

# THE REPUBLICAN COMPILER.

"Truth is mighty, and will prevail."—JACKSON.

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WHOLE NO. 921.

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### THE GREAT EXPOUNDER OF THE CONSTITUTION.

Mr. Senator Webster has been thus designated, and has been honored with the present of a magnificent piece of plate, with an inscription of similar import to the above, appropriating this title to him, and making it part of his public character. How mutable the constitution must be, if his opinions are to be considered its expositors.

In 1816 Mr. W. was the violent opponent of the United States Bank's charter.—In 1832, and since, he has been the Bank's resolute supporter and advocate.

In 1816, Mr. W. said, in reply to the advocates for the charter of the Bank:

"It was a mistaken idea, he said, which he had just heard uttered on the subject, that we were about to reform the national currency. No nation had a better currency, he said, than the United States; there was no nation which had guarded its currency with more care; for the framers of the constitution, and those who enacted the early statutes on this subject were *hard money men*; they had felt, and therefore duly appreciated the evils of a paper medium; they therefore scrupulously guarded the currency of the United States from debasement. The legal currency of the United States was gold and silver coin. This was a subject into which Congress had run into no folly."

As a measure to supply a remedy for the disorders of our currency, Mr. W. argued this Bank would be of no efficacy.

But the other day, Mr. W. said in the Senate, "we strove for the recharter of the national Bank, as the only means of preserving a safe currency."

Again: In 1816, Mr. W. said: "I have expressed my belief on more than one occasion, and I now repeat the opinion, that it was the duty, and in the power of the Secretary of the Treasury, on the return of peace, to have returned to the legal and proper mode of collecting the revenue. It can hardly be doubted, that the influence of the Treasury could have effected all this."

That which was wanted most, was the designation of a time for the corresponding operations of banks in the different places. "This could have been made by the head of the Treasury better than by any body or every body else."

But the other day he said, "he had from the first to the last looked upon all these notions of returning to a hard currency as extremely idle."

Again: In 1816, Mr. W. said: "The only power which the General Government possesses of restraining the issues of the State banks, is to refuse their notes in receipts of the Treasury. This power it can exercise now."

The other day he complained that one of the deposit banks in Ohio had declined to receive the notes of such banks as would not redeem them by giving a draft at thirty days date on one of the Atlantic cities, and said: "It would not take the notes of the specie paying banks of Ohio from the land office, or telling the land office that it would not take them. Here were thirty or forty specie paying banks in Ohio, all good, and out of these thirty or forty three were selected, whose notes would be taken."

Again: In 1816, Mr. W., after relating how the public revenues had been collected through the agencies of State banks, and the medium of bank notes, said:

"During the war this state of things changed. Many of the banks had been induced to make loans to a very great amount to Government. These loans were made by an issue of their own bills. This proceeding threw into circulation an immense quantity of bank paper, in no degree corresponding with the mercantile business of the country, and resting on nothing for its payment and redemption but the Government stocks, which were held by the banks. This excess of paper, which was found every where, created alarm. Demands began to be made upon the banks, and they all stopped payment."

But the other day, Mr. W. declared in the Senate, that "the war took place in 1812, and not two months of it had passed before there was a cessation of specie payments by at least two-thirds of all the banks of the country."

Now we apprehend, that it will be with in the recollection of nearly all, that the suspension of specie payments by the banks did not take place until 1814, and from the causes related by Mr. W.

Again: In 1816, Mr. W. said:

"A national bank ought to be regarded, not as a power to rectify the present state of the currency, but as a means to aid the Government in the exercise of its power in this respect."

But the other day he said, that "in his opinion, there was no way of safely keeping the national treasure but in a national bank."

These are but a few of the inconsistencies or changes in opinions which Mr. Webster's mind has undergone in relation to the Bank, the currency, and the power of the Treasury Department, since 1816; and if a similar change should take place hereafter, what sort of an instrument will it appear to be?  
*Globe.*

### ERROR CORRECTED.

**NEW ORDER FROM THE TREASURY.**—We learn from Ohio, that the Secretary of the Treasury has issued a new circular to the Receivers for sale of Government Lands, as also to the pet Banks, that no notes of any Bank be taken on account of Government, unless such Bank will engage to redeem these notes by drafts at 30 days' date, payable either in Baltimore, Philadelphia, or N. York, at par.—*Nat. Gaz.*

Note.—It may be suggested, that the above statement is wholly groundless—no new circular having been issued on that subject, we learn, since March, 1824.  
*Globe.*

### From the Pittsburg Mercury.

The Anties are becoming alarmed at the stupendous system of Banking which they themselves have so suddenly built up. The following is from the Times of this morning. We coincide in opinion with the editor as to the inevitable result of the forty millions added to the banking capital by the present legislature. The evil has been inflicted upon the state by the party of which the Times is the organ. It is too late to think of checks now: the system must be crushed, by the people in Convention, or the threatened explosion will ensue—the sooner the less disastrous. The people will bear in mind that the party, which came into power in the guise of Antimasonry, has proved to be a Bank party—a party which had done more to create a class with privileges and immunities than any other. So much for Antimasonic Democracy.

**BANKING.**—A banking and speculating mania is spreading like a contagion over the country, and most assuredly if it cannot be checked, it will produce disastrous results. Its influence upon the economical habits of every class is most pernicious; unhinging principles upon which the prosperity of nations must always depend; giving to all dealings a gambling character, and to men's minds, an aversion for quiet industry,—a fondness for the perils and escapes of a life of adventure—all utterly inconsistent with the proper character and natural tendencies of republicanism.

The most pressing evil of this rapid increase of banking business is the danger of its explosion, which seems inevitable if no preventive should be adopted. It is impossible to defend our present banking system; waving all questions as to its unconstitutionality which is of little practical account, there is no mode by which the public can be guarded against the madness and profligacy of any extravagance to which speculators may choose to carry it. Besides that course of management which in one bank may seem perfectly safe, may nevertheless be rendered perilous by the misconduct of others.

### NOW LOOK AT THIS.

While so great an effort is made to expedite the mail southward between Washington and New Orleans, we would call the attention of the Postmaster General to the great route between the north and the west—for instance, the mail from the north comes on as far as Baltimore as upon eagle's wings, and here it stops for fifteen hours! having a good easy time of it from three o'clock in the afternoon till six the next morning!!! Hereafter, the mail for the west left Baltimore in an hour after the arrival of the steamboat. Again, we ask the Postmaster General to look to it. Is it tolerable, under any possible view of the case, that in the transmission of the mails through Baltimore westward, there should be a delay of fifteen hours in this city.—*Baltimore Patriot.*

There is no delay at all, except with the editor of the Patriot in becoming acquainted with the mail arrangement that has been in operation since the commencement of the present year. He supposes that the mails from the northern cities for the west, come down to Baltimore and pass over to the Ohio upon the National road, as they did under the old contracts that expired with the last year. In this he is mistaken. They leave the Atlantic route at Philadelphia, passing over the Pennsylvania rail road, and by the towns of Chambersburg, Bedford, and Washington, Pa. to Wheeling.

Baltimore and Washington are the points where only the southern mails for the west leave the Atlantic route; and the hour of departure on the western route is put at the earliest time practicable after the arrival and distribution of the southern mail. To postpone that departure to the afternoon, would have no other effect than to detain that mail about twelve hours, and could not expedite any other mail.

**FATAL ACCIDENT.**—A young man by the name of John Philip Yost, whilst engaged with another man in felling a tree, on Monday last week, near Shippensburg in this county, met with an accident, which resulted in his death. When the tree at which they had been cutting fell it caught the top of another tree, which it bent so far down, that when disengaged, a dry limb was thrown from it with great force, and at a distance of about forty feet, struck Yost on the head, and fractured his skull. Medical assistance proved ineffectual, as Yost expired about nineteen hours afterwards, in great agony. We understand that the deceased has relatives in Chambersburg, who have lately arrived from Germany.  
*Carlisle Herald, April 21.*

**THE GREAT ESTATE.**  
The Albany Daily Advertiser publishes the following notice, which appeared in a Utica paper on the 15th of March last, as the sum total of its information respecting the great estate of \$2,900,000 (dollars, not pounds, it seems) for which owners are supposed to be wanting. Taking into consideration the vagueness of the notice, wherein, it will be seen, not even the residence or country of "Hugh, John and Daniel Mosher" is indicated, or the time or place at which they lived or died, and the unintelligible nonsense about "Manchester realm," it is scarcely necessary to advert to the absurdity that such a vast amount of property has been existing without an owner since 1798, in order to arrive at the conclusion that the notice is either a silly hoax, or the perpetration of some lunatic who thinks himself the lawful heir to untold riches.—We have known such cases before now.

"Notice is hereby given to all whom it may concern, that stock invested in the year of our Lord, 1798, to a considerable amount in the East India Company, and certain other money arising from a manufacturing establishment in England—(the stock invested was in the name of Mosher and others, under the same name and firm) are without legal claimants in Manchester realm. This is to notify all claimants in the United States of America of these facts—the property is supposed to be about \$32,000,000; all the heirs died with the cholera.

All the descendants of Hugh, John and Daniel Mosher who may be residing in this country, are requested to inform the subscriber of their line running back to either of the said Hugh, John and Daniel, as soon as possible.  
Direct to EZRA BAKER,  
Westmoreland, Oneida co. N. Y.

In this State, the law forbidding the circulation of \$1 and \$2 bills has gone into operation; and so well has the plan worked that but little or nothing is now said against the law, even by those violently opposed to it because it was passed by a Democratic Legislature. The next Legislature, which is equally or more strongly Democratic, will, it is confidently expected, extend the prohibition to all bills under \$5.—Such is the law in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, and several other States.  
*Cour. Sent.*

At the sale of public lands held at the Land Office in this town, on Monday the 4th ult., there was a tract sold for one hundred and four dollars and sixteen cents per acre. Said tract we understand is situated at the foot of the rapids of the Maumee river, and has water privileges of great value.  
*Bucyrus Intel.*

H. M. S. Champion captured on the 3d ult. the slave brig Reconart, pierced for 16 guns. The Reconart, after a long chase, during which her guns, anchors, boats, &c. were thrown overboard, was run on shore on the east end of Cuba, and 280 of her slaves forced on shore—30, principally women, were drowned in attempting to land. The brig was, however, got off, and with 188 slaves taken into Havana.  
*9999999*

CINCINNATI, April 17.  
We understand that news was received in this city yesterday, per Steam Boat from New Orleans, that General Houston had attacked by surprise a large detachment of the Mexican army, under the command of General Coss, at or in the vicinity of San Antonio, and defeated them with a great slaughter. From six to nine hundred Mexicans, are said to have been killed, and General Coss taken prisoner and burned alive.  
*Republican.*

The Barbers of New York have struck—they demand ten cents for shaving. Perhaps faces in New York are longer than they were six months since.

**Steaming.**—A late number of the *Courier Belge* relates a public exhibition, or experiment recently made at the University of Brussels, by a Doctor Schneider, of a method discovered by him for the cure of stammering. Three persons were brought to him, in the presence of a large audience, who were proved to be bad stammerers, and entire strangers to him; all of whom he enabled to speak with perfect ease and fluency, after no longer time than a quarter of an hour given to each.

**A Locomotive set loose.**—An engine which had accidentally got detached from its tender on the rail road at Downingtown, Penn., a few days since, went off at full speed, "demon-like," (says the Coatesville Advertiser) in defiance of the statute in such case made and provided," leaving the engineer to catch up as best he could. It proceeded "atone in its glory" to the vicinity of Parksburg, when from the exhaustion of fuel its course was checked. Some of the citizens who saw it speeding over the bridge unattended and unattended thought some dire catastrophe had occurred. One man calculated its speed at fifty miles per hour.

**CORONER'S INQUEST.**  
**Awful consequences of Intemperance.**  
A man named Wm. Driver, aged 35 years, died suddenly at 487 Washington st., and a Coroner's inquest returned a verdict of death by intemperance. A young man named Jacob Beans, who was only 26 years of age, went off immediately to a friend of the deceased who lived in Greenwich street, in order to inform him of his death, and whilst he was in the act of telling that Driver had died of intemperance, Beans himself fell to the ground and was almost instantly a corpse. The Coroner was sent for and held an inquest on the body, and it was clearly shown that Beans died from the same cause as did the person whose death he just came to announce, viz: intemperance.  
*N. Y. Jour. of Com.*

A letter from Sierra Leone, of Nov. 25th, says:—  
"The Buzzard that most lucky vessel, has just sent in a fourth prize, the *Semiramus*, of Havana, captured off the Bonny, with 477 slaves on board; Mr. May, the governor, and Mr. Bedford, master's assistant, brought her up; she is condemned, and the hull has been already sold for £850. Lieut. Roberts, late first officer at present in command, and who captured this vessel. The Buzzard has captured in eleven months, 1967 slaves, she is at present off the Bonny, blockading a polacca barque. The *Thaina* is daily expected here from the Cape St. Helena, and Ascension. On the evening of the 15th, a Spanish brig, the *Argo*, prize to his Majesty's brig *Charobdis*, Lieut. S. Mercer, captured off the river Gaboon, anchored here; she had on board, at the time of capture, 428 slaves, and during her passage up, (five weeks) has lost 62. She will land the remainder this evening. The master of her says he has run eleven voyages clear, and this was his twelfth trip; he appears rather a better kind of person than is generally to be met with in his diabolical capacity. The prize master, Mr. Rowlett, mate, reports, that off St. Thomas's Island he was informed the Buzzard and Fair Rosamund had captured the large polacca brig they were blockading, supposed cargo upwards of 600. The coast seems all alive with the slave trade, and the Spanish flag predominates in spite of all our attempts to suppress it. Twenty-five sail were lying at St. Paul de Loando, six weeks ago, most Spanish, and large craft. On the 21st instant, another prize, a Spanish sloop, *Comde de Andes*, in charge of Mr. J. G. Burslem, arrived here, taken, after a three day's chase by the boats of the *Briomart*, Lieut. Quin, 297 slaves on board; this her first prize. She was captured off the River Bonny, and has only lost six in her passage of one month.—The *Curlew* arrived yesterday, from a cruise; she has detained three Spanish vessels for being engaged in the slave trade, in breach of the new treaties entered into with Spain, by which they are liable to capture and confiscation, if it can be proved that they are in any way fitted for a slaving voyage. She could have seized three more (all within 180 miles of our principal settlement, Sierra Leone,) but had no more men to spare to navigate them. The *Plyades* will therefore proceed after them.

Other accounts say the Buzzard captured on the 27th of November, off Bonny River, after a long chase and a hard fight, another slaver, with 280 slaves on board.

A very intelligent gentleman, just arrived from Texas, has given us an interesting account of the manner in which Santa Anna stormed the fortress of San Antonio. The Tyrant brought with him 1508 convicts from the Mexican prisons. On arriving at San Antonio, he placed the whole body of them as a forlorn hope in advance of the rest of the army, half encompassing them in the rear with 3,300 infantry, and placing still further in the rear 2,200 cavalry, with orders that each convict who attempted to retreat, should be instantly shot or cut down. He then ordered the convicts to storm the fortress, setting before them liberty and promotion if they succeeded and immediate death in the event of their failure. They rushed forward with the fury of devils, & in less than an hour, every man in the garrison was massacred. The carnage among the convicts was dreadful. Out of the fifteen hundred, all but three or four hundred were either killed or mortally wounded.  
*Louisville Journal.*

SANTA ANNA, we understand, has effected a negotiation with some firm, a branch of which is located at N. Orleans, for a loan of six millions of dollars, to enable him to carry on the war against the Texans. He pays 4 per cent. per month or 48 per cent. per year, besides admitting into the Mexican ports, the exportations of the firm free of duty.  
*Maysville (Ky.) Monitor.*

**SCHUYLKILL COUNTY.**  
An election took place on Saturday the 30th ult. in Schuylkill county, for a member of Assembly in the place of HENRY W.

CONRAD, Esq. resigned. The candidates are Mr. CONRAD and JACOB HAMMER, Esq. late Prothonotary of Schuylkill county.—They are both friends of the National Administration. It is believed that there was no whig or antimasonic candidate. Mr. HAMMER says, that he is "opposed to all monopolies," and that he has been and is "most decidedly opposed to the introduction of any coal companies within the county of Schuylkill."  
*American Sentinel.*

**From the Pennsylvania.**  
**MR. BUCHANAN'S LETTER.**  
We invite attention to the able and manly letter of the Hon. James Buchanan of the Senate, written to the Democratic Association of the Fourth Ward, Spring Garden, which we publish this morning. It will well repay perusal, both from the excellence of the manner and the importance of the matter; being on a subject at present exciting interest—that of the doctrine of instruction. Mr. Buchanan adheres with the strictest fidelity to his opinions heretofore promulgated, and illustrates them with great force and clearness. In the heat of indignation at the treasonable conduct of the minority Legislature, and a well founded apprehension that the Senate would follow that lead in one instance, as they had in another, portions of the democracy of the State expressed wishes at variance with the principles entertained by Mr. Buchanan, his letter is well calculated to beget a reconsideration, and to bring about a conviction of the correctness of his positions.

**FOURTH WARD—SPRING GARDEN.**  
An adjourned meeting of the Democratic Association of the Fourth Ward, Spring Garden, was held on Tuesday evening, the 19th ult. at the house of James Flanagan, Ninth and Coates' streets, Alexander M. Caraher, Vice President, in the Chair, F. Cowdover and G. Williams Secretaries.

A letter from the Hon. James Buchanan, Senator from Pennsylvania, was presented and read.  
A committee consisting of John J. McCaughen, George Williams, Henry Berrill, J. H. Doherty, Samuel Evans and Daniel Smith, who had been appointed for the purpose, reported the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted—and, together with the letter were ordered to be published in the Democratic papers.

**Resolved,** That the thanks of this Association are due to the Hon. James Buchanan, of the United States Senate, for his prompt notice of the resolution passed on the 9th of March last.

**Resolved,** That the principles set forth, and so eloquently maintained, in the said reply, are the true principles of democracy—and whatever opinion this Association may have hastily expressed under indignant feelings, caused by the rank apostasy of their immediate representative in the State Senate, they cannot on reflection do other than adopt the sound views of Mr. Buchanan, and point to the noble and independent position he has assumed with pride and pleasure—a position becoming the representative of a democratic State, and which must secure for him the confidence of an honest and republican people.

**Resolved,** That in these times of political degeneracy, when traitors to the people and hypocrites in principle, have profited by "bribery and corruption," and grown insolent with success—the example of Mr. Buchanan is cheering to the heart of every friend of freedom, and bids us not despair of the virtue, liberty and independence of the Commonwealth.

**Resolved,** That the letter of Mr. Buchanan be published in all our democratic papers, and recommended to the perusal of our democratic brethren of the State and Union.

WASHINGTON, 12th March, 1836.  
**To the Democratic Association of the Fourth Ward, Spring Garden:**  
GENTLEMEN—I have this moment received the Resolution, unanimously adopted by your Association, on the 9th inst. expressing an opinion, that in case the Legislature of Pennsylvania should instruct their Senators to vote against Col. Benton's expunging resolution, we "should not, under any circumstances, recognize" this instruction.

Entertaining, as I do, the highest respect both for your patriotism and your judgment, it is with unaffected regret that I feel myself constrained to dissent from this opinion.

There are some political principles of a character so sacred, that we ought never even to think of sacrificing them at the shrine of expediency. You will agree with me, that of these no one deserves to occupy a higher rank, than that the public will ought to be obeyed by the public servant, or he ought to resign his trust. This is a principle which I adopted in my early youth.—It has grown with my growth and strengthened with my strength." All my experience has convinced me, that the safety of the people demands that this rule should be inflexibly obeyed by all their Representatives. The sentiments which I expressed upon the subject, in my letter to the democratic members of the Legislature, at the time of my election to the Senate, were only the repetition of my opinions which I had a hundred times expressed before.

This principle of obedience or resignation is the very key stone of the arch, which indissolubly unites together the democracy of all the States of the Union. However divi-

ded it may sometimes have been on other questions, on this there has been an entire unanimity of opinion.

Is this then a moment when a Pennsylvania Senator, elected by a Democratic Legislature, should do any act which, in its consequences might shake this adamantine foundation? We have just witnessed in our State the effect which has been produced by disobedience of the public will. A vast moulded institution, which we all believe to be dangerous to the rights and liberties of the people of the whole Union, and which has been condemned by a large majority of the people of Pennsylvania, has just been chartered for a period of thirty years by our State Legislature. If the Republican party justly believed that, as a National Institution, it was fraught with danger to the people of all the States; how much more alarming ought it to be to the people of a single State, within which all its energies and all its influence are now concentrated? If the power of the General Government, united with the well deserved popularity of Gen. Jackson, could scarcely make head against it, what will be our condition in Pennsylvania with a State administration devoted to its interests?

At the present crisis we have nothing to rely upon but a strict adherence to the usages of the democratic party. For the sake of any temporary advantage, no public servant should ever think of betraying the great cause of liberty into the hands of power. We act upon this principle we have nothing to fear. The free and manly spirit of the people; the deep conviction which is every where felt that the approaching contest will be a struggle for life or for death, and that the democracy must either triumph over the Bank, or the Bank must crush the Democracy, will ensure us a glorious victory.

I believe with you that the present legislature of Pennsylvania, will not speak the voice of the people of the State, should they instruct me to vote against the expunging resolution. You will readily perceive, however, that if the Senator himself is to be made the judge, if his opinion, as to what may be the people's will, is to determine his obedience or disobedience to Legislative instructions; the right itself rests upon his own discretion, and might as well at once be abandoned. The conduct of the Senators who have been so loudly condemned by the Democratic party throughout the Union, for acting upon this principle, is at once justified, and we must retract all we have said against the course which they have pursued. We must do more. We must virtually determine that no Senator from Pennsylvania can ever be instructed; because our territory is so extensive and our population so numerous, that it is almost impossible for a majority of the whole people ever in this form to communicate their will to their Senators.

There may possibly be extreme cases, as I have intimated in my letter to the Democratic members of the Legislature, in which the Senator, in order to avert a great public evil, might be justified in deciding that the Legislature had violated the will of the people in voting him instructions. I do not now say that such cases might or might not exist—but certainly the present is not one of them. My vote can neither pass nor defeat the expunging resolutions, at the present session. Besides, the voice of the American people has doomed that resolution of the Senate condemning President Jackson, shall be expunged; and whether the actual process shall be performed during the present or the next year, is not a matter of any importance.

Again, I am proud to say, that I have acquired some little character, with the democracy of the other twenty-three States of this Union. However small this may be, yet it is still dear to me, and I wish to preserve it. They are not familiarly acquainted, as we are, with the local politics of Pennsylvania.

They have already seen that our House of Representatives have passed the instructions by a vote of 64 to 25; and they will probably pass the Bill by a large majority. If I shall neither yield obedience to these instructions, nor resign, I will be placed in the same list, in their estimation, with those Senators who have felt it to be their duty to disregard instructions altogether. It will be said of me, that I have professed the duty of obedience or resignation when it affected political opponents. but have shrunk from its application to myself.

I shall never consent to consider the present as a question of mere expediency; but if I were, I should unhesitatingly declare it to be my conviction, that the party to which I am proud to belong, would lose more—much more—by my abandonment of one of its essential principles, than they could gain by my vote in favor of the expunging resolutions, or by all the votes I should be able to give, during the residue of my term in the Senate.

Every friend with whom I have conversed upon the subject, in this city, and these include many of the most distinguished republicans throughout the Union, are all clearly and decidedly of opinion that I ought to obey or resign. Either alternative will bring the question distinctly before the people of the State, at their next general election, whether, what I believe to be, the unconstitutional and unjust Resolution of condemnation against the President, for one of the most meritorious acts of his long and useful life, shall or shall not be expunged from the Journals of the Senate.

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