"Ours are the plans of fair delightful peace, unwarp'd by party rage, to live like brothers."

VOL. XXXIX.

abscription in advance.

MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1838.

NO. 26.

TOSDPE GALDS & SON EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

TERMS.

SUBSCRIPTION, three dollars per annum-one Persons residing without the State will be

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

For every 16 lines (this size type) first insertion ne dollar; each subsequent insertion, 25 cents. Court Orders and Judicial Advertisements will charged 25 per cent. higher; and a deduction

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Mr. Martin's Letter.

To the People of Rockingham County:

Fellow-Citizens:-As some of you nay be surprised at receiving a letter of this escription from one who is not a candidate or any kind of public favor, it may be proper first to say a word or two as to my moives in thus addressing you. Perhaps I might satisfy some by saying they are purely of a patriotic character, but so many frauds have been practised on the people under this name, that men of ordinary modesty have become afraid to apply it to themselves, than by their professions. I will therefore content myself on the present occasion, by telling you that if my motives are of a perknow it-my private concerns are as little afin the country, and fortunately for my peace ment, and there being no candidate for public favor now before us, I have tho't there could not well be a more suitable time for the present. Until a few years past, we were nearly as one man-on the subject of national politics, but we now see the best friends, and sometimes the nearest connections, widely separated on these questions, and unless we discuss the matter in a spirit of harmony, and with minds open to conviction, this unpleasant state of things must long continue. Most of you will remember that our first division took place on the removal of the public money by the President, from where it had been placed by a law of Congress. Up to that period I was as warm in support of General Jackson as any man in the country, and, although I of my political friends by opposing the measure, I could not hesitate on the subject; and took the earliest opportunity of inlawful interference with our monied affairs, most if not all our present difficulties would have been avoided. We had at that time on the Globe, and if our rulers had been content to let "well enough" alone, we would yet have been a prosperous and haphad by this time become surrounded by new counsellors-all his original friends were discharged from his cabinet, and their places filled principally by those who had been his most bitter enemies. These pretended friends had their own purposes to answer, and it now very clearly appears that one of these designs was to get hold of the public money for the purpose of land speculations. The surplus money could not be reached with sufficient facility from make the contracts with the Pet Banks, Reuben Whitney to act as their agent, and a Secretary Woodbury to stimulate and order their discounts, it is not difficult to acact on the subject unbiassed by the tramcie should be received in payment for pubtend to enhance the value of their own lands. Here, however, they were caught in their difficult to obtain money of any description, a Chief." and they yet have their lands, & the Banks

commenced in fraud the more complete.plicitly to his cabinet that it was his mea- would tend to heal our unhappy divisions, sure, and to be carried out on his responsi- but even these hopes have already been bility, yet the party always avoided this disappointed, for instead of bringing the two at one time, that neither his Secretary or ple, he has recommended only three meahimself had this power, for it is clearly ad- sures that are of any very general interest. late Administration of the General Govern- he would neither give it the legal sanction of his name, nor return it to Congress for further action, although this duty is laid down in the Constitution as plain, and as a calm and dispassionate interchange of little liable to misconstruction as any letter opinions on these important subjects than in the alphabet. Now, Fellow-citizens, can you who profess to be Republicansdemocratic Republicans, continue to advocate such usurpations in the Executive, or any other branch of your Government ?-Will you tell your children that this is the way to preserve the liberties our fathers acquired with so much toil and treasure ?-Tell them to follow and sustain every popular President who may catch their youthful fancies by proclaiming that he "assumes the responsibility?" If you do, my friends, depend upon it, we hold our liberties by a very frail tenure. This very expression of assuming responsibility, and the sanction it has received from the American people, was morally certain of losing a great many has caused me to doubt the stability of our Republican institutions, more than any other circumstance in our political history.

In the civil Administration of our Govforming you that a proper sense of duty ernment, there is nothing for any of its ofconstrained me to do so. I do not intend ficers to take, or to assume, and least of all, bravery in this pledge, as Falstaff possess- at once to resort to the credit system in as a currency. presentatives of the people in Congress.

the American people for either of these mels of party. The next important ques- traits. Some are at a less to know how tion on which we differed was the Execu- the Old Hero himself could become so found tive Order, directing that nothing but Spe- of this little magician, as he is called, but naturalists sufficiently explain this princilic lands—another measure to which the ple when they tell us that one lion will not President was evidently prompted, in part, permit another to occupy even the same foby the same Land Companies. They had rest, yet they have been often known to acquired vast quantities of the public land become extremely fond of the smallest with Bank paper, which they wished to spaniel. At first view this comparison may bring into market, and all the obstructions be considered harsh, but what else is there they could throw in the way of further in nature but the spaniel, to which a man transactions with the Government, would could be more aptly compared, who could so far forget the dignity of his nature as to utter the sentiment that it was own trap—this specie order soon rendered it " glory enough for him to serve under such

ly insolvent so as to render a transaction 'impossible' was not French-we can say is here held up to Europe and the world lished the late U. S. Bank, in 1816. Soon many with much more truth that this sentiment by their Chief Officer,-telling them in after this, the fog cleared away, the cur-The great principles involved in these mea- of Mr. Van Buren's is not American—it is substance, that we have become so de- rency brought to a specie standard, ex- account of its destructive qualities, when sures of the late Administration, have never certainly any thing else than Republican, praved, that solemn oaths of office, bonds changes made easy, confidence restored, improperly controlled? To abandon the been fairly presented to the people of this and if he possessed every other qualification and security, and the highest penal statutes the credit system revived, and we again Ocean, and cut off all commerce with the county, who had not the opportunity of for the Presidency, this sentiment, which known to our laws, are all insufficient for went on our way rejoicing, until May last, world, because it annually swallows up required to pay the waork amount of the year's reading the different publications of the day, appears to have been deliberately penned the safe keeping of the public money, but when the same disease overtook us—and some 40 or 50 of our ships and their crews and some who do read (take one of our for- expressly for the public eye, rendered him that to all this must be added, a set of in here we are, on our beam ends, benumbed -destroy our steam boats because some of mer candidates) confine themselves to one- totally unfit to govern this great and inde- quisitorial officers to overhaul their affairs, and paralized-with a threatening mons- their boilers burst? In this way we might sided papers, and are, therefore, as incapa- pendent people. I was opposed to the e- just as the police officers examine the ter in the shape of a Sub-Treasury law, go on until we come down to the necessary ble of explaining the true merits of the con- lection of Mr. Van Buren, however, for rogues of our large cities, periodically, hovering over us, and ready to swallow article of bread itself, and show that there troversy, as those who did not read at all. more reasons than I have here room to The great objection to the removal of the mention, but after he became the choice of or not. This feature in the bill clearly or two more, to my hard money friends. charged 25 per cent, higher; and a deduction public money, by the President, was not as the people, I was fully prepared to support shows us, that it is not contemplated to the to the expediency of the measure, but any of his measures at all calculated to bethat he had no legal or constitutional nefit the country, and really wished that right to do so, and although he stated ex- his policy might turn out to be such as direct issue, by contending that the power parties together, his very first public act lay in the Secretary of the Treasury, and created a third party. In the two messages that it was right to kill the monster &c. It Mr. Van Buren has submitted to the consiis evident that the President himself believed | deration of Congress and the American peomitted in his special Message sent to the The one o suspend the last payment to the previous Congress, recommending that bo- States of their proportion of the surplus dy to enquire into the propriety of passing money on hand in 1836, was concurred in a law on this very subject. So likewise of by Congress at its called session. I should the Specie Circular-this proposition was like to give you my views on the merits of and choose to be judged by their acts rather introduced in the Senate by Mr. Benton, this question, but have only room here to and rejected by an overwhelming majority say that the whole management of this matsay nothing about my love of country, but of his own party, yet in the teeth of this ter shows us with what facility the most decision, and directly contrary to a law of popular law may be rendered nugatory by Congress passed in 1816, this Specie Or- a hostile Administration. That law, altho' sonal or sinister character I really do not der was put forth before some of the mem- passed by a very large majority of Conbers had time to reach their homes. But gress, was known to be against the policy an intelligent people, I think this of refected by the prevailing distress of the coun- the sequel of this matter shows a still grea- of Mr. Van Buren and his Secretary, and try, perhaps, as that of any business man ter contempt of law, and the rights of Conthat if they had openly avowed their deterof mind, I have no personal favors to ask of power. A bill was introduced by one of mination to destroy its beneficial effects, every man who has the least experience either of the people or the Government. his political friends, to rescind this Order, they could not have acted more in confor- in the internal commerce, or the ordinary The public having become much divided as which finally passed the two Houses of mity with such a declaration, than they transactions of the country, does not at to the policy of some of the measures of the Congress, by almost a unanimous vote; yet have done in carrying it partly into execu- once see its utter absurdity. Knowing the tion. His last message recommends a war deep prejudices that exist on this subject with the Republic of Mexico, but I believe and foreseeing, as I think I do, the great neither of the three parties in Congress distress that is likely to be brought on the

shows this recommendation any sort of country by these hard money advocates, I Congress as a ruse de guerre, a stratagem how, or where to begin. Reason was nevpractised on the same principle as fisher- er yet a match for deep rooted prejudice. men sometimes throw a tub to the whale, and it may be as well here just to give to keep its attention from the boat, until you a short sketch of what the credit systhey can properly fix their harpoon. This tem has done for us, and leave you to reaidea will not appear extravagant when we son with yourselves, and draw your own Mr. Van Buren. It will be seen, to bear without the aid of paper money. Some 60 Jefferson, and a Madison, approached all Exchequer. I do not know that I will any other name? Our parents then re- lude I have never yet been able to learn .- let us for a moment example to ring the last Administration; it is not sur- "monster." If there ever was a political stitution under which we now live. By prising that we should continue so on the production that deserved the name, here this time it was seen, that to sustain the be the principal adviser of its most obnox- than ever were attributed to the fabled to found it on a specie basis, issued by ious measures. I have often wondered up- monsters of old. It proposes to appoint such corporate bodies as could be reached where Congress had ordered it to be kept, on what principle in our nature it was, that an additional set of splendid Officers, with by the ordinary process of law, and soon but with such men as Amos Kendall to any of the original friends of Gen. Jackson splendid salaries, to be call'd "Receivers after our present Government was formcould become the advocates of Mr. Van General!" another set from the Collectors ed, we established the first bank of the U-Buren; for I believe it is generally admit- of the Customs; the Officers of the Mint nited States, and thus organized the best ted there are scarcely any two men in exist- and branch Mints, and a host of Post- of all currencies-a mixture of paper and ence more unlike either in person or cha- masters are also to be made depositories of coin; and placed the credit system on count for the many millions of our most va- racter. One is so frank, honest, and bold of the public money. They are all to be its proper foundation. The States went luable public lands that became private pro- in all his actions, that many of us are con- provided with vaults, iron chests, locks, on chartering local banks for local purperty so soon after the possession of the strained to admire the man, while our sense bars &c. &c., with an unlimited number poses, and the national bank kept them all public money was obtained. This fraud is of duty compels us to oppose his measures. of clerks, porters, and labourers to roll in, in their respective sphere by monthly setnow seen by many of both parties, and will The other character I shall not attempt to and then again to rolf out the dollars tlements, so that carry our property, or doubtless be fully investigated as soon as sketch, but can truly say that I never yet and the yellow boys,—the very image of produce, into any of the States for sale, we the people constitute a Congress that can heard any of his friends recommend him to which is enough to make a miser's mouth had only to enquire, what local paper was water. The whole features of this bill are received in that bank to know its value. repugnant to every Republican feeling, It regulated commerce between the States. but there is one not yet mentioned which supplied all the necessary exchanges, and despotic government of earth. It autho- O! ye hard money men, it was easier then rises the appointment of a set of agents in to get \$1000 in specie with that contemnin the bill is calculated to prevent, and we After thus fixing the currency we went on

tates to their children and become nominal- | Bonaparte is represented as saying the term | What a picture of the American people, | shin-plaster system until Congress estab- | stroy the best institutions ever devised by whether any offence has been committed, up our last and only hopes. But a word is an evil, either moral or physical, atselect these new officers for their moral of such a character as no one ever wishes edge tool called foot-adze-place it in the worth and honesty-there will be some to see again, carried us through the first hands of an awkward workman, it may dirty work for them to do about election- war-a better paper money also carried us wound, probably destroy him; but when recing times, for which an houest man is successfully through our second war of in- managed by one of ordinary skill, no tool unfitted, and a set of harpies are to be ap- dependence (as it was aptly called) with in his chest is found more necessary and pointed who can only be kept in harness Great Britain. It paid our armies, built our useful. There will continue to be improby these new police officers. I would navy, forts, steam-boats, Rail-Roads, and vident and unskilful men in the managehere seriously ask my Van Buren established our various Manufactories .- ment of their affairs, whether you place them friends, whether they can countenance a These twin-sisters, paper money and the in a bank or a gold mine, and it is a poor system which thus necessarily holds them credit system, have also been the principal reason to urge that because one man has up to the scorn and derision of the world? means of settling the new States; clearing injured himself by dealing with a Bank, 99 There is one charm in this measure how- their forests, and rearing numberless villa- others are to be debarred from the necessaever, but for which I should not fear an ges, towns, and cities, where a few years ry means of carrying on their business .army in each State could ever inforce this ago there were nothing but savage animals, Some of our old-field politicians tell us, (as law on the people, and that is its hard money and still more savage men. It has been they do many other things memorised from feature. Mr. Benton has made so many fancy speecies on this subject, and depicted children, building up our houses, improving gerous to our liberties. Now, in answer the yellow boys peeping through our silk purses in such glowing colours, that many seem disposed to take the whole bill, merely for one of its provisions. I know there are many worthy and respectable men amongst us who believe in this policv, but of all delusions that ever blinded turning to an exclusive hard money curfeel it necessary to say something on the Some think this matter was presented to matter, yet I am really at a loss to know,

ted largely to the general diffusion of the refutation. Gospel; it has not only distributed the I have thus far endeavored, in a brief man-

would not be understood as comparing away

Are we to do without the use of fire on tached to every thing connected with this the means of educating ourselves and our the Globe newspaper,) that Banks are danour farms, employing mechanics, and emi- to this, I would again beg you to ask yournently stimulating industry in all the vari- selves what possible motive could the Dious branches and pursuits of life. In rectors or Stockholders in a Bank have in short, there is not an individual in the destroying the liberties of their country, country who has bettered his condition, and thereby involve themselves and their and who will reflect only for a moment on property in one common ruin? If a man the subject, but must see the benefits that places a small portion of his estate in a have resulted to himself from this enlight- bank for the purpose of securing a helpless ened and improved system of credit. The daughter from being brought to want by an Christian, too, has abundant cause to ad- extravagant husband, does it necessarily vocate a well regulated paper currency, follow that he must become an enemy to for besides the other improvements in our the institutions of his native country? The moral condition, it certainly has contribu- idea is too ridiculous to require a serious

Bible to all the needy at home, but supplied | ner, to bring down the causes of our unhapthe destitute of other countries with many py diversions to the present period, and find thousand volums. It built our Churches, in truth that there is but one important quespaid the expenses of local and travelling tion, of a prospective character, at this time Preachers and rendered considerable aid to between us, and that is the advocates of a foreign Missionaries. At a conference held metallic currency against those in favor of a at Greensboro' some weeks ago, I under- mixed currency consisting of convertible pastand ten or eleven hundred dollars were per and coin-a new experiment against old contributed for the support of foreign mis- prosperity-an untried measure against half sionaries! How much do you suppose a century's successful practice. There is a would have been given if all the paper charm in the appearance of the precious examine the next prominent measure of conclusion, as to what we would have been, money had been banished from circulation. metals that captivate all sorts of children, Sympathy and charity, like other princi- and I have sometimes thought a pretty good as near a resemblance to a harpoon, as years ago, we were Colonies under a for- ples in our nature, may be excited and scale to measure the "march of intellect" any paper writing can possibly do to a eign government and, where many of us stimulated by the pathetic appeals of popu- might be produced from this single data .deadly instrument. This measure is called now have pleasant fire-sides, was then a lar Preachers, but it never can make the This childish propensity adheres to all savthe Sub-Treasury Scheme. It is the first howling wilderness. A little before this people give what they have not, and I ques- age nations, and to most uncultivated and question on which it can be properly said, time King George had "assumed the re- tion whether the same state of feeling inexperienced persons through life, but I that Mr. Van Buren has fairly committed sponsibility" of taxing us without our con- could have produced fifty dollars under a can truly say that I never yet met with a himself, before the public sentiment was sent, but our Fathers resisted the measure hard money dynasty. Now, my friends, man, unconnected with political pursuits, believed to be known; for it cannot be pre- and finally declared they would no longer let me beg you to lay down party feelings and of either literary or practical informatended that his letter to Sherwood Will- live under his government, and raised an for a moment, and calmly ask yourselves tion to any considerable extent, that was an iams pledging himself to go against a Uni- army to repel the invaders. At this time whether these national and individual im- advocate for an exclusive hard money curted States Bank, after it had received its the confederated government could not provements could possibly have been ac- rency. In saying this I certainly mean no mortal wound, was of this character. There command specie enough even to pay for complished, in the same space of time, by reflection on any of my county men. I was just about as much independence or the salt required by the army, and had the exclusive use of these precious metals have already said that many worthy and good men-as good as are in this or any to discuss this old subject here further than for its Executive branch—their duties are ed in stabbing Henry Percy after he had its worst possible form, by issuing paper If you will take time to reflect on this other country, advocated the measure, but I to say I am clear in the opinion that if the all prescribed in a written Constitution, and been slain by the Prince of Wales, and to money based on nothing but credit, and matter, and be candid with yourselves and must be permitted to tell you, that you are people had properly resisted this first un- I have ever considered it to be the primary my mind, the whole letter presents a scene from a source that could not be reached your country, I shall not fear your falling inexperienced in the matter, and if the meaduty of a Republican to resist and denounce equally ludicrous. Mr. Van Buren has, by law; yet this same paper money was to rebuke this Sub Treasury and hard mo- sure be adopted, in less than two years, (I the first assumption of any power, not gran- at length however, staked his reputation one of the main instruments by which we new scheme at the next elections .-- think one would do it,) that you yourselves ted by that instrument-whether it be by with the American people on this new fi- acquired our libertics. Is our freedom of Most of the small-fry politicians, whom I will acknowledge its ruinous consequences. the best regulated currency of any country an Adams, a Jackson, or a Van Buren. - nancial plan and its details are fully de- less value because it was not paid for in have heard advocating this measure, speak Some contend that the general Government The History of former Administrations veloped in the bill introduced in the Sen- hard money, or, are you of the sect that be- of going back to the good old hard money might carry on its affairs in specie, and the show with what cantion a Washington, a ate by Mr. Wright, his Chancellor of the lieve a rose would not smell as sweet by times, but to what particular time they al- state banks still sustain the credit system ; py people. But our venerable President questions of Executive power, where it personally gain or lose a cent by the fate mained some time under a confederate com- There certainly is no period in the history I have not the documents before line, but could be considered the least doubtful. We of this measure, yet I would freely give pact, leaving each State to regulate its of this Government or country, when spe- have no doubt of its being substantian leave. heard nothing then of taking or assuming \$100, that every independent voter in N. own commerce and provide its own cur- cie was exclusively used as a currency, to rect, when I say the receipts in the Freasure responsibilities, but, on the contrary, all Carolina, had a copy of this bill. In this rency, but it was soon perceived that this when they can properly prefer. The an- ry of the U. S. for the last 3 years will be such matters were duly referred to the re- event, I think a fair proportion of them state of things would not answer, and in cients speak of a golden age, a silver age, found to average thirty-five millions of dolwould see and begin to understand what order to form a more perfect union, regu- an age of brass and of iron; but they seem lars. Where is this amount in specie to Becoming divided on these questions du- has been meant for years past, by the term late commerce &c. they adopted the Cou- to have designated both the gold and silver come from? You and I both say from the ages as being anterior to Noah's flood, and Banks-well, let us see how long the Banks as the old Patriarch has left us no account could stand this sort of racket. From the election of a successor who was believed to it is, as large as life, and with more heads credit of a paper currency, it was necessary of the manner in which the exchanges of last exhibition of the affairs of the Banks to that day were managed, I cannot see on their respective Legislatures and stockholdwhat authority the example of those ages is ers, it appears by their own showing, allowing those who have made no exhibits an Seeing the immense advantages we have equal proportion of specie according to stock, derived from a well organized currency of as those who have, we find every Bank in coin and convertible paper-affording us a the Union has but little more than thirty-two ready market for our produce, and bringing millions of dollars. Thus you see even if all the necessaries, and most of the luxu- they have this amount in their vaults, which ries of the world nearly to our doors, why I very much doubt, they would be used up will you hazard an entire new experiment? in less than a year. 'There is a very bretty Our first Parents were not satisfied in Eden | theory used by some on this subject, but -Satan flattered them by promising to im- unfortunately it is as false as it is pretty .prove their condition, and all know the aw- They go on the principle that nature abhors ful lesson they have left us in believing him. a vacuum, and say that if we will only drive paper money, specie will at once rush the things of this dirty world with spiritual in and fill its place. This will do very well matters, but this part of divine history for- when speaking of fluids, but how the prin-I can hardly believe would be submitted furnished a paper money at par, equal ces itself on my mind, when I hear the ciple is made to extend in any considerable to, at this day, by the subjects of the most to specie in every State in the Union, and political Satans of the present day, endea- degree to the solids, is not so easily seen. voring to betray the people into the adop- If I had room it could be clearly shown from tion of a measure calculated to destroy their the best calculations that have been made the character of spies, to travel over the ed paper, than it is now to get as many temporal comforts and happiness. But you as to the probable amount of the precious country in disguise for the purpose of ex- cents, notwithstanding your government say there is an evil in the system of Bank- metals on the clobe, and the probable amount amining the money and accounts of these has been endeavoring to force the article handred of depositaries. This provision into circulation for more than 6 months in the bill is calculated to prevent, and we After thus fixing the currency we went on may fairly suppose it was intended to pre- prospering, as no people ever prospered and when I do this let me at the same time ney in existence could not fill the vacuum. vent every honest or honorable man in the before, until the first bank of the United ask you-seriously ask you-what human It is said that in Wall Street, N. Y., alone, country, from becoming a depositary. It States expired by its own limitation and institution is there, on this earth, entirely the dealings, in prosperous times, often exwould seem by this, that Mr. Van Buren died a natural death in 1811. There was exempt from evil? Man is imperfect, and ceed five millions of dollars per day, and the is not only determined to destroy the credit a good deal of its paper affoat which aided so are all his works, and it is the demagogue transactions of the whole city amount to system as to the currency and exchanges, the exchanges between the States some only-whether in the Senate or at the bar; more than every man, woman, and child, in Had I a ten year old boy, who could be but also, to destroy the only species of pro- time after the Bank went down-but as or at the old-field muster-that will avail the City could count, during the same day. still hold their bonds for the purchase mo- made thus to debase himself, I should con- perty, many worthy men will have left soon as this paper was withdrawn, con- himself, of this inherent misfortune, and it in specie. This phenomenon of making nev. Some of these debtors, I understand, sider him morally and politically defunct—them by the time this new experiment gets fusion began to prevail, the banks suspen- is from our overlooking this law of nature, one dollar in specie sustain a thousand, or have lately transferred these princely es- lost to me, to himself and to his country, into operation—their moral character.— ded payment, and we remained under the they have sometimes been enabled to de- perhaps ten thousand in credits, is one of