve the state in an immense debt to the U. States, leave our country dependant, and destroy the means to accomplish either. Do, Mr. Hill, call public attention to these considerations, that we may not be disappointed hereafter.—Let it be proclaimed that Mr. Boon has visited us, just before the arrival of the rail road model—that means to accomplish our canal will be expended in our own state, and were procured for that work without cost—that the immense country watered by the Mississippi south, and the chain of lakes north, must prefer the Wabash route, if it were open to interchange commodities; and that as I will not sanction a degrading party feeling, and condemn all sectional whims, so I feel bound to let the conduct and sentiments of public servants be judged.

CONSIDERATION.

[FOR THE VINCENTS GAZETTE.]

BOROUGH AFFAIRS.

MR. EDITOR:

I observe the act prayed for by a few citizens, of the last general assembly, entitled "an act relative to the borough of Vincennes," is published in your last Gazette; and the voters of the borough are called upon to decide upon points which may, in their consequences, materially affect the peace, property and welfare of the town.

I view the 2d, 3d, 6th, 7th, and 9th sections, providing for the election of the chairman and constable of the board of trustees; giving distinct jurisdiction over the river co-extensive with the jurisdiction of the state; securing new ferries, it

necessary, to the corporation, and authorizing the borough authorities to hold real estate, for public and charitable uses, as quite subordinate points, well enough of themselves; but the existing charter confers some of them, and no immediate benefit derivable from their adoption should be made to cover any latent principles of discord and public injury, which may be found ingrained in any other sections of the act. Now look at the existing charter—the borough, as it is now governed—the streets, as they must be rendered under the existing power—the survey of lots—the act of Congress authorizing the trustees to decide upon all claims to title—and then glance at the remaining sections of the act our citizens are called to adopt or reject, and reflect upon consequences!

The first section provides for "nine assistant trustees," to form a co-ordinate branch of the corporation, with the same rights, privileges powers and duties, as the present board. Will this co-ordinate branch be more attentive than the existing board, and better informed? Will a majority of two distinct branches, each consisting of nine members, be certain to convene in a borough which has often waited for weeks to procure a majority of one? When convened, are there any latent causes to produce certain disagreements, particularly affecting rights to property, streets, surveys, &c. &c.? Can any thing but contention, and litigation, and a depreciation of town property, grow out of the local disputes of two co-ordinate authorities existing in a town so unsettled, in many respects, as ours is at this time? By the past, we can judge of the future. I hope the recollection of some past events is not obliterated; and I am willing to believe that a majority of our citizens cannot be imposed on in relation to the first section, or be induced, by any man or set of men, to jeopardize their own peace. I can no longer wonder that the state legislature increase their number, when the upright and intelligent citizens are viewed by some as insufficient to provide regulations for this borough!

The fourth section allows certain vacancies to be filled as the board may direct. I object to this. All vacancies should be filled by the direct will of the people.

The fifth section is still more objectionable, and may be made to ruin many poor and worthy citizens. It provides for judgment on motion, for the expenses of levelling, grading, draining, and paving, against proprietors of property estimated to be benefited thereby. And when a few are able and so many unable to incur such expense; this section might soon lead to sacrifices of property, not warranted by the existing state of things, and ruinous to many.

The eighth section extends the power of taxation in a manner unprecedented in borough business. Its oppressive effects would soon be obvious to every man; and those in business will not bring such oppression upon themselves.

I only give the foregoing hints to excite due enquiry and reflection; and having nothing in view but the prosperity of the town, I do not think it can be necessary to do more. The reflection and good sense of a large majority of our citizens, will, I trust, be always amply sufficient to guard against any meditated injury to their growing increase.

A CITIZEN.

ILLINOIS.

The extracts following are taken from the Circular of Gen. Joseph Duncan, representative in Congress from the State of Illinois. Want of room forbids the insertion of the whole letter. It will be perceived from the extracts, that the General is a warm advocate of the Tariff, and also for Internal Improvement—this is as it should be.

"At the first session of the last Congress, 40,000 dollars were appropriated to open the National Road in this state, from the Indiana state line to Vandalia; which work I believe has been executed. At the late session, the addition sum of 66,000 dollars was appropriated to grade and bridge this road, between the same points, it has not yet been located west of Vandalia."

"The bill for extending the pre-emption act, passed in 1830, and which expires on the 30th May next, and the bill to authorize the entry of public land in forty acre tracts, were both laid on the table in the House of Representatives. The bill to reduce the price of public lands, and to give a preference to actual settlers, was not acted upon during the session, although several attempts were made by myself and other members to have it taken up; regarding these measures as very important, I have used every exertion in my power in support of them; and believing that they are both necessary and proper, I have no doubt they will ultimately be adopted by Congress. The claim which has been made by some of the states to the public lands within their limits, has excited strong prejudices in Congress, which has manifestly had an unfavorable influence in relation to those and all other measures of the kind, which were acted upon at the last session. So strong is this feeling, many of the most distinguished members of Congress have assured me that they would support no bill favorable to the state or the settlers on the public lands, until this claim is abandoned. Certainly, under such circumstances, it is very important to have this point settled as soon as possible. It is a legal question, involving a principle

of constitutional power; and, if the claim is pursued, it appears to me that there can be no difference of opinion about the tribunal to which it must be referred. Certainly Congress is not the proper place for the decision of such a question; and if it was, the prospect of a result favorable to the new states, must be considered hopeless, when it is known that out of 212 members, which compose the House of Representatives, only 26 are from the seven states in which Congress holds the public lands; and in Ohio, the largest of these states, and which sends more representatives than the other six, there is not a single member with whom I have conversed, who does not openly oppose the claim; and I am informed that they are all of the same opinion.—Without the least disposition even to express any opinion about this claim, which I have no doubt has been urged by many with the best and most patriotic motives, I have considered it my duty to say thus much, which I have done with no other motive than to show the effect it has had, and is likely to have on measures before Congress."

"There was not a single post route established in the United States by the last Congress at either of its sessions."

"Believing that internal improvements & the tariff are intimately connected, and that the former is of vital interest to the growth and prosperity of our own, and the bond of union between all the states, I have given them my undeviating support."

WILLIAM B. ARCHER, Esq. of Clark county, JOHN A. WAKEFIELD, Esq. of Fayette county, and JOHN D. WHITESIDE, Esq. of Monroe county, have been appointed, by the Governor, Commissioners for selecting the Seminary Lands, in this State. It will be recollected that the Commissioners heretofore appointed to select the lands donated by the General Government to this State, for the encouragement of education, did not complete the selections; and the object of the appointment of these Commissioners is to complete them. We believe there are yet remaining unselected 28 sections. There will be an entire township to select, in lieu of the one taken back by the General Government last winter. When that selection will be made we are not able to say.—Ill. Int.

Gen. Joseph Duncan, Charles Dunc, Esq. and James Turney, Esq. are candidates for Congress, from Illinois.

PROSCRIPTION.

Commodore Bainbridge has been removed from the situation of Commandant of the Navy Yard in Philadelphia. Was he unfit for the station in a professional view? Certainly not. Had he been found guilty of any official misconduct? Even suspicion is silent on that score. Had he neglected the duties of his office? No one exceeded him in zeal and fidelity. What then was the nature of his offence? Perhaps the gallant Commodore had offered some insult to the president. No. Probably he had been hurried into some act of insubordination against the Secretary of the Navy. Not so. Where then must we look for the cause of his removal?

We recollect to have heard, some time in the course of the year 1830, that some orders were received by Commodore Bainbridge, signed by "Amos Kendall." On the receipt of orders from such quarter, it was said that the Commodore returned them, with a note, stating that he had been accustomed, as the rules of the service required, to receive all his orders from the Navy Department, but that he had never received any from the Treasury Department, nor could he recognize any from that source. It may be that this determination, so disrespectful to the Fourth Auditor constituted the first crime of the Commodore in the eyes of the President.

The Commodore has officiated recently as President of the Court Martial, convened at Philadelphia for the trial of Commodore Creighton. On the rising of the Court it is reported that Commodore Bainbridge & other officers who had been members of the Court, made the usual applications for the allowances ordinarily made to them for this extra service. In reply to some of the applications which were addressed to the Fourth Auditor, that officer stated that the allowances demanded were, in his opinion, contrary to law, and that the Secretary of the Navy concurred in this opinion. We have heard that the letter of the commodore was addressed to the Secretary of the Navy, who replied that as the Fourth Auditor had decided that the allowances were contrary to law, they could not be made. If the Commodore, piqued by this treatment, should have written another letter, containing some severe strictures on the conduct of the Fourth Auditor, is only what may reasonably have been expected, and thus a second offence against the Fourth Auditor may have been deemed by the President so unpardonable in its character as to call forth the order for his immediate removal from the Navy-Yard.

On what evil times are we thrown, when a gallant officer who has rendered important services to his country, is to be dismissed from a responsible and profitable station, because he has spoken freely of a subordinate officer of the government, who had usurped a right which did not belong to him—that of dictating to the Secretary of the Navy the construction to be put on a law of the land, and of directing the manner in which the Secretary should discharge the contingent fund which the law had placed in his hands! Is it to be wondered at, if, under such an administration,

our naval officers should lose that zealous and chivalrous patriotism which has heretofore distinguished them, and, if even the high reputation which our navy has achieved should be undermined and gradually destroyed!—[Nat. Journal.]

In an action for assault and battery, and false imprisonment, Baker and wife vs. Stewart, tried at New York, the Jury found a verdict of \$1000 damages.

The action was brought for an assault and battery committed by the defendant on the wife of the plaintiff. The circumstances as proved were, that the defendant charged the plaintiff's wife with stealing property while in his store, and insisted on a search.

The trial excited much interest. The assault was considered so outrageous, that damages were laid in the declaration at \$20,000.

EXTRAORDINARY ESCAPE FROM DEATH.

One of the most surprising narratives we have any where met with is contained in the history of a scene of the "Reign of Terror," which we copy from a recent work entitled the Journal of a Nobleman.

"Two men by the name of Roux, father and son, who are still living, and employed in the Navy Office at Toulon, were condemned to death after the evacuation of that place by the English, on pretence of having betrayed the interests of France. They were, with 900 others ordered to be shot at a place called 'Le Champ de Bataille.' Without being made to undergo any form of trial, without even having had an opportunity of being heard in explanation of their conduct, they were taken from the bosom of their family, and taken to the place of execution. When all the intended victims were placed in a heap in the middle of the plain, several field pieces loaded with grape shot were brought up close to them, and a regiment of cavalry and one of infantry, which were to charge those whom the cannon had not wholly destroyed, and finish them.

The two Roux had been separated from each other. The son fearing lest the discharge of cannon should not despatch him with sufficient speed, placed himself as much forward as he possibly could. He was so close to the battery, that when the guns went off the powder of the explosion knocked him down. That instant which impels mankind to the preservation of life, made him feign that he was dead, when the cavalry were ordered to charge. A dragon gave him a sabre cut, which made a large though not dangerous wound on his back. The infantry came after, and one of the soldiers perceiving that young Roux had not ceased to breathe, gave him a violent blow on the head with the butt end of his musket, which so completely stunned him, that he lay for several hours senseless on the ground. The slain having been left on the Champ de Bataille, to be removed the next morning for interment were soon stripped of their garments by the liberated prisoners of the bagno, and all left nearly naked. During the night young Roux gradually recovered the use of his senses. It was with the utmost difficulty that he recalled to memory what had occurred. The horrors of the day presented themselves at last fully to his mind. He rose to quit, if possible the scene of death, and it was then that he perceived that he was naked and covered with blood. He sought to find some garments among the dead by whom he was surrounded, in his efforts to take off from the body of one of the unfortunate men some clothes which had escaped the pillage he found that life was not extinct in him. The desire of saving a fellow creature prompted every means that could bring timely relief, and they were not used in vain. The joy and surprise of both may be easily conceived when they discovered that they were father and son. They alone had escaped the carnage! It was with difficulty they could procure sufficient clothing from among the surrounding victims to this act of unheard of atrocity, in order to withdraw from the horrid scene. Fortunately for them, no sentinel had been stationed to watch over this field of butchery, and the Roux returned without any obstacle to their house. It was with the utmost difficulty they obtained access to it. At that time of night the afflicted family did not suppose that they were raised for any other purpose than that of furnishing new victims to the blood thirsty agents of anarchy and destruction. No words could express the sensations of the wife and children on beholding again those whose supposed destruction had plunged them into grief and despair. The wounds were immediately dressed, and before daylight, they retired to their country home; situated a few leagues in the interior of Provence, where they remained concealed until the 'Reign of Terror' was over, and the cannibals of the south had ceased to have their day. They then returned to Toulon, to the arms of their friends and acquaintances, many of whom could not, for a long time, persuade themselves that they were not the ghosts of those 900 men who had been included in the sacrifice of the 'Champ de Bataille.' These two men to this day live, contented and respected by their fellow citizens, by whom the particulars of their most fortunate escape are not forgotten.

Original Anecdote.—How you do, 'old' and a coloured gentleman to one of his crew the other day. 'Why you do come to see a feller? If I libber you, as you do to me, I'd come to see you every day.' 'O cuss,' replied snuff, 'my wife patcha my trousers with all in pairs, I shamed to go no where.'

Common Page