





THE FREE PRESS.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 1850.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

Attempts at simplification so often result in simplification, that we are almost deterred from our purpose of explaining that part of the new Constitution which relates to the right of suffrage. There are, however, some terms necessarily used, as freeholders, parceners, tenants in common, joint tenants, reversion, remainder, &c. which may not be properly understood by all our readers. They are terms which, in the law, have a definite and fixed meaning, and no other words could have been properly used in their stead by the framers of the Constitution. We arrange the persons entitled to vote, under the following classes: and it may not be improper to repeat here, that all these are entitled to vote on Monday next for or against the new Constitution.

1. All persons qualified to vote by the old Constitution and laws. 2. Every white male citizen of the Commonwealth, resident therein, having a freehold estate (that is an estate for his own life, or the life of another, or any greater estate) in lands of the value of twenty-five dollars. It is not necessary that the voter should be in actual possession. If his tenancy does not occupy the land it is sufficient.

3. Every such citizen, having a freehold estate in lands, jointly with others; if his share be worth twenty-five dollars. 4. Every such citizen who has a fee simple estate in land worth fifty dollars, which will come into possession at the death of any other person or persons; as where land is devised to the mother during her life, and at her death to go to the children. Each of the sons 21 years old and a resident citizen will be entitled to vote, even during the life of the mother, if his share of the land be worth fifty dollars.

(The freeholders aforesaid must have been so possessed, six months before the time of voting, unless their title shall have come to them by descent, devise, marriage or marriage settlement.) 5. Every such citizen, having a leasehold estate in lands, worth fifty dollars, for at least twenty dollars per year, for a term which was originally not less than five years, and being himself in actual occupation of the land.

6. Every such citizen who for twelve months before the time of voting, has been a house-keeper, and head of a family, and shall have been assessed with a part of the revenue of the Commonwealth, within the preceding year, and actually paid the same. (The county levies are not a part of the revenue of the Commonwealth, but payment of the tax on lands, slaves, horses, mules, carriages, merchants' licenses, tavern licenses, or some other tax which goes into the treasury of the state, is necessary to entitle this class of citizens to the right of suffrage.)

In case of two or more persons owning land which is not of sufficient value to entitle each of them to a vote, they shall together have as many votes as the value of the land shall entitle them to. The mode in which such votes are to be given, shall be fixed by the Legislature. All non-commissioned officers, soldiers, seamen and marines in the service of the United States, all paupers, persons of unsound mind; and every person convicted of any infamous offence, are excluded from the privilege of voting.

The foregoing is given as our own interpretation of that section of the Constitution which relates to the right of suffrage; the section itself is also published that our readers may compare them and detect any errors which we may have fallen into.

The returns from the elections which we publish to-day, shew, that the new Constitution is well received generally. Being desirous to take this last opportunity of correcting some misapprehensions and misconstructions of the new Constitution which have turned many against it even in our own county, we had prepared an article for this purpose; but the crowded state of our columns obliges us to omit it. We ask the voters to examine the Constitution for themselves, and weigh well the arguments before they decide this important question; and above all, to look to the consequences of rejecting it. What will be the state of this community should it be announced that the people have refused to accept it? Such a refusal we know will not be based upon a preference for the existing government. No. There are men who desire, who openly profess a wish, that things should come to the worst as soon as possible, in order that there may be a violent change. They wish the new Constitution rejected because they fear it will be adopted, that the prosperity and contentment of the people will be the consequence. But we are done with this subject.

[Greensboro' Patriot.]

LEWISBURG, VA, MARCH 27. Gold, Silver, Copper, Tin, Lead, Iron, abounded in Western Virginia. Lewis Eisenminger, a German dilettante of intelligence and experience in the ores of these minerals, has covered on his lands extensive deposits of all the above metals. Silver, in particular are found in large quantities, the ore of both surpassing in purity any thing of the kind in Germany. We are informed by friend Reminger, that it is his intention to commence working several mines in a few days, and is having for that purpose emigrants from Prussia. A counterfeit five dollar bill of the United States Branch Bank at Portland, was passed in New York on Saturday evening. The paper is lighter, and the note is shorter than the genuine bill. This vignette is also badly cut.

We have received the first number of a new weekly publication from Washington City, entitled "The Kalendar, or Ladies' Literary Gazette." It consists of eight pages, quarto, and is published by Messrs. Madra & Hough; at \$2.50 per annum, if paid in advance. Its typographical execution is good, and its contents various and interesting.

"A PLEBEIAN" whose communication we publish to-day, will excuse us for abridging it, when he is informed, that we were obliged to do so by the want of both time and space.

To the Voters of Jefferson County. FELLOW-CITIZENS: It sometimes happens, when men appear in public, that a censure or disapproval is manifested, and the "advertisements of friends" are urged by way of apology for candidates who enter the political arena. In my case, I yield to the dictates of my own inclinations, though I am certainly not without assurances of support from numerous highly respectable friends in every section of the county. The custom of self-nomination, is one which has something in it not altogether consonant with the most refined notions of modesty; but as it seems to be the only method pursued at present, any excuse is necessary, for following the fashion.

There is another custom, however, with which I shall, in a great measure, fail to comply; it is the practice of calling upon each voter, in person, and soliciting his vote and influence. It has always appeared to me, that this practice had its origin in the anxiety of ambitious aspirants to succeed, than in any just sense of the respect due to intelligent freemen; and I am well persuaded, the people of Jefferson desire no exhibition of the personal qualities of a candidate, to enable them to judge with due discrimination. In many cases, I doubt not, feelings of disgust and contempt have been excited, upon seeing men, of naturally demure visage and austere manners, suddenly transform themselves into gentle courtiers—blinking their countenances with nervous smiles, realizing their usual rigidity of fibre, and with "bated breath and whispering humbleness."

expressing an unbounded and unfeigned love for the "dear people," and a never sleeping vigilance over their rights and interests. Such creatures may prosper in other regions; but I trust the day has gone by (if it ever existed) when it was necessary, for the intelligent electors of Jefferson, to "brook the pliant hinges of the knee, that truth might follow fawning."

For some years past, I have been an ardent admirer of the practice of self-nomination. I believe that the new Constitution would be adopted, and the spring elections consequently nullified; accordingly, the dislike I have to the custom, is killed as I am in the science of a political courtier; thirdly, the respect I have for the intelligence and independence of my fellow-citizens; and fourthly, the press of other engagements of an important character.

A candidate for public favor should unquestionably hold an interchange of sentiment with the electors; and his opinions upon subjects connected with the general welfare, should be topics of free and full discussion. In my case, although, perhaps, personally unknown to some of the voters, I have had an opportunity (from my connection with the press) of ascertaining views upon the great subject of reform, which has agitated the Commonwealth for years past. It is my purpose, to be zealous to you, or to plead in my favor, the zealous efforts which I have used in my editorial or individual capacity, to promote every scheme, in reference to that subject, which I believed to have for its object the public good.

I will not grate to you, fellow-citizens, upon the science of government, nor attempt to persuade you that I shall be useful in the important station to which I perhaps presumptuously aspire. Prognostics, or professions of ability to serve you, would certainly not become me. If I have any just pretensions, you will need no facetious aids to enable you to discover them. My humble name has been presented to your consideration, from no vain conceit that I have qualifications particularly suited to the task of a legislator; but rather in obedience to the promptings of what I hope may be deemed a laudable ambition. Unaided by the imposing claims of wealth or family influence, I advance from the body of the people, to test the theory in our republican code, which proclaims that even the humblest of our citizens may aspire and successfully subserve, in all respects, your highest interests; but it will be a practical commentary upon that much lauded theory. It may stimulate to exertion, others who are more capable and more worthy; and it may excite in the breasts of some, who, like myself, have been compelled to struggle with many of the adverse currents of life, a desire for improvement—and an ambition to be useful.

Notwithstanding my inability to pay you individually the compliment of a personal call, and to perform the usual honors of an expert elector, I shall rely on some confidence upon a continuance of that spirit of kindness and liberality which has heretofore distinguished the people of Jefferson in their conduct towards me. Their more than ordinary vicissitudes; their parity has been manifested on many occasions; and if gratitude for past kindnesses, can be any guaranty for fidelity and zeal, in whatever concerns their interest or their honor, my heart assures me that their confidence shall not be abused. Perhaps some may deem this an unnecessary and egotistical obtrusion; but as a personal interview with the voters seems now out of the question, I hope I may be pardoned for resorting to a familiar method of communication, and one which habit has rendered dear to me. Respectfully your fellow-citizen, JOHN S. GALLAHER.

To the Voters of Jefferson County. The period is fast approaching, when the amended constitution of Virginia, is to be tested by your votes—when Jefferson county (too) must record her vote, to the ratification or rejection of that instrument, which the delegates of the people have framed, for the government of this Commonwealth. The crisis, every man must be impressed with the fact, is one of momentous, solemn, and incalculable importance to us, and to those who are to succeed the present generation, and which may, for aught we know, operate on the destinies of remotest posterity. Each voter, before he approaches the polls, for as the ocean is composed of drops, and the earth of particles, so will each vote have its due weight as a component part of the whole, in preponderating the scale in which it may be cast.

As respects myself, one of the most humble in your ranks, I have reflected deliberately and dispassionately, on the subject, and I have determined, to support the new Constitution of the State. If I err, the fault is owing to my limited capacity to judge. I have not received all we demanded in Convention, during the first great struggle in that body, but when the first great question was found to be unattainable, the "shall we make an honorable compromise of this ancient Commonwealth?" Both parties consented to this, rather than embark in their perilsous enterprise, as might involve their political existence.

Examining now, what the west surrender, and what the east, the owners of power, and the able arbiters of the state, have agreed to surrender on the score of representation, according to the London plan, which is a house district, having at this time, in a house of 214, 76 members, loss in the reduction of 80 of that number, 40; leaving 36 members; the middle district, having at this time 58, losing 16, leaving 42 members; the valley, having at this time 28, losing only 3, leaving 25 members; and the trans-Alleghany district, losing at this time 52, leaving only 21, leaving 31 members. The above appropriation upon calculation, approximately, in its practical results, as nearly to the "white basis" as we could wish. In addition to all this, observe how radically the strong hold of the lowland aristocracy—the detached old county system, which has for so long a time, been a source of weakness, is demolished. Under the present system, Warwick, a good sized corn field, sends two delegates to the Assembly, while Loudoun, an empire in comparison, sends only two, notwithstanding the great inequality that exists between them. Under the new Constitution, Warwick will send more than half a man, while Loudoun will be entitled to her just quota of three. This is a plain statement of the case. What a contrast is there between the present and the proposed system!

Some ask, why was Mr. Cooke the only member from the west, who voted for the adoption of the amended Constitution, supposing that in so doing, he was acting against the interests of the west? In Mr. Cooke's case, there was a mere difference of opinion with the western members; as to what plan of representation the west should accept, he was not a party. He acted as honestly as they, and he will doubt, who is acquainted with his character. But what does all this matter? The question with you, is, whether you will accept or reject the new Constitution. If you do determine to reject it, which is very unlikely, you will be riveting more closely, the chains of the aristocracy which have strangled your necks, and will tell on your children, perhaps for ages to come, the most degrading servitude. If your patriotism urge you to accept it, you will gain a position that will advance you so much further on the way to the final accomplishment of all your wishes. You will not lose any thing, but gain all. You will come to the polls, and speak in your own name, in favor of the new Constitution. Down with the old one—it deserves the execration of every freeman—you will not stamp it under your feet, and reject it from that temple which it has so long polluted.

A PLEBEIAN.

VIRGINIA ELECTIONS. FREDERICK ELECTION. The following is a statement of the polls in this county for members of the house of delegates, and on the question of ratifying or rejecting the new constitution.

Table with columns for names and votes for ratifying/rejecting. Includes names like J. M. Mason, W. D. Wood, J. B. D. Smith, etc.

For ratifying 218 34 22 47 58 31 410 For rejecting 191 19 134 21 36 17 418 Of the delegate election no other remark need be made, as that it excited no interest that we observed among the people, and that neither candidates nor their friends manifested any particular anxiety as to the result. Of the constitution poll we will only say that we shall never, so long as we remain in this county, attempt to predict the result of any election hereafter. When we said, four or five weeks ago, that the vote for the amended constitution would probably be 2 or 3 to 1 against it, we felt certain that we were speaking within bounds, and that the true result would show a greater majority. We present the opponents of the new constitution as so surprised at the result, as we never heard

the most sanguine claim any thing like a majority. (Frankfurter Republican) Rockbridge. The election in this county commenced on Monday. We have reports of the polls in three of the districts up to the evening of that day. For the Constitution 207, against it 46. For the Senate, Palfreys 215, Stuart 89. For the Assembly, Moore 340, J. M. Dowell 257, Alexander 145.

There are two other election districts in the county—For the Senate, Mr. Weller 263, no opposition—For the Assembly, Col. W. M. Wilson, 503, Joseph Oline 263, no opposition. We learn from Alleghany, that there is nearly an unanimous vote for ratifying the new Constitution in that county—only four or five voting in the opposition.

NEW STORE REMOVED. GEORGE W. HAMMOND respectfully informs his customers and the public generally, that he has removed his store to the brick house lately built by Joseph T. Daugherty, Esq. immediately under the Printing Office, and opposite Mr. James Brown's Book and Apothecary Store.

FRESH GOODS. A large assortment of new opening goods, suitable for the present season. HUBBARD KEYS, Charlestown, April 14.

FARM FOR SALE. WILL be sold, on Monday the 10th day of May next, or the premises, to the highest bidder, that valuable farm on which I have owned three-fourths of a mile south of Charlestown, 8 miles from the former place, and 11 from the latter, containing about 317 acres, one-third of which is in timber, the balance in good repair and cultivation. The soil is composed exclusively of strong limestone land, well adapted to the growth of wheat and corn, and is susceptible of improvement, by the use of clover and plaster, as any land whatever. The fields are clear of rock. The improvements are: a comfortable dwelling house, good kitchen and smoke house, a large and convenient negro house under a single roof, adapted to the accommodation of three or four families, corn house and stable, all of which are new; a young orchard of choice fruit, and a well of water convenient to the house. But a small part of the purchase money will be required; the balance in easy payments. Possession will be given the first of October. Persons wishing to purchase are invited to view the property. ELIZABETH GREEN, Frederick county, April 14, 1850.

WILL BE SOLD. A NEGRO GIRL, named Nancy, belonging to the heirs of Richard Bayler, Esq. aged about 17 years, well grown and good looking, at public sale, at the court house, on Monday the 19th instant (being court day). JOHN YATES, Guardian of the said heirs, April 14.

HACK AND HORSES. PERSONS wishing to employ an excellent Hack and horse, for any purpose, and well known coachman, will find such an establishment in the care of Martin Robinson, at Mr. Robert Fulton's. The terms will be reasonable, and regulated according to the public employment and distance travelled. The public may rest assured of the most strict attention, and unremitting efforts to please. April 14, 1850.

FOR SALE. A private contract, one through bred Mare, five year old, one three quarter bred FILLY, three years old this spring; one male YEARLING of the Durham short horned breed, 49 EWES, all young thirty sheep, 50 LAMBS, many of them fit for slaughter at this time. 400 lbs of WOOD, near Mr. Pearson's Mills, Jefferson County, April 14, 1850.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS. LIBERTY CO. ROBERT LUCAS is hereby assigned to the command of the 1st, and Major Thomas Briscoe to the 2d Battalion of the 55th Regiment, Virginia Militia, one will be obeyed and respected accordingly. The following officers compose the staff of the 55th Regiment: Richard Duffield, Quartermaster; Dr. John Briscoe, Surgeon; Dr. Daniel Badinger, Surgeon's Mate; and Wm. B. McGruder, Adjutant. The training of the officers will commence in Shepherdstown on the 30th day of May, and the regiment will parade in Charlestown on the 6th.

POSTSCRIPT. LOUDOUN ELECTION. Election, first day—For ratifying the New Constitution, 154, for rejecting, 63. Delegates—John H. McCabe 85—Charles Shreve 72—Wm. T. Mason 54—Samuel Dismick 51—H. B. Powell 41.

NOTICE is hereby given, that an amount of Five Dollars per share, (being the 14th instalment,) on every share of stock in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, is required to be paid on the 30th day of June next, and a further sum of Two Dollars and Fifty Cents per share, (being the 15th instalment,) on the 30th day of July next. In all instalments must be paid to the credit of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, to the Cashier, or Officer of either of the following Banks, viz: The Branch of the Bank of the United States at Washington. The Bank of Washington, at Washington. The Bank of the Metropolis, do. The Farmers and Mechanics' Bank, at Georgetown. The Bank of Alexandria, at Alexandria. The Bank of Potomac, do. The Farmers' Bank of Alexandria, do. The Mechanics' Bank of Alexandria, do. The Hagerstown Bank, in Hagerstown, Md., and the Branch of the Valley Bank, in Charlestown, Va.

VIRGINIA FREE-Road Lottery, CLASS NO. VII. To be drawn in Woodstock, Shenandoah county, on Thursday the 13th day of May, 1850.

PRIZES. 36,000 DOLLARS. 10 prizes of 1,000 Dollars is 10,000 Dollars. 1 prize of 1,200 Dollars is 1,200 Dollars. 2 prizes of 600 Dollars is 1,200 Dollars. 3 prizes of 400 Dollars is 1,200 Dollars. 4 prizes of 300 Dollars is 1,200 Dollars. 5 prizes of 200 Dollars is 1,000 Dollars. 14 prizes of 50 Dollars is 700 Dollars. 20 prizes of 40 Dollars is 800 Dollars. 80 prizes of 20 Dollars is 1,600 Dollars. 80 prizes of 10 Dollars is 800 Dollars. 4,000 prizes of 4 Dollars is 16,000 Dollars.

Public Sale. BY virtue and in pursuance of a deed of trust, executed by Michael Walsh, and duly recorded in the clerk's office of the county court of Jefferson, conveying to the subscriber sundry articles of personal property, to secure to Thomas W. H. Smith, the sum of \$1000—of which I will proceed to sell, at public auction, on Saturday the 24th of April next, at the house of said Michael Walsh, in the town of Virginia, near Harpers Ferry, a quantity of sundry articles of personal property, consisting of beds and bedding, chairs, tables, a stove, looking glass, pots, copper-ware, knives and forks, candlesticks, foot stools, boots, chaises, &c. together with a horse, cart and gear complete, and a cow, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the sum of money in said deed of trust mentioned. SAMUEL GIBSON, Trustee, March 10, 1850.

RESPECTFULLY informs the ladies of Charlestown, Harpers Ferry, and the adjacent country, that she is about to commence the MILLINERY BUSINESS, the third door west of the Presbyterian Church. She will receive the fashions regularly from New York and Baltimore. She will be thankful for a share of the ladies' patronage. Especially at Harpers Ferry, wishing to favour her with their custom, will please leave their orders at Mr. Samuel Gibson's store, with directions on them, where they will be sent for and returned weekly. March 31, 1850.

AN APPRENTICE WILL be taken at this office. He must have a had of from 12 to 14, possessed of a good English education, and of moral, modest and industrious habits. March 24, 1850.

TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS! To be drawn in the City of Baltimore, on Wednesday, 28th of April. MARYLAND STATE LOTTERY, No. 4 for 1850. This scheme is arranged on the popular ODD & EVEN SYSTEM, by which the holder of two tickets or two shares is certain of obtaining at least six prizes and may draw the Capital prize of TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS, there are the usual number of minor denominations, and no Prize lower than Five Dollars. Only 9,000 Tickets in the Scheme—More Prizes than Blanks—the whole payable in CASH, which, as usual, can be had the moment they are drawn. Tickets \$5 00 | Quarters \$1 25. Halves \$2 50 | Eighths \$9 69.

Home-made Flax and Toss Linen, DARTON'S prime Old Whiskey, And Jamison's Crackers, Just received and for sale by GEO. W. HAMMOND, March 10.

KITCHEN FURNITURE. Such title as is vested in the subscriber by said deed, will be transferred to the purchaser or purchasers. THOMAS RUSSELL, April 14, 1850.

