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BY GEORGE HOWARD,

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PARADE.



FOR THE TARBORO' PRESS.

NIGHT THOUGHTS.

On the resurrection of the "great musk opossum," supposed to be slain by the Hero of New Orleans, but all fudge—a hoax.
Another uproar has commenced 'neath the walls of the Capitol at Washington City. The votaries of mammon have met in the halls to worship that deity—what a pity. The "great 'possum," which Jackson the hero, the brave, hang up by the "tail" till he died, sir: Will be raised, it is tho't, ere long from the grave. And small ones to his "tail" all be "ried," sir. Such a sight! there will be the world never saw. So many small "varmints" contending with one "great musk opossum," with his powerful paw will "whip" every other one under the sun. Congress have met for the purpose of rousing the "great musk opossum" from the dead, I suppose.

The "sub treasury" will first get a "cousting," At which the "great 'possum" will stick out his nose.
Twas thought the "great 'possum" was "dead as a door nail."

And buried by Jackson to rise again never; But rise he will surely, with a much longer "tail." And much longer "tusks," and fatter than ever. So the "possum" was "playing opossum" the while.

With a view to grow fatter and lengthen his "tail," And acquire more strength with an eye to more spoil.

In some other day, when the "coons" would prevail.
This "possum" is destined to be a great thing! Perhaps, the saviour of the great western world; Perchance he may honor the land with a king. The banner of John Bull o'er the eagle unfurl'd. Thus aided by "coons" the "great 'possum" must rise.

Triumphant, alas! "er the land of the free." The eagle outdone, with most terrible cries, Will stretch out his wings and the continent flee; Then "coons" and "opossum" being lords of the land.

Will dictate at pleasure just this thing and that; No other "varmint" will dare raise up his hand, To oppose the foul sway of

MINK AND POLECAT.

Washington City, June 19, 1841.

From the Pennsylvanian.

LETTER FROM COL. BENTON.

Washington City, June 8, 1841.

Dear sir: Your kind letter of the 4th inst. in relation to the Democratic meeting at Spring Garden, on the evening of the 3d, and the resolve there adopted to hold a meeting of the Democracy of the city and county of Philadelphia to form an association to promote my nomination and election to the Presidency of the United States in the year 1844, has been received; and while I am duly sensible of the honor done me by these proceedings, and extremely grateful for the kind motives which induced them, yet I must hasten to do every thing in my power to arrest at the commencement, a proceeding which, however honorable to me, cannot in my opinion be beneficial to the cause of Democracy. Contentions for the first place have in all countries, been the bane of elective Governments; and I have been fully determined ever since I have been on the stage of public affairs to have nothing to do with such contentions. I have always seen, and now see in the ranks of the Democratic party many eminent citizens who are worthy to fill the place of President; and it is my purpose now, and it has been heretofore to promote the election, and to support the Administration (if elected) of some one of these citizens. Private letters to this effect I have written to many friends in different parts of the Union, in answer to their inquiries; and what I now write to you is nothing but a repetition of what I have already said and written to many others.

But while I cannot consent to be brought forward for the Presidency, I am ready and willing to do all that I can for the cause of Democracy. The times require the exertions of all the friends of the cause, and mine shall neither be withheld nor relaxed. We have gone back not merely to the Federal times of General Hamilton, and the elder Mr. Adams, but far beyond

them—to the church and State times of Queen Anne, and the corporation and State times of the first and second George; in a word to the Whig times of Sir Robert Walpole; whose long, corrupt, and purling administration was a continued practice of tory doctrines upon Whig professions, and the source and origin of every curse which now afflicts the English people. We have gone back to the English times when the paper system, the funding system, the banking system (as banks of circulation,) stockjobbing, national debt, taxes, paper money, loans for the existing generation to spend and for posterity to pay, chartered companies with exclusive privileges and monopolies and exemptions from law, the South Sea scheme, and a thousand other cheating contrivances, were all hatched into existence under the hot incubation of Whig legislation. We have gone back to the Walpole times when corporations began to treat with the Government as equals, or to dictate to it as masters; when submission to insult and degradation from abroad, and tyranny to patriots at home, was the practice and the policy of the administration; when the money was spent for party objects, which should have been devoted to the public defence; when, to preserve peace, the nation was not put in armour, but the minister placed upon his knees; when good men were persecuted, and the bad were promoted; when military, naval and civil officers were dismissed from employment for voting against the minister, and his partisans put into office for voting for him; when secret committees, composed of political hacks, were made inquisitors into the conduct of their political enemies, and never failed to find what the minister sent them to hunt for. We have gone back to the times when this, and such as this, was the work of the English Government; and when a Whig administration gave all the originals of which our Federal Whigs are now presenting us with faithful copies here. In every thing, great and small, foreign and domestic, legislative and executive, the Walpole Whig measures of the reign of George the second, are the measures of our Federal Whigs here; if the master spirits now in command should have as long time to work in, as their great original had in England, they would probably succeed in giving us as much debt and taxes, as many paupers and pensioners, and as many corporations to rule, pillage and bribe us, as the English people now have. But I fancy their reign will not be quite so long as that of the Walpole Whigs in England—that it will hardly extend to twenty-five years; and of this the master spirits seem to be a little suspicious themselves, and therefore are ever making hay while the sun shines. Haste to the wedding, is the time to which they dance: double quick time is the time of their step. Hence the rapid removals. Hence the hurry in every thing. Hence this extra session of Congress, which in the brief space of half a dozen weeks, and under the fires of a scorching summer sun, and amidst the sweltering heats of the dog days, is expected to do as much as Walpole accomplished in one of the seven years' tory Parliaments of which he was the Whig author. As a compensation, however, for doing so much in so short a time, Congress is to be permitted to sink into the quiet and passive condition of a bed of justice, (*Litte de Justice*) of the old French monarchy, for the registration of edicts; or to realize, for the education of American people, the metaphysical conception of the dumb Legislature which gave so much celebrity to the Abbe Sieyes. In a word, we are to be permitted to vote upon the bills, without telling the reasons why or wherefore, which the master spirits prepare for us in secret, and lay before us in public.

I consider myself called here to be present at the ratification of our Constitution, and at the formation of a new Government to be composed of Bank and State, in which Bank is to be master, and State is to be slave, and the people to be taxed and plundered for the benefit of both. I am here at the holocaust of the Constitution. If they succeed in their measures there will be nothing left of that instrument but its ashes.

This, Sir, is what I snatch a moment to write to you in answer to your inquiries. It is a frank letter, such as my feelings dictate, and the times require; and you are at liberty to use it in any way which will accomplish its object—that of preventing my name from being placed on the list of Presidential candidates.

Respectfully, sir, your obliged fellow citizen,
THOMAS H. BENTON.

Col. Henry Simpson, Philadelphia.

The Commercial Emporium.—A letter writer says—Business in the city is very dull, and the number of strangers every day lessens. The extreme heat of the last few days has driven many to the watering places and other summer resorts. Money continues plentiful, so much so that the banks are investing largely in

Treasury notes, rather than let their funds lie idle.

In the central part of Missouri. Corn is said to be worth eight cents a bushel. It has been sold much lower at auction.

The cotton crop of 1840 is estimated at 1,600,000 bales.

Florida.—David Levy, the member of Congress elect from Florida, received 1865 votes. The Whigs had two candidates in the field who received an aggregate vote of 2286. It is said that Mr. Levy is the son of a negro woman—if so, he is disqualified by law for holding a seat in Congress.

Hard Times.—It has been said that the miseries which the United States suffer, is a punishment for our national sins.—The inhabitants of other countries seem to think that we are not so grievously punished as some imagine. The number of emigrants this season from Europe, it is supposed will be greater than any former year; they have averaged it is said 260 a day for the past fortnight at the port of New York alone. It would therefore appear, that the people of other nations suppose times to be better here than any where else.

Important Judicial Decision.—The Augusta Chronicle states that Judge Andrews of the Northern Circuit (Georgia) at the late term of the Superior Court of Oglethorpe county, in a capital case, that a person could not be sworn as a witness in a Court of Justice, who did not believe in the existence of God, the obligation of an oath, and a future state of rewards and punishments. He maintained with the Supreme Court of New York, that "Religion is a subject in which every man has a right to think according to the dictates of his understanding. It is a solemn concern between his conscience and his God with which no human tribunal has a right to meddle. But in the development of facts and the ascertainment of truths, human tribunals have a right to interfere. They are bound to see that no man's rights are impaired or taken away, but through the medium of testimony entitled to belief; and no testimony is entitled to credit unless delivered under the solemnity of an oath, which comes home to the conscience of a witness, and will prevent a lie, arising from his belief that false swearing would expose him to punishment in the life to come. On this great principle rest all our institutions, and especially the distribution of justice between men."

Explosion.—We learn that on the 8th inst, Fort Mifflin was accidentally blown up by a communication of fire to the Magazine, containing some three hundred barrels of powder by some unknown means, while it was being repaired. There were at the time several persons in and about the fort. It had not been ascertained how many were killed or wounded. The entire structure with seven other buildings in the vicinity was blown to atoms by the explosion.—Kentuckian.

The State of New York offers a bounty of 15 cents per pound, for all cocoons produced in the State, and 50 cents per pound for the reeled silk. The bounty is to be given for five years.—ib.

The St. Louis Murderers.—We have noticed the horrid murder and destruction of property at St. Louis on the 17th of April, and the arrest of the fiends who committed it. Madison was tried on the 24th of May; Brown on the 25th; Sewell on the 26th, and Worrick on the 27th; And all convicted of murder in the 1st degree. The excitement against these colored fiends was great, and some fears were entertained that the mob would take the law in their own hands. We hope this may be averted. How true the remark that murder will out. Here in 40 days from the commission of the horrid deed, the murders have been taken at distant points, tried and convicted, and must suffer the penalty of the law.—Truly the way of the transgressor is hard.

Giving up its Dead.—In consequence of the salute fired yesterday by the U. S. vessel in port, in honor of Commodore Claxton, five dead bodies came to the surface in the river and bay. One of them was a woman, supposed to be Sally Jones, who threw herself off James Ship, on Monday night. One was a male infant, and the three others were bodies of men unknown. N. Y. Tattler.

Suicide at Mobile.—The Mobile Journal of the 18th inst. says: "Our city was shocked yesterday morning, about breakfast time, by the discovery of the dead body of one of our most esteemed citizens, hanging dead in his own store. There is no doubt he had committed suicide, under the influence of morbid

sensibility. The immediate cause is not known, but pecuniary embarrassments, working upon a mind very delicately constituted, are supposed to be the origin of the distress of mind which led to this catastrophe. We forbear to mention his name. It will be known too soon to those whose hearts will be torn by the knowledge, and what will it profit others, to know, who it was whose lacerated feelings drove him into suicide."

Dogs.—We understand that many dogs are dying with Distemper; and that one dose, or two at most, of Lobelia, is an effectual remedy. A dose is a large tablespoonful, in a little sweet milk. This we have from a lover of good dogs, who has himself tried it.—Fayetteville Observer.

Father and Son.—In the Senate of Connecticut are two gentlemen of the name of Plumb, who hold the relation to one another of father and son. We do not recollect to have heard of a similar circumstance in any other legislative body. Hartford Courant.

The following article furnished by a plain but sensible and observant Farmer of Polk County, Tennessee, to the Hiwassee Patriot, will give information to many who boast a greater knowledge than the author.

In your paper of the 18th inst. my eye caught an article on the subject of the increased velocity of a mill wheel in the night, and requesting information on that subject. I am not a Philosopher, but a plain Polk county farmer; I once owned a county mill and frequently attended it myself, both by day and night, and my experience has satisfied me that a mill will run faster and grind more in the night than it will in the same length of time in the day.—Now for the reason why and wherefore:—When the sun is gone down the water becomes cooler, consequently weighs more to the quantity, it being a principle long since settled in Experimental Philosophy, that cold water is heavier than warm.

ROBERT W. MCCLARY.

Generous.—The insurance companies of St. Louis, having become satisfied that it was through the exertions of Mr. Michael O'Keefe, that an extensive conflagration was recently prevented in that city, presented him with a handsome gold watch, chain and key. That was doing the handsome thing.

File Imposition.—We publish the following article to correct the misrepresentations and abuse heaped upon the Catholic Society, in consequence of the story of Maria Monk, which filled the papers and magazines some two or three years ago. The authors of such gross imposition are as vile as they are daring.

Exploded.—According to the New York Commercial, the Maria Monk and Miss Partridge affairs are blown up. The books were written by a young lawyer of that city; letters of the Rev. George Bourne have come to light, which prove his collusion in the fraud as an aider & abettor; & the Rev. W. C. Brownlee acknowledges thro' the Vindicator that he has been duped by the whole party. Clinton Roosevelt, a few years since a member of the Legislature, it appears by some of his letters which have also been up, wrote the preface to Partridge's book. The Commercial says: "Thus has the religious public been sported with and deceived by these miserable women and their appendages in male attire. While supposing themselves to be reading the true details of Catholic enormities, they were reading the prurient trash of a starving young lawyer."

Book Humbug.—The greatest and latest humbug is "200 Pictorial Illustrations of the Bible." A correspondent says of the work: "A more rascally gull trap I venture to say was never got up in any community; wooden nutmegs, horn gun flints, oak leaf cigars, are mere jokes compared with this imposition attempted to be palmed off upon good people through their respect for the sacred writings. The Illustrations are nothing more than what we have all seen years ago in the Penny Magazine, and the reading matter is chiefly extracts from Stephens, Laboude, Belzoni and other eastern travellers; as for explanation of the scriptures they are not half equal to the old edition of Robinson Crusoe."

We have seen a copy of this book with a showy cover, and agree with our correspondent that it is a pretty dear each penny at \$2.00 or \$3 per volume. Clew. Her.

Railroads.—There is now wanting only two or three links to complete the long line of railroad from Maine to North Carolina—24 miles of which is between Hartford and Springfield, and fifty miles from New Haven to the State line of New York, making one entire line from Buffalo on the

west and Portland on the east to the city of Washington,—in length over one thousand miles! When this is completed, we have an iron line from the east to the west, north and south, and south west, of continued lines with the exception of about fifty miles from Washington to Fredricksburg, Va., of nearly two thousand miles. Hartford Courant.

Death from Starvation.—Mr. James Dabbar, aged 75 years, died in New Gloucester in this State, April 12th. The disease which terminated his earthly existence, was an obstruction in the passage leading from the throat to the stomach. Ossification on some foreign substance had so completely closed the alimentary conduit, that no kind of nourishment could possibly be taken, and consequently life departed for want of its sustaining nutriment. For the last ten days of his existence, he was unable to swallow the least substance whatever. Horrible as it may be to relate, he actually died of starvation.—Portland Argus.

The men of the west.—A recent Nashville Union contains the following interesting paragraph.

A little group of veterans five in number, one of whom was Gen. Jackson, all of whom were companions in the early settlement of the Mississippi Valley—happened together in the post office in this place a few days ago, when in the course of their conversation about events of olden time, they mentioned their several ages, which, added together, made an aggregate of 389 years; of the five, Gen. Jackson—who was 74 in March, is the youngest.

The Court of Sessions in New York is composed of three judges—one a Protestant, the second a Catholic, and the third, an Israelite. What a comment on Religious Tolerance.

Female Orator.—In the New Hampshire Legislature on Monday last soon after the House was called to order, Miss Abigail Folsom, of Rochester, N. H. who lately figured at an Anti-Slavery Convention in Boston, rose in the gallery and addressed the Speaker, in a loud and distinct voice, as follows:

Mr. Speaker; I have come here with a message from God. I come to warn you against the appointment of select committees, to legislate for the people, for they are not of God, and cannot stand."

The Speaker here interposed, and ruled her out of order. She declared that until God ruled her out of order she should speak, and continued her remarks until she was forcibly borne out of the House by the doorkeepers. Her remarks are reported in full by the Daily Patriot.

Abolition movement.—A vessel recently arrived at Boston from Newbern, N. C. having on board a slave, which they found secreted in the hold, when a few days out. Upon learning this, a great fuss was kicked up by the abolitionists; but they would not pay £500 for the fellow's release. He leaped overboard once but was caught, brought back, ironed and confined.

The captain loaded some muskets, and placed powder beneath decks, declaring that he would blow himself up before the slave should be taken. The mate was arrested, but before farther steps were taken the vessel was *non est*—off for Newbern. It was a Boston vessel, but the captain had no idea of submitting to abolition outrage. Rich. Star.

A Snake Eater.—The New York Sun relates a disgusting feat performed at one of the public houses in the Bowery. On a wager of fifty dollars, a man ate a living black snake. "The money was posted, and the cannibal seizing the serpent with both hands, sank his teeth into its brains, amid the deafening shouts of the mob, and the agonizing convulsions of the dying snake. Quickly he gnashed his teeth along the vertebrae, and with one effort tore the bleeding victim asunder, its broken and filthy entrails falling in the victor's bosom."

According to official returns for the empire of Russia for 1840, there were 1100 murders committed during that period and 1300 suicides. Upwards of 7000 fires took place, destroying 45,000 houses.

John Cox was killed in Church Hill, Queen's County, Maryland, on Sunday evening last, by a man named Roberts, from Caroline. Cox had acted as mediator between Roberts and John Green; and afterwards went to Dr. Jamieson's office, whither he was followed by Roberts, who killed him in the yard by cutting his throat, although there was a small pailing fence between them.—Alex. Gaz.

It has been ascertained that bed-bugs can be instantly destroyed by placing them beneath a trip hammer in motion.—Mic.