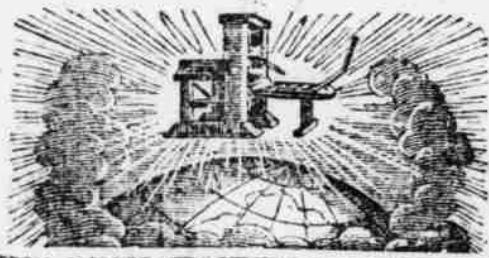


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BY GEORGE HOWARD.
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DOMESTIC.

COL. JOHNSON'S LETTER.

Great Crossings,
9th June, 1835.

Gentlemen: I have had the honor to receive your letter informing me that I have been nominated by the recent Republican Convention at Baltimore, as a candidate for the office of Vice President. For this expression of confidence from the Republican party of the Union, I have not language to express my gratitude. For the exalted talents, pure character and sound principles of the gentlemen, whose name was brought in competition with mine, no man can have a higher respect than myself; and had he been preferred by the Convention, it would have afforded me the highest pleasure to give him my cordial support. To my greater age and longer public service, and not to superior qualifications, can I attribute the preference of the Convention; and if any injury should accrue to the Republican cause from that preference, no man will deplore it more than myself. As, however, the Convention were undoubtedly better qualified to judge on that point, than one or a few individuals possibly can be, I have but to accept the proffered nomination, and resign myself to the will of the people, as it may be expressed at the polls. The gratification I feel at the honor done me is not unmingled with regret—a regret, arising not from the preference of another by a portion of the Convention, but from the error under which they appear to have labored in relation to my political principles. I do not know myself, if my principles do not accord with those of Thomas Jefferson, the Patriarch of Republicanism and his disciples who constituted the late Convention. During almost the whole period comprised in the Administrations of Jefferson, Madison and Monroe, I was a member of Congress and gave them my cordial support. From the earliest moment, I uniformly acted with the Republican party founded on the principles asserted by Virginia in 1793, and never withheld my support on any occasion, from either of the distinguished men, who, in succession became the representatives of these principles at the head of the Government, save only in the struggle of 1814, 15, and 16, for the establishment of a National Bank. President Madison then, and many of my Republican associates in Congress, who concurred with me in principle, felt themselves constrained to yield up their objections to what they considered the highest laws—public necessity. I continued to believe the remedy worse than the disease. I had voted against the re-charter of the old Bank of the United States, in 1811, from a conviction of its dangerous tendencies as well as its unconstitutionality. Upon the same grounds I felt constrained to vote against the establishment of the present Bank in 1816, although advocated by the Administration to which I was attached. I voted against the bill to re-char-

ter this Bank in 1832. In 1834, I voted for Mr. Polk's resolution, declaring that the Bank of the U. States ought not to be re-chartered, and I defended the President's measure in regard to the removal of the Public Deposites, at every point at which it was assailed, with a view to sever the connection between the Government and the Bank, and to make sure of a final deliverance from the Institution. Indeed, I have never wavered in my own opinion against its constitutionality, and have never seen the moment when I would have given my vote for any similar Institution. I cannot conceive how the opinion got abroad that I was in favor of the Bank or of any such unconstitutional monopoly, unless it be from the circumstance, that I did not, with the ardor of younger politicians, pledge myself against every possible substitute for the present Bank. General Jackson, in one of his annual messages, suggested the outline of a substitute without Stockholders or power to make loans, as I understood it, and in his veto message, he declared that he could have furnished a plan which would not be liable to constitutional objections. Many of his friends believed that it would be absolutely necessary to have some substitute, and suggested a variety of schemes.—To all these I listened, without giving my assent to any, and never for a moment did I harbour a thought of proposing or supporting any one, except in the event of failure in the experiment to use the State Banks, and then only such a scheme as should be entirely free from constitutional objections, and have the approbation of the Administration and the Republican party. The recent developments of the power of doing mischief possessed by a National Bank, and the uncontrollable tendency to use this power to direct the politics of the country, have satisfied me that no such institution should be tolerated, under any circumstances. The facility and success with which the public business has recently been done through the State Banks have, in my opinion, proved that a National Institution is as unnecessary as it is unsafe and unconstitutional. In relation to the Tariff, my views appear also not to be understood. At the close of the last war, the general sentiment seemed to prevail among our eminent statesmen, especially those who had supported the Government in that conflict, that it was the true policy of the Government so to regulate the Tariff, as to promote the establishment of manufactures within our borders. In this opinion, many of the Statesmen from the South united with those of the Middle and Western States. Without being distinguished as a peculiar advocate of the course of Legislation which grew up under these circumstances, I gave it my support in pursuance of public opinion. As, soon, however, as I perceived the dangers which were likely to grow out of this species of legislation pushed to excess, I became an advocate for the reduction of the Tariff, and voted for every proposition having that end in view, down to and including the compromise, which was made at the session of 1832-3. That compromise, ought to be considered by all good citizens as putting an end to the question. No prudent and patriotic man will, I am sure, ever attempt a renewal of that species of legislation. For myself, I can sincerely say, that I should consider any attempt of that sort as savoring of enmity to the government, inasmuch as it is unnecessary as a measure of policy, and could certainly revive a

controversy more dangerous to our Union than any other which has arisen since the adoption of the Federal Constitution. The preservation of the Union, and the harmony of its members, are incomparably more important than any system of legislation which regards only the pecuniary interests of a portion of the people. The same remarks are applicable, in a great degree, to the subject of Internal Improvements. In relation to them, it may also be observed, that the success of the several States, in their prosecution, and the great local interests vested in them, together with the consideration that the States manage their concerns with more care and economy than the General Government, are persuasive arguments against Federal interference in them hereafter, beyond such works as are universally conceded to be of a National character. In fine, I consider the views of President Jackson, on the Tariff and Internal Improvements, as founded in true wisdom; and, as far as I may hereafter be enabled, it will be my earnest endeavor to give them efficacy in the administration of the Government. On these leading subjects, I felt it my duty to touch, because it seems to have been erroneously apprehended by some, that I would be disposed to use the influence of high official station, to restore an expiring Monopoly, and certain mischievous systems of policy which experience has exploded. It is mortifying to me, that such an impression should have obtained any credence whatever, since the steady, though not boisterous support, which I have given to the President in his persevering and successful warfare on those systems. So far from entertaining any such design or desire, I look upon myself as selected by the Convention, for the purpose of aiding to make permanent the principles and policy in the administration of our Government, which have recently been sanctioned by such decided marks of public approbation, and to which I am pledged alike by inclination and duty. On other subjects, a public life of thirty years' uninterrupted activity, has, I trust, been sufficient to enable my countrymen to understand my principles and my motives of action. I believe no man will charge me with dereliction of duty towards my countrymen. In devotion to my country, no one will say that I have been wanting; and I trust, that mine has not been "a faith without works." My constituents have never charged me with neglect of their interests, collectively or individually; and, to an American citizen, complaining of wrong, and asking the aid of a friend, wherever residing, or however poor, unknown and humble, I have never turned a deaf ear, or refused to labor for him, as for a brother. To this faithfulness, and these exertions to be useful, more than to any extraordinary qualifications in me, do I attribute the honor which the Convention have done me; and should the people respond favorably to the recommendation of that body, my highest political ambition will be more than satisfied. It will be a confirmation, by the voice of my whole country, of the repeated proofs of approbation, given by the people of my own State, to the well meant labors of a life devoted to the service of the nation. But, whatever may be the fate of the recommendation which I have received from the kind partiality of the members of the Convention, coming from almost every State in the Union, as the representative of the Democratic

Party, with which it has been my pride to act, throughout my public career, I shall ever cherish with the most affectionate recollections, a deep sense of the obligation they have conferred. You will please, gentlemen, to accept the assurance of my high respect and consideration, while I remain most respectfully, your friend and Fellow-citizen,
R. M. JOHNSON.
To Messrs. Andrew Stevenson, President. James Fenner, Edm. Condit, Upton S. Heath, Ro. Strange, J. B. Nevitt, Franklin Cannon, Vice Presidents.
Ohio.—The Legislature of this State terminated its extra session on the 19th ultimo. The leading measures enacted relative to the Boundary question, were the following: An act "accepting certain propositions made by the Commissioners appointed by the President of the United States relative to the Northern Boundary;" an act making an appropriation of \$300,000 to carry the laws relative to the Boundary into effect; an act to prevent the forcible abduction of citizens of Ohio—inflicting a punishment, on conviction, of imprisonment in the Penitentiary for a term not less than three, nor more than seven years; and a joint resolution relative to the imprisonment of Jonathan E. Fletcher, in the Michigan Territory.—*Ral. Star.*
A destructive fire occurred in Richmond, Va. on the morning of the 20th ultimo; by which the new Methodist Church, known as Trinity, was entirely destroyed: a Mr. Smith, living opposite, was nearly burnt out, and as many as twelve brick houses were greatly injured; and various wooden appurtenances were entirely consumed. The Church cost \$10,000, and was insured only to the amount of \$4,500. A public meeting was held in the First Presbyterian Church on the 22d, and a subscription opened for the re-erection of Trinity Church and about \$7000 were subscribed on the spot.—*ib.*
Dreadful Tornado.—About five o'clock yesterday afternoon, (19th inst.) a tornado passed over the town of Piscataway, about two miles from New-Brunswick, which destroyed every house but two. The current of wind proceeded towards the city of New-Brunswick, and made dreadful havoc in that place, destroyed nearly fifty houses in Liberty, Richmond and Schuerman streets. The most melancholy part of the accident is the death of several persons. A widow lady by the name of Van Arsdale, a man called Henry Bouraem, formerly a midshipman in the navy, who was killed in the street, and a boy named Bayard.
The details of this melancholy accident we could not procure, owing to the late hour of the arrival of the boat. The tornado first struck the town of Middle-bush, and swept every thing before it.—*N. Y. Star.*
A subsequent account from the New Brunswick Times, states that the number of buildings destroyed and injured cannot fall short of 150, and that the loss of property may be estimated at \$100,000. The Times says: Among the extraordinary occurrences which took place on this melancholy occasion, the fate of the son of Wm. G. Dunham (a small lad) was the most singular. He was taken off the piazza of the house corner of New and George streets, carried in the air a distance of 300 yards, and landed on the wharf at Turnet street, having only sustained a slight injury in one of his arms. On be-

ing questioned as to his feelings, he stated that he recollected passing through the top of a willow tree, and that the sensation produced by being carried up in the whirlpool was like that of being pulled in contrary directions.
Marble Coffins.—The New York Evening Star has an article on this subject, and throws out some very good suggestions, which we have no doubt will ere long be adopted. The coffin is made of stone, and the lid also of stone, is united with Parker's Cement, which acquires in a short time the solidity of stone. The air is thus entirely excluded, and the body will in all probability last a thousand years in nearly the state in which it was placed in the coffin.
There is to be a convent of nuns at Rochester, in this state, where there are 5000 Irish, chiefly emigrant laborers.
N. Y. Ev. Star.
The Savannah Republican states (that 23,000 dollars of the money \$100,000 stolen from the Bank of Darien on the 7th inst. were found on the 15th among some cotton bales on Jones' wharf, in Savannah, by a negro drayman.
The Boston Atlas states the person recently arrested at Cincinnati, on a charge of forgery, and who assumed the name of Ludlow, is one and the same person with the Rev. Mr. Weems, who was convicted of sundry offences against the Commonwealth in Boston a few years ago, and afterwards pardoned and released by the Governor.—He has since changed the theatre and plan of his operations; and has been committing forgeries to a great extent in the western country. His fine person and winning address have enabled him to pursue his purposes successfully—and he was on the point of marriage to a most respectable lady when he fell into the hands of justice.—*N. Y. Mercantile.*
Caricature.—The caricature about the payment of the twenty five millions to Old Hickory by Philippe of France, is an exquisite piece of wit, drollery and fidelity to history. The folly of the French Chambers in requiring an explanation, is most excellently hit off. Gen. Jackson holding a bag containing the twenty-five millions, shakes his cane at the King saying, "It is well that you've paid the money, or else by the Eternal,"—to which the renowned monarch replies tremblingly, "Not another word General, your apology is sufficient."—*N. Y. Jeffersonian.*
In some parts of the State, \$2 per bushel have been offered for seed wheat. From what we hear from various quarters, the crop in Virginia will not be more than sufficient for home consumption.—*Richmond Compiler.*
The high price of Wheat has induced the Rochester (N. Y.) Millers to make large purchases of that article in Canada. A New York paper says:—"such is the amount of wheat now arriving at the port of Rochester, that the duties accruing thereon were about five thousand dollars during the last week."
Horrible Murder.—We have been informed by some gentlemen of the first respectability, direct from Texas, that Mr. Ellin of the State of Georgia, was murdered by his companion, a Mr. James Jenkins, on the Colorado river in Austin's Colony, on the 27th of March last, under cir-

cumstances of the most shocking and aggravated nature. The deceased and his murderer, Jenkins, had during the last winter, left Georgia in company, with the view of visiting the Province of Texas. They had explored much of the country in company, had made some selections and purchases of land for their future residence. Ellin, the deceased, wishing to remain in Texas, gave to Jenkins a power of attorney to go on to Georgia and bring his negroes to Texas. A day or two before his (Jenkins') departure, while alone with Ellin in the woods, Jenkins murdered Ellin, took from his person between 1500 and \$2000, and has in all probability proceeded forthwith to Ga. to take possession of the said negroes under the form of the attorney, with the view of converting them into cash, and making his escape before any intelligence of his horrible crime shall reach the section of country in which the deceased resided. Said murderer, James Jenkins, is about six feet high, dark eyes and hair, and between 25 and 30 years of age. The civil authorities of Texas have used every exertion for his arrest without any avail. Editors throughout the State, friends of humanity, are requested to give publicity to the foregoing. Refer to James Barnett, James Collinsworth and W. H. Wharton, Texas.—*Georgia paper.*
A boy between eleven and twelve years of age, the son of Andrew Beam, of Somerset, Perry county, went to the fields one day last week, in company with other children, and having found some wild parsnip, he eat part of it, and in less than an hour after he was a corpse!—*Ohio Journal.*
Hogs.—During a thunder storm at the North, a drove of 63 out of 65 fat hogs was recently killed by one stroke of lightning! The owner was at the time driving them to market.
Capture of a Mormon Angel.—A Western paper has a curious account of a new adventure with the Mormons. Jo Smith, the High Priest and Prophet of these fanatic vagabonds, was not long since upon his proselyting expedition in Ohio, and to give more solemnity and eclat to his administration of his baptism, he gave notice that an Angel would appear on the opposite side of the river in which the ceremony was performed, as often as the rite should be repeated. Accordingly, whenever the baptism took place, a figure in white sure enough appeared upon the bank of the Grand River, and continued there as long as the ceremony lasted. Some of the unbelievers, however, secreted themselves near the spot, and the next time it showed itself, his Ghostship, after several most unghostlike attempts to escape and after a ducking in the river to which it was driven, was taken bodily possession of, when it was found upon examination to be nothing more nor less than the Prophet himself.—*N. Y. Courier.*
A new colony.—Benjamin Lundy has arrived at Nashville, Tennessee, on his return from Texas, to which country he had been for the purpose of procuring a grant of land on which to establish a colony of black people. Mr. Lundy succeeded in procuring a firm grant of a large tract of fertile territory. If success belong to perseverance, Mr. Lundy will win it for the cause he has espoused.—*Ohio paper.*
From an official statement it appears the number of slaves emancipated in the French colonies of the West Indies, since 1830, has been 24,125.