

If raising a frolic, or a quiting bee, or things of this nature, change men's votes, then it is pretty hard to say which side is the better...

The Constitution of these United States comes straight from these principles; and if any man will read that Constitution carefully, and be guided by it; and also read the Bible as carefully, and be guided by that also, he may be sure of two things—1st, a safe passage through this life, and 2d, a happy eternity.

Now it is on these kind of folks, all honest men must keep a sharp eye and take care of the dust (no matter by what party name that dust is raised) from blinding that eye.

We have got, thank God, a good Constitution; like a good sound barrel, well hoop'd, and our business is to keep it bung up and steady, and then we shall always know exactly where to put in the spigot when we want to draw clear liquor.

Fellow Citizens of the Downingville Convention you are assembled here from all parts of our blessed country in consequence of a considerable rilling up of the contents of the great barrel of politics, to look into the cause on't, and to provide a remedy—these are great duties, and call for the exercise of sound patriotism—you have all read the original call of this Convention and therefore know the duties of your Moderator—in discharging those duties I hope to merit your approbation; but that we shall know more about when we get through our work.

(Here the Moderator read the original call of the convention and resolutions then passed.) You now know your duty—as I hope I know mine—and that we may all start fair and avoid perhaps much delay, I would here say a few words about 'the general rules'—these would require a great deal of time to write out, and after all some men's minds are so curious in invention, it is pretty hard to match them with rules, and one appeals and then another appeals and all keep peeling till nothing is left of the rule supposed to be at first sound. So I have come to the notion to give out the rules as wanted and fit them as required—there is no use in cutting a path till one knows exactly how big the hole is.

(Here the Moderator happened accidentally to look towards the gallery, a shout of universal approval from the b. nets crowded there must have told him that was sound doctrine.) The next thing I would call attention to is what is called 'freedom of debate.' Now no man in creation admires to hear good speaking more than I do—but care must be taken that it is good speaking.—I mean speaking to the point—not long-winded wordy speeches—filling newspapers as big as a blanket. I want listen to such and let my dinner get cold—and the country shant listen to such if I can help it. And there is one rule if followed will keep it matter as straight as a mean pole—it is this—let every member when he rises to speak, know exactly what he is going to say, and as soon as he has said it stop and sit down.

And now Fellow Citizens let us go to work, and as I desire to set a good example, I put that rule to practice, and take my seat. A motion was made by Mr. Tralridge, of Md., for the appointment of Vice Presidents, but there was no President and a Vice Moderator, was never heard of—he withdrew his motion.

any bachelor here flings in his duty as man patriot, all I can say is, he wont get a wife in Downingville.

3d, as to the policy of a Law, making it punishable by death or transportation to "Onandaga Hollow" for any man or woman to take Bank Notes in payment for wheat or pumpkins or labor.

4th, as to the policy of giving every emigrant from abroad a quarter section of Public Land, on condition that he votes for the man who proposes that all Public Lands within a new State shall be given to said State.

The following is an extract from the correspondence of the Richmond Whig & Public Advertiser.

"Mr Calhoun, (whose lucid intervals exhibit a sagacity as penetrating as that of any living man,) foresaw and foretold the present state of parties. He did not, however, foresee that it would come, when he was unhappily to be under the influence of his dark hour. He said that the whole tendency of the measures of the Administration was to produce a new state of parties, in which one would be "conservative" and the other "destructive."

It is a melancholy spectacle to see John C. Calhoun reduced to play a subordinate part in this tragedy of Reform;—playing, not second, nor third nor fourth fiddle to Thomas Hart Benton, but occupying a far inferior condition. In a state of probation, working for admission,—though working effectually. They may let him in—but that will be all! That party is too practical ever to make him a leader, who never lead any party but to ruin."

BE SOMETHING. One principle of the Muselman creed is, that every person should have some trade. Thus it should be the whole world over. See that young man, no matter what are his circumstances or prospects if he has no plan he will never accomplish much. If he relies upon his present possessions, or upon the anticipated favours of fortune, ten to one if his fine hopes are not blighted and he find, too late, that the only path to true greatness is by application. The following maxim would apply to persons of every condition in society, who are about entering upon active life. Choose, after mature deliberation and consultation with judicious, that vocation which is most suitable for you. Be not diverted from your purpose—let nothing prevent you from qualifying yourself thoroughly for it; then pursue it with unremitting diligence, and you will honor yourself and be a blessing to the community.

POSTAGE. As some persons at times, send pamphlets or periodical papers to their friends, and endorse their respects or compliments upon them without knowing that it subjects their friend to postage, as of a letter by weight—it is of importance, that the regulations of the Post Office department, upon the subject should be understood. We extract the following from the rules: "It is a violation of law, to enclose or conceal a letter, or other paper, or any memorandum in writing, in any newspaper, pamphlet, or magazine, or in any package thereof, or to make any writing or memorandum thereon, and deliver the same into any Post Office, or to any person for that purpose, in order that it may be carried by post, free of postage; and many attempts are made to evade the payment of legal postage, by communicating intelligence by means of dots or marks, designating particular words and letters contained in newspapers and pamphlets. In all such cases the newspaper, pamphlet, or magazine, should be charged with letter postage; and if the person to whom the paper or pamphlet is addressed refuses to pay letter postage thereon, you will immediately enclose the paper or pamphlet to the Postmaster from whose office it came, and request him to prosecute the person who placed it in his office, for the penalty of five dollars prescribed by law."

The Postmaster at this place, having written to the Post Office Department for a more particular explanation, has been, by it informed, that the words "with respects of," or any other memorandum written on a newspaper, or other printed paper or magazine, and transmitted by mail, subjects such paper or pamphlet, to charge of letter postage by weight.—Western Whig Banner.

EAGLE. An eagle once was asked why he led her young so high in the air? She answered, "would they dare mount so near the sun should I bring them up on earth? No, wouldst thou that thy child should relish high and bulky things? bring him not up too near the earth.—Baptist Advocate"

The following letter from Mr. Clay was read in the Convention, after the nomination had been made. It speaks for itself. Well may he be said to be the "abstent Roman."

ASHLAND, November 20, 1839. GENTLEMEN: The public use which has been made of my name, in connection with the office of President of the United States, furnishes the motive, as I trust it will form the apology, for this note. I address it to you, because our common residence in the same State appears to me to render you the most appropriate repository and organ of what I wish now to say.

The Convention at Harrisburg to designate candidates of the Opposition to the present Federal Administration, for the offices of President and Vice-President of the United States, has been generally concurred in by all who agree as to the necessity of a change in the General Administration. It appeared to me to be the best, if not the only practicable method of reconciling and uniting those who, coinciding in the general principle, entertained different views as to the most suitable candidates for those high offices, and I have accordingly frequently expressed, and now repeat the expression of my conviction of the expediency of an entire and cordial acquiescence in the recommendation of the Convention.

In the mean time, appeals directly and indirectly have been made to me by a highly respectable Convention holden in Pennsylvania, and by private individuals, to decline giving my consent to the use of my name, upon the ground that a distinguished citizen of the State of Ohio is the first choice of the Opposition in Pennsylvania, and in the opinion of that Convention would be more likely to conciliate general support than I should. I have been also addressed by various respectable and intelligent citizens of New York, directly and indirectly, recommending me to decline the contest in behalf of another eminent citizen, who has been distinguished in both the military and civil service of the United States.

While I have been thus urged by respectfully approached, numerous private citizens and public meetings and conventions in various parts of the United States (one of these conventions, indeed, in Pennsylvania itself) have done me the honor to express their confidence in me, and to intimate their wishes that I might be the candidate of the Opposition for the office of Chief Magistrate.

It is perfectly manifest that I cannot comply with all these conflicting opinions and wishes, nor, I apprehend, with any one of them, without disoblising the others. Under these embarrassing circumstances, I have thought it most advisable to leave to the Convention at Harrisburg the free selection of candidates as being the assembly to which, by common consent, that important duty has been referred. Representing as it probably will, all parts of the United States, bringing together the feelings and views of all, and comparing and weighing the local information which it will derive from every portion, it will be most competent to make a nomination acceptable to the great majority of its constituents. That it will be faithful to the high trust confided to its judgment and patriotism, cannot be doubted; and having a full view of the whole ground, it will be more likely to make a selection agreeable to the great body of the Opposition than any separate convention could do, however enlightened and patriotic it may be.

If the Pennsylvania Convention, to which I have just alluded, be right in supposing that the distinguished citizen whom it prefers would be more likely to be successful than any other, he ought to be nominated, and undoubtedly, for that reason, will be nominated by the Harrisburg Convention, should it entertain the same opinion. With a just and proper sense of the high honor of being voluntarily called to the office of President of the United States by a great, free, and enlightened People, and profoundly grateful to those of my fellow-citizens who are desirous to see me placed in that exalted and responsible station, I must, nevertheless, say, in entire truth and sincerity, that if the deliberations of the Convention shall lead them to the choice of another as the candidate of the Opposition, far from feeling any discontent, the nomination will have my best wishes, and receive my cordial support.

And, gentlemen, I hope that you, my friends and neighbors, will excuse the liberty I take in expressing to you my anxious desire that, discarding all attachment or partiality to me, and guided solely by the motive of rescuing our country from the dangers which now encompass it, you will heartily unite in the selection of that citizen, although it should not be me, who may appear to be most likely, by his election, to bring about a salutary change in the administration of the General Government—a change without which we shall be mocked by the forms, and strip of the substantial benefits of free institutions.

From the tenor of this note, I scarcely need observe that you are at perfect liberty to make such use of it as in your discretion may seem proper. I am, with high respect, your friend, HENRY CLAY. To Governor THOMAS METCALF, Gen. LESLIE COMBES, and the other Delegates from Kentucky, to the Harrisburg Convention.

REDUCTION OF POSTAGE. We readily comply with a request to give circulation to the following communication. The example which has been set by the British Government, of reducing the postage on letters to a very low rate, and thereby increasing utility of the Post Office Department is well deserving of imitation, in this country. The rates of postage, especially on the most frequented routes, where the number of letters is great, and the produce immense, are most unreasonably high. There is little doubt that the rates might be much reduced, without causing any reduction of the amount of income. If such be the fact, it calls most emphatically on Congress to make the reduction, and to extend the accommodation. If there were doubts on this point, there is no good reason why the productive routes should be so heavily taxed, for the maintenance of so frequent a conveyance of the mails on routes which are unproductive.—Boston Patriot. To the People of the United States: The British Government has set an example to this country. It is a reduction of Postage. In a country where every farthing that can possibly be raised by taxation direct and indirect, is wanted to carry on the Government, the Parliament has reduced the Postage all over the kingdom, to one penny on every letter not exceeding half an ounce in weight. The Government has yielded to the wishes and petitions of the whole people, but not till it was reasonably proved that the revenue would be as great with a low as with a high rate of Postage.

The wants of our people for a cheap communication through the mails are as great as those of the people of England. Our condition, however, is different, owing to the greater extent of our territory. But if the English Postage can safely be reduced to one penny, is it not probably that ours can be reduced to two cents, five cents, and ten cents, according to the distance which the mail has to be carried. The advantage of such reduction are apparent to every man, woman, and child who has intercourse of business or friendship out of their immediate neighborhood.

There is but one way to get it done, and that is to send in Petitions from all quarters of the country. We therefore, recommend the following form of Petition. To the Senate & House of Representatives in Congress assembled: Your petitioners believe that it would be a great benefit to the people of the United States, social, moral, political, and pecuniary, to reduce the postage on letters. They therefore pray that it may be reduced so that the greatest postage on any single letter shall not exceed ten cents.

All Editors of newspapers and periodicals, favourable to the reduction of postage in the U. S. are requested to insert the above Address and Petition.

WATCHMAN. SALISBURY: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1839. REPUBLICAN WHIG CANDIDATES. FOR PRESIDENT, WM. H. HARRISON, OF OHIO. FOR VICE PRESIDENT, JOHN TYLER, OF VIRGINIA. FOR GOVERNOR, JOHN M. MOREHEAD, OF GUILFORD COUNTY.

We are authorized to announce Col. R. W. LONG, as a Candidate for the Office of Sheriff, for the County of Rowan, at the next election. We are authorized to announce JOHN H. HARDIE, as a candidate for Sheriff, at the ensuing election.

CONGRESSIONAL MATTERS. We look upon the exclusion of the New Jersey members from the House of Representatives, as one of the most detestable acts of ruthless tyranny, that party madness ever yet ventured upon. This exclusion was made by a tie among those who assumed to judge of their rights, in determining which question they had as much right to vote as any of them, but in order to carry their purpose, they were silenced by clamor and bullying, and partly neutralized by the admission of others, who could not pretend to membership. Having thus momentarily stifled the legal voice of a sovereign State, they proceeded to suppress it altogether by the tie aforesaid.

The remarks of Mr. Saltonstall, of Massachusetts on this subject, are so pertinent and forcible, that out of many other forcible expositions, we select the following, which we commend to the perusal of the admirers of eloquence. "It is not necessary for me to go at large into the consideration of questions which have been so long under debate; but I hold that there are some few principles, well settled, and some facts not disputed, which lead irresistibly to the conclusion that these gentlemen who have been regularly returned according to the laws of New Jersey have a constitutional right to their seats here, and this notwithstanding this proposition has not been maintained by a vote of the majority. I know not whether the New Jersey members are now in this Hall; I trust they are. Had I been so returned—and I now address the members of this House, and entreat them to divest themselves of party feeling and prejudice, and say whether I do not express their own feelings—had I been so returned, and had come up to this place bearing in my hand the commission of my State, under its great seal, I should feel bound, notwithstanding the vote you have passed, or any vote you may pass, not to recede from the House; but when the other gentleman, admitted to be a Representative from my State, upon a commission precisely similar, should be called up to be qualified, I should go forward and demand to be sworn. I would hold up my commission, refer to the Constitution of the Union and the laws of my State, and I should say to this body, assembled upon no higher or better authority than mine, "This Constitution authorizes the States to legislate on the subject of elections, to determine how they shall be holden, and how the result shall be returned, unless superseded by the legislation of Congress. My State has legislated. She has prescribed the time, place, and manner of holding elections of Representatives, how the votes shall be returned and examined, and how her Representatives shall be commissioned.—Her laws have not been altered by Congress.—I have been duly commissioned, according to law. Here are my credentials, I am ready to be sworn. I claim a right which has never been denied to my predecessors, holding similar returns, from the beginning of this Government—nay, from the beginning of the old confederation of the thirteen States, whose efforts and sacrifices won our independence." To such a demand what answer could be given? Could he who shall fill that chair—could this House reject me? No. No man has ever come into this House before,

bearing such a document, to whom it has been said 'stand aside! Let us then pause before we take the final, I may almost say the fatal, step.' The direct tendency of this lawless conduct, was a resort to violence, and consequently, a disruption of the government; and if the same high handed course had been pursued by the Whigs, had they been in the ascendant, we should have expected nothing else: but the Whigs in this, as in all other cases, have shown themselves the friends of their country. They preferred to bear outrage and disfranchisement, rather than peril the safety of our government. They have manfully and ably stood up and exclaimed against the injustice, but they have done nothing to break the peace, and their forbearance deserves the admiration of all the friends of order.

What must be thought of those who participated in this act from party considerations? But what must be thought of one who joins in it without the poor plea of party feeling, to excuse the nefariousness of the transaction. The representative from this district pretends to belong to neither of the great parties of the country. He says he is a State Rights man. Yet he is found voting to disregard the broad seal of a sovereign State, and to set aside her commissioned representatives. He is found co-operating in a conspiracy to do a monstrous act of injustice, for the express purpose of putting a Speaker in the chair, who is not the choice of a majority.

It may be considered by some as a redeeming circumstance, that Mr. Fisher finally voted for the speaker who was elected against the will of the Van Buren party. But this was only done after ten ballots, and after he had several times voted for the candidate of the Administration party. Mr. Hunter it is said, is a Whig;—well, be it so: But he is a Sub-Treasury Whig, and the Loco Focos affect to be rejoiced at his elevation. What were the considerations that induced him (Mr. F.) to fall in with the Whigs in the eleventh hour, is for him to explain. Whether it was the cast of his politics that induced the Globe and Enquirer to rejoice, is left for further developments.

In our last, we put the course of Mr. Rhett, of S. C. in contrast with that of Mr. F. on the question of the N. Jersey members. It would seem, however, that the magnanimity of this "high-minded southern" had been exhausted in a single effort. He now declares, we learn, that he will go on with the usurpers to keep out these members whom he has once solemnly declared he thought entitled to their seats. Mr. Shepard of N. C. has shown a determination to follow him in undoing the only praiseworthy act, we have noticed in him since his apostasy.

Congress at our last notices, was still in a snarl. A Speaker has been chosen: but the question of admitting the New Jersey members, still occupied the House, and kept it still in an unorganized condition. No Clerk has been elected—no Message has been received, and what is worse, no rules of order have been yet adopted to restrain the angry discussion, which such a proceeding naturally leads to. On the head of those who have attempted this mighty injustice be the responsibility of this delay, and waste of public money.

Seventeen of the twenty-one banks in Rhode Island have resumed specie-payments, and the others, with the banks in the country, will follow. New England and New York are now specie paying States. South Carolina Bills.—We are authorized to state that the Cape Fear Branch Bank in this place, receives in payment, and on deposit, the Bills of all Banks in South Carolina, except those of George Town.—Western Carolinian.

The Lincoln Republican has passed from the hands of Mr. Thompson, to Mr. Rob't Williamson, Jr. Mr. Williamson is said to possess a knowledge of the history of the Country, and abilities as a writer. The Office of the Knoxville (Tenn.) Register, has been conveyed to Messrs. Humes and Moses, heretofore the conductors of the Knoxville Times. From the spirited manner in which the Times has been edited, we feel no doubt but that the Register will merit the continuation of the patronage it received while owned by Messrs. Ramsey and Craighead, its former worthy conductors.

Yankee Ingenuity.—The Globe says: "We notice in a Belgian paper, called the Commerce, that a company is about to be formed for the casting of types, stereotype, printing, lithography, and paper making, which will have a capital of one million and a half of dollars. It is to be established at Brussels, and will be sustained by the first houses of Berlin, Leipzig and London. "A paper making machine of an entirely new invention, by Mr. Maxfield of Boston, will be established. This machine will make 500 reams of paper in a day."

Correction.—The second line of the last paragraph of "Cyphon," which appeared in our last weeks paper, should [re:]—In this attempted distinction between right and power, instead of right and wrong.

CONGRESS. Correspondence of the Peter... In the Senate, to-day was read, a Message of President of the United States of Abraham Van Buren, Secretary. The President pro... Standing Committee of present Session. They general, as they were... The President then... that the Message just... executive character; and Hubbard the Senate... Session—and after the adjourned. I subjoin a list of the men of the Standing... STANDING CO... Finance—Mr. Wright Foreign Relations—Commerce—Mr. K... Manufactures—Mr. Agriculture—Mr. Military Affairs—Mr. Militia—Mr. Clay, Naval Affairs—Mr. Public Lands—Mr. Private Land Claims Indian Affairs—Mr. On Claims—Mr. Revolutionary Claims Judiciary—Mr. Post Offices—Mr. Roads and Canals—Pensions—Mr. District of Columbia Patents and the Patent Contingent Expenses Engrossed Bills—The Representatives assembled in Convention (Chairman) renewed the Speaker. After the Dromgool rose, and authorized and specially John W. Jones, of his name as a candidate Speaker. The members then This, being the seventh—Whole number of to a choice 115—of Dixon H. Lewis, 110 John Bell, R. M. T. Hunter, Francis Graber, Francis Thomas, No choice. The House then pro vote, which resulted a Whole number of to a choice 117—of Dixon H. Lewis, 110 John Bell, R. M. T. Hunter, F. Thomas, Mr. Lewis declined Mr. Waddy Thompson whether a member, bound to vote on this or not? The Chair bound to vote on a most interested. This vote, which resulted a Whole number of to a choice 116. Dixon H. Lewis, 110 R. M. T. Hunter, John Bell, The members then a ballot, which resulted number 232—necessary R. M. T. Hunter, 55 Dixon H. Lewis, 75 J. W. Jones 12 John Bell. HUZZAH FOR THE A VIRGINIA SENATOR WASHINGTON POSTSCRIPT the mail is closing to Hon. R. M. Hunter, Speaker of the House. This result was eleventh vote, which Whole number of to a choice 117. Mr. Hunter received solt was announced. Mr. Adams called Mr. Banks to conduct Chair; and Mr. W minister the oath; when the House immediately of Mr. Wise. [From the Nation the following statements ferent candidates for on the eleventh and For R. M. T. Hunter, J. W. Allen, Andrews, Barnard, Botts, Briggs, Brod Simpson H. Butler, Campbell, Wm. B. Chion, Chittenden, Chion, M. A. Cooper, ston, Crockett, G. G. Davis, Dawson, G. lett, Edwards, Evans, R. Garland, G. G. Goggin, Goode, Green, Griffin, G. W. S. Hastings, H. H. man, Holmes, Hopkin, fer, Ch. Johnson, King, Lawrence, Mercer, Mitchell, Naylor, Naylor, Naylor,