

# SOUTHERN CITIZEN.

WHAT DO WE LIVE FOR, BUT TO IMPROVE OURSELVES AND BE USEFUL TO ONE ANOTHER?

VOLUME III.

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**BENJAMIN SWAIM.**

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## From the National Intelligencer.

### MARYLAND CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION.

In the City of Baltimore, the Van Buren candidates, Messrs. Carril and Hillen, have received an average majority of 395 votes over Messrs. Kennedy and Pitts, the Whig candidates, which majority there is no probability that the vote in Anne Arundel county (forming part of the District, and from which we have not heard) will overcome, so the Van Buren candidates may be considered as elected. The political fluctuations in Baltimore have been remarkable. Some years ago the Jackson majority was ten or twelve hundred. In July, 1837, the Van Buren candidates received a majority of less than 300; in the following April the Whig candidate, Mr. Kennedy, received a majority of upwards of 600; and now the Van Buren candidates have succeeded by nearly 400—that party having increased its poll in little more than one year, 370 votes! without trenching at all on the other—the Whig party having, in fact, not only maintained its strength, but gained upwards of two hundred votes. It is very plain, then, that this increase of the Van Buren vote has resulted from no retrogression in public sentiment; and the greatly augmented administration vote in Baltimore must be assigned to other causes, which we are sure are well understood there, and will doubtless be explained; some of them we might ourselves surmise, were necessary. We have heard it suggested, for instance, that one cause might possibly be found in the undue influence which has been exercised in the registration of persons as voters. If this be so, it will doubtless be exposed by the presses on the spot. The Baltimore Chronicle of yesterday, in announcing the result of the election, observes: "We record this result with profound mortification and regret, although it was brought about had, in some measure, prepared us to expect it."

## West Point, (Ga.) Sept. 18.

### MELANCHOLY OCCURRENCE.

An occurrence, which resulted in the death of four men, citizens of the adjoining county of Chambers, in the State of Alabama, was detailed to us yesterday; and, from the respectability of its source, we have no doubt of its truth. We have not been able to obtain the names of the sufferers.

It appears that a well, in the neighborhood of Standing Rock, in the county above mentioned, having failed to hold its usual supply of water, the owner determined to have it cleaned out. A person was let down by the well bucket and rope, but showed no signs of action when at the bottom—he was called to, but did not answer. A second proposed to go down and ascertain what was the matter, and he, also,

as soon as he arrived at the bottom, became supine and silent. A third proposed to go down, with the understanding that he was to be drawn up as soon as he called out, the persons present then suspecting, for the first time, that there was some noxious gas at the bottom of the well. He went down, but it was only to join his unfortunate companions. When he got nearly to the foot of the well, he called to be drawn up, but, when about half way up, he fell from the bucket! A fourth then proposed that he should be lashed fast, and he would descend, with the understanding, also, that he should be hauled up as soon as he called out. He had descended but little more than half way, when he gave the word; they drew him up quickly, but had barely time to unlash him before life was extinct. The other three were then taken out of the well with grappels, but none of them showed the least signs of life—the vital spark was forever extinguished! This melancholy catastrophe happened on Thursday, and the bodies of the unfortunate sufferers were all consigned to the grave on Friday last.

## HORRIBLE TRAGEDY.

A deep and most painful sensation was created in the community on Monday morning by the rumor of a deed of blood which it was sincerely hoped at first was out a rumor—but which, after inquiry, proved alas! too true.

Those who have been accustomed to walk in Chesnut street, in the neighborhood of Independence Square, (a point perhaps, with the exception of the Exchange, where both at day and evening our citizens most do congregate) must have frequently stepped into the confectionary store refreshment rooms of Mr. Wood opposite the State House. They must remember also his handsome and attentive daughter, whose chief care it was to attend to the more elegant ministrations of the establishment. She was a faithful and dutiful girl, just blushing into womanhood. Among her many admirers, was a young man in Sixth street, of the name of Peak, who succeeded in securing her affections. About two weeks since, we understand, they were privately married, and on Thursday evening the young woman left the establishment of her father, and joined her husband. On Saturday she returned, and all the circumstances were made known to the former. He instantly closed his shop much to the surprise of the public, more than particular attraction being now in the ladies apartment—a striking likeness of Queen Victoria by a young artist of this city, having been placed there for exhibition.

The demeanor of the father to his daughter was morose and unreconciling, although he had previously invited her home; but she strove by every means to avert his ill feeling, which, so far as it was likely to end in any thing desperate, he ingeniously concealed. Yesterday morning, however, at about 10 o'clock, as the daughter was sitting in the room with her father, and we believe with some other members of the family, he walked deliberately up to her and drawing a pistol from his bosom or his pocket, placed it almost against her forehead, and shot entirely through the brain. The ball, we learn, passed through the skull, and fell in another part of the room.

The murderous weapon was at once thrown from the hands of the desperate man, in the presence of his dying child, and himself secured. The sheriff of the city was sitting in his office, and was immediately aware that something unusual had occurred. He crossed the street instantly; and ascended to the apartment where the deed was done, found the murderer standing, pale and terribly agitated, with his back to the fire place, and his daughter lying prostrate and bleeding on the floor, with her head near his feet. One child, a promising lad; was clasping his knees, and averring with tearful eyes and language of imploring passion, that "father did not, father could not do it!" while other members of the family were sobbing and shrieking over the dying sister and child. On the entrance of the sheriff, Wood lifted his arm as if in an act of firing a pistol, and exclaimed, "I am the man—I shot her—I shot her!" While writing this article, we learn that the father, after such an act, is sound asleep, with a guard of officers over him. An immense crowd gathered around the place, yet none were admitted, but certain members of the medical faculty, and the coroner's jury of inquest, who will delay their verdict until 8 o'clock this evening. The girl was lingering in great agony towards the close of the forenoon, but not the slightest hopes of her recovery were entertained.

Mr. Wood is an Englishman, who may be remembered as a fruit-seller for many years in the Chesnut street Theatre, and the keeper of a little shop in the Arcade, which his daughter and himself attended. He has several other children who, with their mother, are thrown into inconceivable distress by this dread act of murder and of blood.

## Philadelphia Gazette.

### From the La Grange (Tenn.) Whig THE WHIG FESTIVAL.

Our "Whig Festival on Saturday last was indeed a pleasant and a splendid affair. Every circumstance seemed to combine to render the scene enchanting and agreeable—the weather was very fine, and all the arrangements were made with neatness and order, which reflects much credit on the gentleman who superintended the whole. A large number of persons attended—we should say at least six hundred dined. The Dinner was excellent, and every body appeared to be in good humor. But the most delightful circumstance of the whole was the attendance of a large number of ladies, who seemed to be much gratified themselves, and whose company aided greatly on the zeal of the entertainment. Amongst the invited guests who were present, was Hon. C. H. Williams, P. W. Lucas Esq., J. B. Ashe, M. Bullock, B. Douglas, J. P. Perkins, E. R. Belcher, and A. Hill, Esq., of our own State; and Messrs. Menas, G. Wilson, and J. R. Wilson, of Mississippi; and of the Editorial fraternity, Messrs. River of the Somersville Reporter, and Lambert of the District Herald, and perhaps others. Besides these, we were gratified to meet many gentlemen of this State and Mississippi. The occasion was one of exciting interest—the unanimity of feeling was very remarkable; all the Whigs seemed inspired with a fixed purpose of maintaining their principles with firmness and zeal; the spirit of genuine patriotism bounded from heart to heart, and a joyful confidence beamed in every face. It afforded us much pleasure to find some of our Van Buren friends mingling with us on the glad occasion, who, if they did not sympathize with our political feelings, at least they seemed to enjoy the social endearments of the festivity with equal glee with their Whig fellow-citizens kindly and generous feelings ruled in every breast. We must be permitted to say, that for decorum, neatness, good feeling, and social enjoyment, the La Grange Whig Festival, far surpassed any thing of the kind we have ever witnessed; and in this opinion we are sustained by many of our distant guests as well as our own citizens.

On the evening previous to the Festival our Hotels were crowded with visitors from a distance; and at an early hour the next morning, they poured in from every quarter, until our streets were lined with people.

About the appointed hour, the Marshals (Major Collins, Col. Blackwood, Capt. Goodwin and T. R. Coker Esq.) proceeded to form the procession. The citizens' line was formed on Main st., and displayed an extensive column of independent freemen. The Ladies procession formed at the grove near the Episcopal Church, in the order prescribed by the committee of arrangements and marched up Second Street to Main Street. The ladies' line, in consequence of its novelty and elegance, attracted much attention. It was preceded by a Band of Music; next came the Banner, with the figure of the Goddess of Liberty, executed expressly for the occasion by the accomplished artist Mr. Wood, and borne by two young men; next 26 girls, bearing flags, representing the States, supported by the same number of boys, with sashes and mottoes; and

next a long line of Ladies with their escorts, the whole presenting a most lovely and magnificent spectacle. On the arrival of the Ladies in front of the citizens they were received with uncovered heads and three cheers. The whole procession then moved in handsome order to Masonic Hall, where the Declaration of American Independence was read by D. B. Anderson, Esq., preceded by a few appropriate remarks.

The procession was then again formed, in the same order, and moved to Moody's Grove, where the whole company—ladies and gentlemen, partook of a most excellent Dinner. The Tables were arranged in the form of a "hollow square," and were sufficiently extensive to accommodate about five hundred persons at one time. It was a splendid sight, to witness so large a concourse of people all partaking together of asocial meal, and the utmost harmony and good humor reigning through the entire assembly.

Immediately after dinner, the following synopsis of the Principles of the Whig Party of Tennessee, which had been compiled by the Committee, was read by Mr. J. Sned, and was received by the people with acclamation.

## WHIG POLITICAL CREED.

1. A majority of the people to rule in all cases, under the Constitution.
2. The rights of the minority as secured by the Constitution, to be held sacred and inviolable.
3. Government is designed for the benefit of the whole people, and not of a party. No public officer should place the welfare of his party, before that of the country.
4. A pure and free elective franchise, uninfluenced by Executive patronage.—When we see an Executive officer busy in elections, we naturally conclude he has forgotten his duty to the public, and is thinking of his hire.
5. A curtailment, by law, of the patronage of the Federal Executive. Executive patronage was originally too great, is now ten-fold greater than at first, and if not checked by the people, will soon be ten times greater than it is. This patronage has increased, is still rapidly increasing, and ought to be diminished—otherwise its use for the advancement of party ends and the promotion of personal ambition, will prove fatal to the liberty of the people.
6. "One term for the Presidency."—While an incumbent is suffered to look forward to a re-election, the interests of the nation will be forgotten, in the anxiety to secure the desired event, and the highest officer of a nation present to the world the humiliating spectacle of electioneering for votes. When it is understood that but one term will be tolerated by the people, the motive to use the patronage of the government for personal aggrandizement is removed, and the government will be administered upon pure Republican principles.
7. Members of Congress should not be appointed to Executive offices during the term for which they have been elected, nor within two years after it expires. Thus removing every impediment in the way of an independent and unbiased representative body, and removing all temptation from the immediate servants of the people and the States.
8. Strict economy in the expenses of government, and taxation to be limited to the actual wants of an economical administration of the affairs of the government.
9. Strict accountability in all public officers; the entire reform of abuses, and an honest and faithful discharge of duty to the country.
10. No proscription for opinion's sake—honesty, faithfulness and ability, being the only true qualifications for office.
11. A national Bank upon sound principles, as the only means of securing a uniform and sound currency for the people; and the best agency for keeping, transferring and disbursing the public revenue. Some agency is necessary for performing these duties for the Treasury, and a national Bank is most proper for attaining the end, and consequently is not prohibited by the constitution.
12. The currency of the country not to be tampered with and unsettled for party purposes—No doubtful experiments to blast the prospects and embar-

ass the business of the people, and a sound, safe, convenient and permanent currency; the same for the government and for the people.

13. A simple and strict construction of the Constitution. The powers granted to be exercised for the good of the whole people, doubtful powers, and those not granted, or not necessary and most proper to carry into effect those clearly granted, to be scrupulously avoided.

14. A strict accountability of the representative to his constituents, and obedience to the popular will, when fairly expressed.

15. The right of Property, the Freedom of Conscience, the Freedom of Speech, and the Freedom of the Press, strictly guarded and scrupulously respected.

To those great Republican Principles, we pledge our cheerful and hearty support, regarding men only as instruments to carry them out—And believing the acts and policy of the present Administration to be subversive of the great interests of the whole people, and fatal to the perpetuation of our glorious civil institutions, we declare "uncompromising hostility to the re-election of Martin Van Buren."

[An Address has been prepared by the Committee, to accompany the foregoing Declaration, which shall be published as soon as practicable.]

After the reading of the Declaration, the Toasts were announced as follows:

## REGULAR TOASTS.

1. *Our Country.* Purchased by the blood and treasure of the noblest band of Whigs that ever graced the world; may her sons guard with unwavering firmness her soil, her banner, liberty and laws.
2. *The Constitution of the U. S.*—The fairest fabric of human government that ever rose to animate the hopes of civilized man:—*Esto perpetua.*
3. *The Union of the States.* Its most valuable elements, mutual kindness, mutual forbearance; may we never behold one section standing in menacing and hostile array against the other: as Whigs we pledge ourselves, our all, for its perpetuation.
4. *The Whigs of '76 and the Whigs of 1839.* One in principle, one in heart; the former achieved our independence from British oppression; the latter, with the shield of truth, the banner of patriotism, and the artillery of reason, will triumph over the wild and ruinous experiments of the "spoils party."
5. *The Great Whig Party.* May they remember that united they must conquer, and may they concede those minor differences that have caused defeat to the great object of wresting the country from the devouring rapacity of political speculators.
6. *Executive Patronage.* When dispensed with justice and wisdom, and limited to the intention of the Constitution, a beautiful stone in the Republican edifice; may it never again be prostituted to the base purpose of securing "the succession."
7. *The Ballot Box.* "A zealous care of the right of elections by the people."—*Jefferson.* A direction of the abuses which have brought patronage of the government in conflict with the freedom of elections.—*Jackson.* May we profit by their counsel.
8. *The Presidency.* May the Whigs never forget the advice of Andrew Jackson, that the President should be at the head of the nation, and not of a party.
9. *The reserved rights of the States and of the People.* May they be protected by the same republican zeal which originally secured them.
10. *George Washington.* The father of his country.
11. *James Madison.* The father of the Federal Constitution.
12. *John Marshall.* The father of the Judiciary.
13. *Thomas Jefferson.* The expounder of the Republican creed—his commentary is the Whig's Manual.
14. *Freedom of Religion, Freedom of the Press, and no proscription for opinion's sake.*
15. *The Legislative, Executive, and Judicial powers.* Woe betide the tyrant who shall dare to disturb the constitutional equipoise of the balance.