

POLITICS OF THE DAY.

(From the Madisonian.)

A plain truth on Political Matters.

As set down by Peter Blochboy.

Col. Richardson states his objections to Mr. Van Buren's Administration.

Capias. Well, Col., let us hear your indictment against Mr. Van Buren's administration. Let us have the charges.

Thomas Coldsteel comes in.

Coldsteel. How d'ye do, Col. Richardson—how d'ye do, Squire Capias? Hope I don't interrupt you, gentlemen!

Col. R. Oh, no; we were only talking politics—no secrets among friends.

Coldsteel. Politics? Just what I come to talk about. I wanted to ask you one or two questions, Col. Richardson.

Col. R. What are they?

Coldsteel. Why I got into a kind of argument with neighbor Read yesterday, about hard times, and so on, when he said it was no wonder we had hard times, because Mr. Van Buren spent three times as much money as Mr. Adams used to, and let the office-holders cheat the Government out of a sight of money.

Capias. Well, didn't you tell him it was false?

Coldsteel. Of course I did; I told him it was a federal lie. But I didn't know much about it, and just thought I'd come over here and ask the Col. how it was.

Capias. I suppose he got this slander from that vagrant they call "the Buckeye Blacksmith," or may be from Profit, or some other stump orator.

Coldsteel. Likely enough, but if it is a lie and he repeats it again, I'll give him his mess of porridge in short order.

Col. R. I should be sorry, friend Coldsteel to hear of a fight between you and neighbor Read, especially as you would be in the wrong.

Capias. Why, Colonel, you won't undertake to endorse these falsehoods, will you?

Col. R. I shall certainly not endorse any falsehoods; but if they are truths, I shall not hesitate to endorse them and make them known to the people.

Capias. It would take very strong evidence to convince me that they are true.

Col. R. And yet I think I can convince you nevertheless; and this brings me to what I was about to say when Coldsteel came in. But let us take up one subject at a time. We will first look at the

Expenses of the Government.

Here is a document showing the annual expenses of Mr. Adams, Gen. Jackson's and Mr. Van Buren's administrations.—Look at it, Mr. Capias, and you will see that the average expenditure of the Government, under Mr. Adams, was \$12,625,478 58 per annum; under Gen. Jackson, \$18,224,091 88 per annum; and under Mr. Van Buren, \$37,135,654 33. Now, if figures speak truth, the public expenses under Mr. Van Buren's administration have been three times as much per annum as they were under Mr. Adams.

From this it appears that the public expenses were—

From 4th March, 1824, to 1825, \$11,490,439 94

1826, 13,063,346 27

1827, 12,653,096 63

1828, 12,996,041 45

Total in Mr. Adams' Administration, \$50,501,914 31

Average each year, \$12,625,478 58

From 4th March, 1829, to 1830, \$12,660,460 00

1831, 13,229,533 00

1832, 13,864,067 00

1833, 16,516,388 00

1834, 22,713,756 00

1835, 18,425,417 00

1836, 17,514,950 00

1837, 30,868,164 00

Total in Gen. Jackson's Adm. \$145,792,735 00

Average each year, \$18,224,091 88

From 4th March, 1836, to 1837, \$39,164,745 00

1838, 40,427,218 00

1839, 31,815,000 00

Total in Mr. Van Buren's three first years, \$111,406,963 00

Average each year, \$37,135,654 33

Coldsteel. So, then, what Read said about the expenses of the Government, was no lie after all, hey?

Col. R. It appears not. I have here a statement showing the total expenses of the Government under every administration, from Washington down; and, also, the average of each one per annum.

Coldsteel. That's what I should like to see.

Col. R. Here it is:

Statement of the gross expenses of each Administration, and the average of each per annum.

Gen. Washington's 8 years, \$15,892,199 55

Average each yr. \$1,986,524 89

John Adams' 4 years, 21,450,351 19

Average each yr. 5,362,588 89

Jefferson's 8 years, 41,300,788 68

Average each yr. 5,162,598 58

Madison's 8 years, 144,684,938 86

Average each yr. 18,085,617 48

Monroe's 8 years, 104,463,400 39

Average each yr. 13,057,925 07

J. Q. Adams' 4 years, 50,501,914 31

Average each yr. 12,625,478 58

Jackson's 8 years, 145,792,735 00

Average each yr. 18,224,091 88

Van Buren's 3 years, 111,406,963 00

Average each yr. 37,135,654 33

Total, \$635,493,291 18

Coldsteel. Now, Colonel, just tell me, if you please, how much greater the expenses of the Government have been under Mr. Van Buren than they were under General Washington?

Col. R. That is easily told. The average, per annum, under Mr. Van Buren has been \$37,135,654 33

Under Gen. Washington, it was 1,986,524 89

Making a difference of \$35,149,130 51

By this it appears that the average under Mr. Van Buren is very nearly thirty-six times greater than it was under Washington.

Coldsteel. Thirty-six times! Well, I don't know what you think of this, Squire Capias, but I should say it was a pretty considerable specimen of "tall walking."

is doing but... And spend so much... Washington did, too! Is it Bible true?

Col. R. If the public documents, the statements of the government itself are true, this is true; not a doubt about it.

Coldsteel. I should like to know how Mr. Van Buren contrives to get shut of so much money?

Col. R. I think I can show you in part. Here are accounts of certain doings in Florida, that show where some of this money has gone; and if Mr. Van Buren's bloodhounds were as keen on the trail of money as they are on that of Indians—though I don't think they have won a vast deal of glory in this Florida war—we would soon find where more of it had gone.

Here is a statement of contracts for fuel, transportation, &c., for the Quarter-master's department for 1837, from which it appears that the following sums were paid for the charter of steamboats, namely:

For the Watchman, \$450 per day, \$164,250 a year

Mobile, 465 " 169,737 "

Anna Call'n " 146,000 "

H. Crowell, 300 " 109,500 "

Hyperion, 300 " 109,500 "

Leflore, 200 " 73,000 "

Charleston, 3,750 per month 45,000 "

Florida, 3,002 " 36,000 "

Jno M'Lean 4,000 " 48,000 "

Camden, 4,000 " 48,000 "

Jas. Adams, 4,000 " 48,000 "

Altamaha, 3,505 " 42,000 "

If further appears from this statement that, during the year 1837, 33 steamboats, 43 schooners, 2 sloops, 25 brigs, and 6 ships were chartered to carry on this war against a few half-starved Indians! There is another item of charge worthy of notice, namely: "For transporting 109 cords of wood from New Orleans to Fort Brooke, East Florida, \$2,000,"—that is to say, \$20 per cord for carrying wood from New Orleans, where it is scarce, and of course high, to a place surrounded by woods, and where thousands of cords could be had for the mere price of cutting!

Coldsteel. Is all that fact, Col. or is it a "federal lie?"

Col. R. If it be a lie the Government themselves have told it, for I find it stated officially, and I don't think they would be very apt to tell such lies on themselves.

Coldsteel. Well, if ever I heard of carrying wood from a city into the woods, before and paying \$20 a cord for carrying it too! Why it's just like shipping coal from New York to Philadelphia, and then sending it up the Schuylkill canal to Pottsville, where there are mountains of it. I should as soon think of buying up bearskins here and sending them to the Rocky Mountains on speculation! It beats Old Timothy Dexter's speculation—of sending a cargo of warming pans to the West Indies—all hollow.

Col. R. I think we have found where a few millions of this money have gone; now let us see if we can find where any more of it went. In Document No. 127, of the Secretary of War from the Commissary-General of Subsistence, by which we learn that, after a large amount of provisions, &c., had been purchased for the army, they were found unnecessary, and not wanted, and were therefore sent to the Cherokee country. But having no use for them here, they were ordered to be sold. The document states, that "the supplies sold consisted of 50 barrels of pork; 2,645 barrels of flour; 821 barrels of hard bread; 272 1-2 bushels of beans; 16 1-2 bushels of corn meal; 169 bushels of corn; 506 bushels of salt; 75,027 pounds of sugar; 41,279 pounds of coffee; 5,438 pounds of rice; 531,020 pounds of bacon; 18,181 pounds of soap; [they must have been a dirty set of fellows to require so much] 14,110 pounds of candles; [these, I am afraid, will all be wanted to throw light on some dark subjects.] 371 gallons of whiskey; and 5,145 gallons of vinegar." These articles brought the net sum of \$52,117 00.

Now it appears that these supplies cost, including transportation, commissions, buildings erected for their preservation, &c., upwards of two hundred and sixty thousand dollars! So here we find where some more of this money went.

But again: Among other articles unnecessarily purchased and accumulated by the Government, and which had to be sold, were large quantities of corn, which cost from a dollar and a half to two dollars per bushel, and which brought the following prices:

8,381 bushels, at 17 1-8 cts. per bushel.

5,275 " 11 5-8 "

4,990 " 10 1-4 "

400 " 4 3-4 "

4,230 " 13 3-4 "

The following extracts of a letter from the Indian Agent, at Fort Gibson, to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, will show that these immense quantities of supplies were sent there unnecessarily, and were, consequently, sold at a great sacrifice. The agent says:

"But whatever be the apology of the measure in question, whether it be ignorance of the resources of the country, distrust of the capability of the officers charged with the subsistence of the Indians, or a dread of failure of their efforts in that respect, one thing is demonstrably true, that the great loss which is now inevitably consequent upon the measure, might have been avoided had timely directions been given to dispose of this extraordinary supply of provisions as soon as it was ascertained not to be needed."

Again, he says:

"Cargo after cargo continued to arrive as the necessity decreased."

And further:

"I repeat, sir, fearless of contradiction, had the agents have been instructed in the first place, as agents of the Government ought to have been, where interest was concerned, the public would not have sustained the loss of a single dollar; the provisions purchased in New Orleans would have been sold, and not transported here,

as has been the case, at an enormous expense, where it was not needed, and at an additional expense of several thousands to erect suitable buildings to cover it from the weather."

I think we have now come at some of the causes why the public expenses have increased so much within a few years, and I can hardly think you will justify such waste and extravagance, Mr. Capias?

Capias. There certainly does appear to have been bad management somewhere.

Col. R. There is a subject to which I wish to call your attention, Mr. Capias—the defalcations of the public officers; but have not time now. If you will favor me with your company to-morrow, I will show you a document I should like you to look at.

Capias. I will call.

IS NOT THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY LIABLE TO IMPEACHMENT FOR NEGLECT OF DUTY?

The battle cry of the Sub-treasurers has, from the beginning been, "Divorce the Bank and State." And the Sub-treasurer act which went into operation on the 4th of July, by a special section, (the 15th) made it the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to "withdraw the balances remaining with the present depositaries of the public moneys, and confine the safe-keeping, transfer, and disbursement, of these moneys to the depositaries established by this act." Has the Secretary obeyed this law? He has neither withdrawn the balances from the old depositaries, nor confined the safe keeping, transfer, and disbursement of the public moneys to the new depositaries. He is living in daily disobedience to the law, and those who clamored for a divorce of bank and state are deluded and cheated if they suppose the divorce is effected. The Government is connected with the banks in the most objectionable form viz: without warrant of law—their intercourse is illicit. In Wall street this fact is notorious. The intercourse of the Government with the Manhattan Bank, and the Bank of America is open and constant; the vaults, safes, &c. of the Custom-house, and the 15th section, to the contrary notwithstanding. In this city the fact is much the same. A member of Congress drew a small sum of money for a pensioner and he received from the Treasury Department a check on the Bank of the Metropolis for the amount; and the check, omitting the name, was, in the following terms:

"Issued on warrant No. 2341.

"No. 4177. Washington, 20th July, 1840. \$76,98-100. At sight, pay to the order of ***** seventy-six dollars 98-100.

WM. SELDEN.

Treasurer of the United States.

No. 4177. Registered July 20th, 1840.

BANK OF METROPOLIS.

Present.

The Bank of the Metropolis is one of those banks proscribed by the Loco-focos of Congress, yet it was a depositary of the public money as late as the 20th of July, and is still used as a depositary by Mr. Van Buren. Call ye this a divorce of bank and state, ye dock wall-poppers of New York?

But this is not the only instance. It cannot have escaped observation, that a boat and launch belonging to the Government were, not long since, advertised in some half a dozen daily newspapers in Philadelphia. They were sold, and brought the aggregate amount of \$93 50, and after deducting expenses, the net amount \$73-33 was deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States in the Moyamensing Bank! on the 27th July, 1840. Call ye this a divorce of bank and state? Is this confining the public moneys to the depositaries established by the Sub-treasurer law?

No. The truth is, this scheme was conceived in iniquity and born in corruption, and will live its brief and basilar life in folly, deception and humbuggery.

Madisonian.

THE ARTFUL DODGERS LABORING IN THEIR VOCATIONS.

Several months since, the Whig paper published in Steubenville, Ohio, (the residence of Senator Tappan, of that State,) published the following statement:

TO FARMERS AND WORKING MEN

I wish to state a fact for the consideration of our population, and ask them to reflect upon it. It is intended for their benefit, and it is stated out of regard, not only to their interest, but that of the whole country. One of the present Senators in the Congress of the United States, from the State of Ohio, remarked, in substance, to a very enterprising manufacturer as follows: "Mr. ———, you ought to be in favor of the HARD MONEY SYSTEM, and you would be if you regarded your own interest, and did not look through other people's spectacles. You ought to go with me in putting down the Banks. The price of labor is entirely TOO HIGH. The laborer in this country can afford to work for eleven pence a day, and the hard money system will bring down the wages to that sum—wheat will also come down to SIXTEEN CENTS per bushel, and every thing else in proportion. This is the best Tariff you can have, and the only one that will enable the manufacturer to compete with England. The SUB-TREASURER will effect both objects; it will put wages and every thing else down." I have not pretended to give the Senator's precise words, but have stated the substance of the conversation, and vouch for its correctness. If the Senator denies it, I will prove it by the manufacturer alluded to.

That such would be the effect upon every branch of industry, cannot be disputed. That the advocates of this wicked measure desire to produce that result, a few of them have the frankness to admit. It will make the rich man richer and the poor man poorer. I ask the farmer, the laborer, and the mechanic, all classes who earn their bread by honest and laborious industry; whether

such a state of things is desirable? I ask them to think for themselves—to look through their own spectacles; and then act accordingly.

WARREN.

No notice was taken of this until after its publication throughout the country, when it was by some blunder inserted in the New-York Times as an extract from a Speech delivered in the Senate by Mr. Tappan. All at once, Loco-Focoism pricked up its ears, and jumped into the arena. Mr. Crowell of the Albany Argus writes a letter—not to Mr. Tappan, but to a friend at Washington (the first two letters of whose christian and surnames probably spell Silas Wright) and obtained from him a positive denial that Mr. Tappan had ever made any such speech, and a proffer of \$1,000 reward to any body who would prove the contrary! On the strength of this equivocal, Loco-Focoism is attempting to evade the responsibility of what Mr. T. did say, and to brand the publishers of this suggestion as uterers of falsehoods!

This game is too barefaced. Mr. Tappan has been urged from the first to deny the statement of the Steubenville paper, but he has maintained a profound silence. Now, one of his brethren has come out, and by interposing a lawyer's quibble as to the when and where, hopes to escape a conviction! It is a desperate shift and a hopeless one. The manufacturer whom Mr. Tappan hoped to seduce into the Sub-Treasurer ranks by holding out to him a golden prospect of low prices and cheap labor bears the name of WELCOTT, and he stands ready to make oath to the statement he has made as soon as Mr. Tappan contradicts it. That contradiction we presume he will wait a good while for; and meantime the Loco-Foco press will bluster about "Whig Forgery," and protest that the charge is contradicted, root and branch, in the anonymous Letter to Crowell.—Log Cabin.

Keep it before the People.

That Martin Van Buren opposed the war 1812, and did all he could to defeat the election of the patriotic Madison, thus showing to the world his love of Federal doctrines and his hatred of democracy.

KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE, That at the time when the fleets of England plundered our ships, and impressed our seamen, the thoughts of Martin Van Buren were still in favor of peace; thus showing the inherent cowardice of his nature and want of sympathy with his suffering fellow-citizens.

KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE, That Mr. Van Buren, in the Convention to amend the Constitution of New York, made a speech in favor of a property qualification, and urged in justification of excluding Revolutionary soldiers from the right of suffrage, that it made no difference how unjust it might appear, as to the old veterans who would be all dead in the course of fifteen years.

KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE, That Mr. Van Buren was in the same Convention, the strenuous supporter of giving to NEGROES the right of voting, provided they held a sufficient amount of property to entitle them to exercise the right of suffrage.

KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE, That Mr. Van Buren holds the aristocratic doctrine that property alone, not talent, or usefulness to society, qualifies a man to have a voice in the choice of his rulers.

KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE, That the whole of the twenty-seven foreign monarchies from whom Van Buren asks direction how he shall administer the affairs of the republic, approve of his principles and would rejoice, should he succeed in reducing the people of the only free nation on earth to a level with their own obedient and degraded subjects.

KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE, That Martin Van Buren has confessed in his last annual message, that twenty-two of the despotic Kings and Emperors of Europe, approved fully of the Sub-Treasurer scheme, by which three-fourths of the people's earnings will be transferred to the office holders.

KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE, That Mr. Van Buren is at this moment to all intents and purposes, a monarch, wanting only the power to prevent the people from expressing their disapprobation of his iniquitous designs.

KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE, That he is now exerting his energies to obtain this power by creating a standing army of two hundred thousand men, to be used for the purpose of putting down "combinations," or in other words, "conventions," of the people, thereby violating the Constitution, which guarantees to all citizens the right, peaceably to assemble and take measures to have their grievances redressed.

KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE, That the whole policy of Van Buren's administration is at war with their best interests, and destructive of their nominal prosperity. Let it be known throughout the length and breadth of the land, that a crusade is now going on against the rights of the workman, wages are to be reduced to TEN CENTS a day. Spread it from East to West, from North to South, that the decrees has gone forth that a SHEEP'S HEAD AND PLUCK, is a sufficient reward for a day of hard toil. Let every dweller in the "Log Cabins" of the country know the fact, that a Loco-foco Congressman has declared that the "hard fixed" laborers of America can and should, subsist without meat, and that potato soup, onions and garlic, are good enough for the men who in the estimation of Martin Van Buren, Thomas H. Benton, and Senator Walker are only fit to be placed on a level with the serfs of Russia, or the black slaves of the West India Islands.

KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE, That Gen. William Henry Harrison will be the President on the 4th of March next, and will rectify all the evils under which the country suffers, and restore the Government to the pure Democratic principles of Jefferson and Madison.

HARRISON AND BETTER TIMES.

This is now the watch-word throughout the Union, and why is it? "Let facts be submitted to a candid world."

1st. The Government of the United States is bankrupt. It is in debt to the amount of SIX MILLIONS OF DOLLARS already, and although Congress authorized the creation of five millions of Treasury shin plasters, the Secretary of the Treasury is now calling for FOUR MILLIONS MORE!

2d. To pay this enormous debt the people will have to be TAXED, and a moveable has already been made to lay a DIRECT TAX upon the people.

3d. Although the people of the United States are ground down to the dust by the tyrannical measures and unparalleled extravagance of government, and are unable even to support themselves; the government is demanding ALL TAXES to be paid in GOLD AND SILVER.

4th. The government of Martin Van Buren has destroyed credit and confidence, and the Sub-Treasurer law which has just received the approval of the President, has, for one of its objects, the REDUCTION OF THE WAGES OF LABOR; so that while the people are to be TAXED, and these taxes are to be paid in GOLD AND SILVER, the means of procuring even shin plasters are withheld from the people.

In short, the tendency of all the measures of government, is to reduce the people to a state of VASSALAGE; to render them, if not in name at least indeed the SUBJECTS of a mis-called Republican government; to break down the American spirit, and to quench in the breast of the people that burning spark of Freedom and Independence which they inherited from their Revolutionary fathers, and to render them the tools of a President who is endeavoring to become "every inch a KING!"

We call upon the American people to look at the "signs of the times!"

The creation of a STANDING ARMY is threatened.

The tenure of the officers of the JUDICIARY, as it exists under the Constitution, is threatened!

The prayers of two-thirds of the people for a Bankrupt Law have been derided, and a deaf ear has been turned to their petitions!

NEGROES have been allowed by Mr. Van Buren to testify against a gallant and brave officer of the Navy, and the oath of a coal-black pot-stealer has sent into retirement a high-minded and gallant defender of his country.

The Post Office Department has been subsidized, and efforts been made to place its control more immediately in the hands of the President.

State Rights have received a Brutus like stab, and the broad seal of the State of New Jersey has been kicked about by the President and his minions as an idle toy!

"CORRUPTION HAS BECOME THE ORDER OF THE DAY,"—and offices are bestowed upon those who exhibit the most abject and fawning sycophancy to the President.

There is still a chance for the people—the STAR OF THE WEST, that sheds its mild beams over the humble LOG CABIN bids us HOPE! It cheers us amidst the gloom of corruption and despotism—it bids us hope for BETTER TIMES and reminds us of honesty and patriotism.

Let us up and ACT! If the people will it, our eyes will be blest with the dawn of brighter days than these, after the idea of November. Let our motto be "HARRISON, TYLER AND BETTER TIMES," and we surely must come off victorious.

THE PRESIDENT IN THE FIELD.

The most remarkable confession which has yet been made of the alarm known to be felt by the Administration party is President VAN BUREN'S answer, just published, to a letter inviting him to attend a meeting of his partisans held at the White Sulphur Springs in Kentucky, on the 11th of July last. When he left the seat of Government, last year, to pass four months in his native State, though the visit was unusually long, and though he rather ostentatiously let it be known that he was traveling as the President of a party, his friends argued that the necessity of recreation after severe official toil was an adequate motive for the journey, and objected to any other explanation of it as the offspring of a censorious spirit. The letter to which we have referred, admits of no such apology; unless, indeed, the distinguished writer expected his health to be benefited by "the excitement of composition." The letter is, plainly, an electioneering document; elaborate, and embodying the ad captandam topics of the political sect of which he is the head. The energy (not to use a stronger term) of the diction, when compared with the courtly moderation which has hitherto characterized Mr. Van Buren's compositions, indicates the pressure of his circumstances. Indeed, this pressure must be severe when a gentleman of his tact and prudence is driven to the expedient of descending from the Presidential chair into the political arena to fight in the ranks. It will perhaps have the expected effect of rallying "the party;" but unless we greatly mistake the temper of the American people, the converts whom it makes will be, like those made by his visit to New York, against him, instead of in his favor. The letter shall appear in our next.

07 Since the publication of the above-mentioned letter of the President, we have seen in the Richmond Enquirer of the 7th instant another letter of his addressed to a Committee in Elizabeth City County, Va. in answer to questions in relation to Slavery, the United States Bank, the Tariff, Internal Improvements, and Poinsett's Scheme for organizing the Militia. His discourse on these subjects fills between four and five columns in small type.