

## NOTE FROM RMA

The following is a copy of the original article found in the Ottawa Free Trader, 31 June 1840. It details the charges and counter-charges of those involved in the election of 1840 for the position of Sheriff of La Salle County, Illinois.

As this elective office was held by William Reddick from 1838 through 1845, the reader might wonder what influence this newspaper article had on swaying the minds of voters to return the incumbent to office.

In any case, the modern eye might recognize that “the more things change, the more they stay the same.” Perhaps human nature is such that it changes but slowly, if at all.

The reader of this article should be aware that it is most sensibly read from left to right, from column to column, BEFORE beginning to read the next sequenced page. There are four pages in total.

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Illinois Free Trader.

To the Electors of La Salle county.

FELLOW-CITIZENS:— It was not my intention of appearing before you as a candidate for re-election, in a more public manner than the announcement of my name in the "ILLINOIS FREE TRADER."— I had decided upon this course from the fact, that nearly every voter in the county was acquainted with me, and with many of whom I had transacted business; and believing as I did, that you would exercise the right of suffrage in favor of that candidate for Sheriff, whom you believed most worthy of your support; but, having received letters from different parts of the county, informing me that emissaries (two from Ottawa) were busily engaged in circulating all manner of evil report against me, and as it is impossible for me to contradict those reports successfully, in person, I deem it expedient to address you in this public manner.

In proof of the assertion that Emissaries were abroad, I lay before you the following letter from Troy Grove Precinct:—

TROY GROVE, July 25, 1840.

Wm. Reddick, Esq.

Sir, we understand that some serious charges are alledged against you, with respect to some of your official acts as Sheriff, in the affair of W. T. S. Lavinia, and also the manner in which you have treated prisoners in the jail. The last charge you will find by examining the report of the Grand Jurors, at the last February term of court. The first charge in case of Lavinia is, that after the order for his committal to jail, that you neglected to put him in jail, until you was requested by citizens of Ottawa to do so, and some signs of tar and feathering manifested.

We had also understood that when questioned why you dealt with Lavinia as you did, that you stated in effect, that you was in Lavinia's power, and that Lavinia could ruin you. We thought you would consider it a favor to have notice of the charges that you might be able to satisfy the public of the facts in the case.

Yours respectfully,

H. THORNTON,  
J. H. KINYON,  
J. JOHNSON,  
R. K. SWIFT,  
JAMES N. REEDER.

In relation to the charge of ill-treatment of prisoners, referred to in that letter, I call your attention to the following affidavit of Morris W. Martin, Deputy Sheriff, who was perfectly well acquainted with the manner in which said prisoners were treated.

State of Illinois, }  
La Salle County, } scr.

Morris W. Martin, first being sworn, deposes and says, that he was Deputy

And he further deposes and saith, that they were invariably furnished with good and wholesome provisions, such as were used in the Sheriff's family; and with one exception, the prisoners confined in said Jail, have spoken in terms of well treatment. And he further says, that Eli A. Butler, complaining of ill-treatment to the committee of Grand Jurors, was in all respects treated in the same manner as other prisoners; and after he (Butler) had complained to the Grand Jury, Samuel J. Parks, a prisoner during the time of Butler's confinement, stated to him, at the time of said confinement, and repeatedly since his (Parks) acquittal, that the provision and treatment while in Jail, was much better than he ever expected to receive in any Jail, and that he felt grateful to Mr. Reddick and his family, and would ever remember the kind treatment

he received at their hands. And he further says, that the said Butler, while confined in Jail, was unruly and abusive, and frequently was admonished of his conduct; that he was present in Court, at the February special term, when Benj. H. Mooers, Foreman of the Grand Jury made the report relative to the Jail, and the treatment of the prisoners; and said report having been read, His Honor Judge Ford, enquired of the Foreman if they had ascertained the truth of the statement of the prisoner; to which the Foreman replied, they had not; that it was only the statement of the prisoner, and it might go for what it was worth.

MORRIS W. MARTIN.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 28th day of July, A. D. 1840.

J. CLOUD, Clerk.

Were I disposed I could easily multiply depositions, showing that the charge of misusing prisoners was a downright base fabrication; but I deem it unnecessary.

The Jail of this county, hardly worth the name it bears, is a disgrace to the county in which it is situated—term after term of the court has the Grand Jury condemned it in the most positive manner. While several persons are confined in it at the same time, it is utterly impossible to keep it in a condition that it might otherwise be, were it differently constructed.

Respecting the character of the said Eli A. Butler, I take this opportunity to state, that he was the most abandoned villain that I ever had under my charge. He was convicted at the February special term of court of stealing a horse from one of our farmers, and by me conveyed to the Penitentiary at Alton—he has since eluded the vigilance of his keepers, and made his escape, and undoubtedly, long ere this, has resumed his former calling. Knowing, as I did, the character of this individual, I kept a vigilant eye upon him; and for the reason, that I prevented his escape from custody, or in other words for having faithfully performed that duty,

I hereby certify, that complaint having been made to Lewis W. Link, acting Justice of the Peace, in and for the county of LaSalle, against Wm. T. S. Lavinia, charged with the offence of being accessory to an assault, with intent to kill and murder, upon the body of James Clark, a State's warrant was issued and placed in my hands to execute; by virtue of which I arrested said Lavinia, and held him in confinement; and that on the evening of the last day of the investigation, sufficient evidence having been adduced to, in my opinion, implicate the said Lavinia, upon the adjournment of the court, I requested the Sheriff to confine him in Jail, who upon my first request, personally conveyed the prisoner to the Jail, and in my presence locked him up.

T. J. TRUE,

Coroner of LaSalle county.

Ottawa, July 28, 1840.

It will be perceived from Mr. True's statement, that Lavinia was arrested by him, as Coroner, to whom the writ was addressed and given, that he (True) held Lavinia in duress, and when application was made by said True for the confinement of said Lavinia, I personally confined him in the Jail of said county, where the said Lavinia remained, until Dr. H. Hurlbut, his physician, requested his removal to some other part of the building, as will more fully appear from the Doctor's certificate.—

This is to certify that I, Harmon Hurlbut, Physician to Wm. T. S. Lavinia while being confined in the Jail of LaSalle county, made application to the Sheriff of said county for his removal to one of the open rooms, believing as I did, that close confinement would endanger his life, and at my request, said Lavinia was removed to another apartment, better calculated for a person in his situation,

HARMON HURLBUT.

Ottawa, July 28, 1840.

As regards the charge, I was made to say "that I was in Lavinia's power," or in the power of any other person, I unqualifiedly pronounce it a BASE FALSEHOOD; and worthy only of the black heart of him who gave it utterance.

I regret being obliged thus to speak of any HUMAN BEING; but he, who would lend his influence to asperse the character of the man, who never injured him, deserves the mark of Cain, and the utter contempt of every honest citizen in the community.

A report having been put in circulation, that I am a defaulter to the county, I take the present opportunity of pronouncing it FALSE, and challenge proof of the assertion. For proof of the situation in which I stand to the county, I refer you to the following certificate of Henry Green, Esq.

I, Henry Green, one of the Commissioners of La Salle county, do hereby

In relation to the charge of ill-treatment of prisoners, referred to in that letter, I call your attention to the following affidavit of *Morris W. Martin*, Deputy Sheriff, who was perfectly well acquainted with the manner in which said prisoners were treated.

State of Illinois, }  
La Salle County, } scr.

Morris W. Martin, first being sworn, deposes and says, that he was Deputy Sheriff of said county during the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine, and the month of February, one thousand eight hundred and forty; that having personally attended to the prisoners confined in the Jail of said county, was well acquainted with the manner in which they were treated, during his time of service.

term of court of stealing a horse from one of our farmers, and by me conveyed to the Penitentiary at Alton—he has since eluded the vigilance of his keepers, and made his escape, and undoubtedly, long ere this, has resumed his former calling. Knowing, as I did, the character of this individual, I kept a vigilant eye upon him; and for the reason, that I prevented his escape from custody, or in other words for having faithfully performed that duty, which my fellow citizens had confided in me, I am made the subject of *personal abuse*.

In relation to the charge of official neglect of duty, in the case of the *People vs. Lavinia*, I lay before you the following certificate of *Thomas J. True, Esq.*, Coroner of La Salle county:

the community.  
A report having been put in circulation, that I am a defaulter to the county, I take the present opportunity of pronouncing it FALSE, and challenge proof of the assertion. For proof of the situation in which I stand to the county, I refer you to the following certificate of *Henry Green, Esq.*

I, *Henry Green*, one of the Commissioners of La Salle county, do hereby certify, that *William Reddick*, Collector of La Salle county, appeared at the June term of the Commissioners Court, and stated to said Court, that he was prepared to make a settlement for the Taxes due the county and state, whereupon the Court made the following order:

“County Commissioners Court, June Term, 1840.

OTTAWA FREE TRADER

TUESDAY, June 2d, 1840.

Ordered, that William Reddick, Collector be allowed until the next regular term of this Court to make a final settlement for taxes by him collected, for the reason that the sale of lots and lands for taxes has not been completed."

I certify the above to be a true copy from the record. July 28th, 1840.

J. CLOUD, Clerk.

And I do further certify, that I have this day examined his account with said county, and find that he is perfectly able to settle the same at a moment's notice.

HENRY GREEN.

Ottawa, July 28th, 1840.

Fellow-Citizens! I have refuted one by one the foul and slanderous charges preferred against my official character; and I trust, should other charges of similar nature make their appearance, you will treat them in the manner they deserve.

I am not conscious, I have met the expectations of my friends in every respect, but this I do say, I have endeavored to discharge the duties of my office with impartiality and to the extent of my abilities.

Fellow-Citizens! if it should be your pleasure to re-elect me to the office of Sheriff, I have but to say to you, the duties of that situation shall be performed impartially, and I trust, to your satisfaction. I remain,

Your obedient servant,

WM. REDDICK.

Ottawa, July 28th, 1840.

For the Illinois Free Trader.

### To the Electors of La Salle County.

A certain Circular having just made its appearance signed by William Reddick, the present Sheriff of the county of La Salle, in which certain reports are mentioned as having been circulated by "Emissaries," two of whom are said to be on an embassy from this town, traversing the county for the sole purpose of preventing the re-election of said Reddick; it becomes necessary for some of those who are opposed to his re-election to the office of Sheriff to explain, or rather unravel the mystery which hangs around some of the things which are presented to the public in the shape of facts in said circular.

With regard to the letter, dated Troy Grove, July 20th, 1840, addressed to said Reddick by sundry good citizens of that quarter, it is necessary to say a few words, not merely to the letter itself, but to the paper in which matters contained in that letter are passed over by the depositions of Morris W. Martin, deputy sheriff, and Thomas J. True, coroner.—The first deposition taken appears to be that of M. W. Martin, and is no doubt in-

he received much better treatment than he ever expected to receive in any jail"—it is probable that the poor fellow when telling this to Martin, might have thought that the fact of his being a prisoner, any treatment was good enough;—and upon the liberation of said Parks, he, in the hearing of sundry citizens, declared, that the filth in the cell which was daily accruing and from which no pleasant odor could come, was not removed for several days at a time. He also declared that neither he or the other prisoner confined had a sufficiency of clothing to keep them warm, and also, that at times, they, meaning both of the prisoners confined, had not a sufficiency of food. These facts were stated in public by said Parks, after his liberation, and if affidavits to the same were necessary, they could be easily produced from more than one in whose hearing Parks stated the above. It is unnecessary to say more on this subject, either than to produce from the records of the county, the following document, a part of which at least will refer to the case in question. The public can read for themselves,—it is not a garbled, or far fetched statement, but a plain exposition of facts:

*"To the Hon. Thos. Foril, Judge of the Circuit Court, held in the county of LaSalle and state of Illinois, February term, A. D. 1840.*

The Grand Jurors, empannelled and sworn upon their oaths present, That part of the jail of said county, in which prisoners are confined, to be an unfit place to incarcerate any human being. The cell in which the Grand Jury found the two prisoners, now awaiting their trial, is a cold, dark and dismal looking den, THE FLOOR OF WHICH IS COVERED WITH FILTH, AND THE PERSONS OF SAID PRISONERS INFESTED WITH VERMIN. On making enquiry of the prisoners aforesaid relative to the manner in which they were treated by the Jailor; their reply was, "THAT NOW THEY FARED TOLERABLY WELL, BUT AT SUNDRY TIMES SINCE THEIR CONFINEMENT THEY HAD BEEN STINTED IN THEIR FOOD, and that during the recent severe cold weather, they had hard work to keep from freezing to death, being deprived the enjoyment OF A FIRE, and the comforts of warm clothing, thereby endangering their lives, and rendering their confinement doubly miserable."

Signed

BENJ. H. MOOERS,

Foreman and others on said Jury.

In the above document, the two prisoners are mentioned, and the purport is that both fared alike, there is certainly some ambiguity about the affidavit of Mr. Martin in reference to what the foreman of the Grand Jury told his honor Judge Ford, the affidavit of Mr. Martin speaks of a prisoner—the report of the Grand

deposition for themselves, and the remarks which follow in Mr. Reddick's circular, and we ask them, and especially those resident in the town of Ottawa, who were personally knowing to the arrest of Lavinia, and the excitement which prevailed amongst the citizens, when it was known that said Lavinia was at large, and not confined along with his accomplices. We suppose Mr. Reddick yet remember the excitement which pervaded the community on the night that sundry citizens hinted that it was his (Reddick's) duty to lock up Lavinia in safe-keeping. The circular of Mr. Reddick states that the writ which was given Mr. True for the arrest of Lavinia, was directed to him as Coroner, and that consequently said Lavinia was held in duress by said True, and the said Reddick had nothing to do with the confining of Lavinia until he was delivered over to him by said True. Does Mr. Reddick, or the writer of his circular suppose that the people of this county know not the position of this matter? Did not Mr. True, in the capacity of Constable arrest Lavinia? We know that Mr. True is the Coroner of the county, and we know that he is Constable too. The subterfuge resorted to in using the word Coroner will not do; it is well known that when a Constable arrests a prisoner and delivers him up, that he is in the charge of the Sheriff or his deputy, and that the public look to the Sheriff alone for his safe-keeping.

With respect to Mr. Reddick being in the power of Lavinia, &c., we say nothing, not having heard such a remark, until the same appeared in print in said circular; but we know that when a certain letter was produced in court, during its last session, that Mr. Reddick testified under oath, that he believed the same was not written by W. T. S. Lavinia.

The report about being a defaulter, must have been made by Reddick himself.—His disturbed imagination must have produced this—at any rate it was not anterior to its being given in his own circular.

But now let us refer to some few of the reasons which we set forth and substantiate, to show that the charge of official neglect of duty is not to be passed over and we think that on the day of the election, the good citizens of this county will bear them in mind when casting their votes for an officer who should discharge his duties in the most exact manner.—Read the following:

STATE OF ILLINOIS,  
La Salle county,  
I, Benjamin B. Reynolds, of the county and state aforesaid, do certify, that William Reddick, Sheriff of said county had placed in his hands on or about the 12th day of October, A. D. 1838, a certain execution against Greek and Clem-

With regard to the letter, dated Troy Grove, July 20th, 1840, addressed to said Reddick by sundry good citizens of that quarter, it is necessary to say a few words, not merely to the letter itself, but to the letter in which matters contained in that letter are passed over by the depositions of Morris W. Martin, deputy sheriff, and Thomas J. True, coroner.—The first deposition taken appears to be that of M. W. Martin, and is no doubt intended to clear up one of the reports which the said letter from Troy Grove mentions as having gone forth about the ill-treatment of prisoners confined in the County Jail, awaiting their trial. Mr. Martin in his deposition says that Samuel T. Parks, one of the prisoners confined in the county jail awaiting his trial at the last February term of the Circuit Court, repeatedly, both before and after his (Parks) acquittal, told him that during the term he was confined in said jail “that

Signed

BENJ. H. MOOERS,  
Foreman and others on said Jury.

In the above document, the two prisoners are mentioned, and the purport is that both fared alike, there is certainly some ambiguity about the affidavit of Mr. Martin in reference to what the foreman of the Grand Jury told his honor Judge Ford, the affidavit of Mr. Martin speaks of a prisoner—the report of the Grand Jury speaks of *the* prisoners, meaning all who were confined.

Charge the second in said letter, which the deposition of Thomas J. True is intended to cover, requires some looking over. The name of Thomas J. True is used to a deposition taken, it appears in like manner with the others presented, but which for some cause or other is not sworn to. The public can read the said

votes for an officer who should discharge his duties in the most exact manner.—  
Read the following:

STATE OF ILLINOIS, )  
La. Salle county, )

I, Benjamin B. Reynolds, of the county

William Reddick, Sheriff of said county had placed in his hands on or about the 12th day of October, A. D. 1838, a certain execution against Crook and Campbell of said county, amounting to some 440 dollars, that said Reddick collected said money, and loaned the same to William E. and Geo. W. Armstrong at 12 per cent interest; that said Reddick showed to me the notes which were given for the said money, and informed me it was the same which was obtained from said Crook & Campbell under said execution. The records of the county, will

show, that said Reddick did not pay over to the proper officer the amount of said execution, until long after the proper time for so doing. **BENJ. B. REYNOLDS,**  
Sworn to and subscribed before me. this 29th day of July, 1840,

JABEZ FITCH, J. P.

Also, by reference to the books in the Clerk's office, we find the following Executions which were put into the hands of Mr. Reddick, to wit:

"Fine assessed against Wm. E. Armstrong versus the people \$3 and costs. Execution issued July 30th, 1839."

"Fine assessed against W. E. Armstrong of \$50. Execution issued on the 31st of July, 1839."

"Fine assessed against Jas. Mahoney \$3. Execution issued Nov. 22, 1839."

"Fine assessed against J. Mahoney \$25. Execution issued Nov. 22, 1839."

"Fine assessed against J. Mahoney \$25. Execution issued Nov. 22, 1839."

"Fine assessed against Mary Manard \$25. Execution issued Nov. 22, 1839."

"Fine assessed against Wm. Mostin \$25. Execution issued Nov. 22, 1839."

"Fine assessed against Patrick Feeley \$20. Execution issued Nov. 22, 1839."

"Fine assessed against Frank Farrell \$25. Execution issued Nov. 22, 1839."

These Executions have never been returned, which the books in the Clerk's office will show, for what reason we cannot say, other than this, the day of election was approaching, and like a good, true and efficient officer, caring for nothing but the securing of his reelection. The Sheriff may have thought it was not necessary to be too rigid. The law allows 90 days for the return of an execution, and if the same is not returned by that time, it is considered virtually dead. We present these documents to show some of the favors given to some individuals, who are using all their influence, and exerting themselves to procure the re-election of Mr. Reddick.

It is well known that the opponents of Mr. Reddick have been stumped to produce any document tending to impeach his official standing, and since that course has been resorted to, this paper is written and subscribed by **MANY CITIZENS,**

*among whom are the*  
**"TWO EMISSARIES."**

OTTAWA, July 29, 1840.

*For the Illinois Free Trader.*

**To the Public—Reddick's Circular, No. 2:**

**"Truth is mighty and will prevail."**

There has just been placed in my hands an *anonymous* circular, in answer to which I hereby lay before you the following reply, and ask you to examine the same without prejudice or partiality.

On the 28th inst. I addressed to you a circular in which I explained by irre-

Several voters of Indian Creek Precinct having called upon me to make a statement in relation to the solvency of Mr. Lavinia's bail, I cheerfully comply with their request. The Bail Bond was drawn up by Seth B. Farwell, and the securities are James Glover, Luther Woodard and W. F. Flagg. James Glover and Luther Woodard having been sworn by Joseph O. Glover, Esq. as to the amount of their property and its supposed valuation, declared that they were each worth five thousand dollars. Mr. Flagg was not sworn. In addition to the solvency of the Securities, Mr. Lavinia, by deed, conveyed to the said securities, property worth about five thousand dollars more. I acted, I presume, as Judge Ford would, had he approved the bond in person. No officer should succumb to public feeling, when this feeling originates more from passion than reason. Neither should he refuse a prisoner his legal rights, simply because public opinion, for the time being, is against him. No man should be deprived of his liberty but for

requisitions of the law, he should, without further delay, be restored to his liberty, his family and his home. The duty of an officer is found in the law of the land, and in some cases his own sound discretion; and without favor or partiality his motto should be: *the law, the whole law and nothing but the law.* An overweening desire to please the community on the one hand, and an haughty overbearing course of conduct on the other, are the Scylla and Charybdis, upon which officers generally Shipwreck. And after you have examined the facts, I wish you to say whether I have discharged my duty. Respecting the difficulties between Mr. Lavinia and Mr. Farwell, I have nothing to do, and leave the law to adjudicate their grievences.

In the said *anonymous circular* is presented an affidavit, signed by Benj. B. Reynolds, and sworn to before Jabez Fitch, *Lackey* and *Generalissimo* to the Walker family, and who, assisted by his instruments, is always found ready to rally the Walker Squadron when their IDOL is in danger. With Mr. Reynolds, at present, I am not upon terms of intimacy, and where he is known, I would not turn on my heel to contradict a thousand of his affidavits. If any person wishes to know who, and what he is, I refer him to D. Newton, brother-in-law; to one of my competitors, and to every other citizen of Ottawa who knows him.

About the 1st of March of the present year, I loaned to Geo. W. Armstrong and Simon Crosiar two hundred and seventy five dollars at twelve per cent interest. save that sum, I have never lent to G. W. Armstrong or Wm. E. Armstrong any sum of money, drawing interest. To both of these gentlemen I have lent and borrowed

In relation to the money mentioned by Mr. Reynolds, *these are the facts:*—William S. Sayer recovered in the La Salle Circuit Court a Judgment against Charles Campbell and Sylvanus Crook, upon which Judgment execution was issued: Charles Campbell, at two sundry payments, settled the amount; and here I would digress by saying, that it is not the duty of a Sheriff when he collects money to pay it to the Clerk—all that the Clerk is entitled to, is his own fees—no person is entitled to receive the money but the plaintiff or his attorney, because the law requires the Sheriff to have the money ready, when demanded by the plaintiff or his agent, and were the Sheriff to pay money over to the Clerk and he prove defaulter, the Sheriff and his Securities must make good the deficiency. Thus much in explanation of what Jabez Fitch, J. P. and his compeer style "the proper officer." Some time during the month of February, A. D. 1839, Messrs. Butterfield & Collins of Chicago, Attornies for the plaintiff, by letter requested me to send them the amount of money collected, by the first safe opportunity, accordingly I forwarded to them by Wm. E. Armstrong and George W. Armstrong the amount, they being Canal Contractors and having to go to the Branch Bank at Chicago, to draw their estimates. When I gave them the money I at the same time took from each a receipt, by which they agreed to pay the sums stated to the said Butterfield & Collins. Wm. E. Armstrong paid the amount entrusted to his care, and upon his return gave me Mr. Collins' receipt. G. W. Armstrong, after he had arranged his business, was unable to find the Attornies, though the money back and, by my consent, returned it in his possession until he went after his next estimate, at which time Messrs. Butterfield & Collins were absent, he was consequently not able to pay over the money; and upon his return Mr. Armstrong refunded the money on Charles' receipt. I then wrote to Mr. Collins stating the facts. Mr. Collins in answer said, he would shortly be in Ottawa, where we could settle the business. Mr. Collins did not come until December, when we made a final settlement of the matter, as you will see from the following receipt:

LA SALLE CIRCUIT COURT.  
*William S. Sayer,*  
vs.  
*Charles Campbell and*  
*Sylvanus Crook.*

Received of William Reedick, Esq., Sheriff of the county of La Salle, four hundred and fifty-three dollars in full of the damages and interest collected on the judgment in the above cause.

BUTTERFIELD & COLLINS,  
Plaintiff's Attornies.  
Ottawa, Dec. 20, 1839.

**To the Public—Reddick's Circular, No. 2.**

"Truth is mighty and will prevail."

There has just been placed in my hands an *anonymous* circular, in answer to which I hereby lay before you the following reply, and ask you to examine the same without prejudice or partiality.

On the 28th inst. I addressed to you a circular in which I explained by irrefragible proof the condition of the Jail and the manner in which prisoners were treated. In that circular I produced the statement of T. J. True, who is the Coroner and a Constable of the county, and if you will again take the trouble to read Mr. True's statement, you will not be long coming to the conclusion as to the person who attempts to mystify Mr. Walker's anonymous Black-ballers or myself. I also laid before you a statement of Dr. Hurlburt, showing that every principle of *humanity* required that I should act as I did.

him to D. Newton, brother-in-law; to one of my competitors, and to every other citizen of Ottawa who knows him.

About the 1st of March of the present year, I loaned to Geo. W. Armstrong and Simon Crosiar two hundred and seventy five dollars at twelve per cent interest. save that sum, I have never lent to G. W. Armstrong or Wm. E. Armstrong any sum of money, drawing interest. To both of these gentlemen I have lent and borrowed money, but neither of us has ever exacted one cent of *interest*. The same accommodations I have received from and extended to other citizens of this town.

vs.

Charles Campbell and Sylvanus Crook.

Received of William Reddick, Esq., Sheriff of the county of La Salle, four hundred and fifty-three dollars in full of the damages and interest collected on the judgment in the above cause.

BUTTERFIELD & COLLINS,  
Plaintiff's Attornies.

Ottawa, Dec. 20, 1839.

In settlement I handed back to Mr. Collins his first receipt, which he gave Wm. E. Armstrong, which will account for the whole amount being specified in one acknowledgement.

Slander No. 2. In the said anonymous Circular reference is made to a fine of \$3 00, assessed against Wm. E. Armstrong, and which the said Armstrong has long since paid to Lewis W. Link, Esq. as the following receipt will show.

People, Plaintiff,  
vs.  
Wm. E. Armstrong, def't. }

Received of Wm. E. Armstrong, three dollars, the amount of a fine assessed against him on the 8th day of November, 1838, for committing an assault and battery on the body of Bartholomew Van walkinburg, on the 5th day of Nov. 1838.

LEWIS W. LINK, J. P.  
November 8, 1838.

This was an appealed suit, and the jury *not increasing the fine*. The suit was dismissed at the costs of the Appellants, and Mr. Armstrong having once paid the fine in the court below, it was error on the part of the Clerk to issue execution against him.

Slander No. 3, which refers to a writ of Execution, vs. William E. Armstrong, to collect a fine of \$50. That writ has been executed as follows, viz: by making a levy upon the E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  N. E. qr. sec. 20, T. 31 N. 4 E. 3d Principal Meridian, and which has not been sold for want of bidders.

Slander No. 4 refers to Executions vs. James Mahony. Read the following pardon from Gov. Carlin.

STATE OF ILLINOIS,

Executive Department, April 2d, 1840.  
To all whom these presents shall come,  
GREETING:

WHEREAS, it has been made known to me that at the last November term of the Circuit Court, holden in and for the county of La Salle, James Mahoney was convicted on two several indictments, for keeping a disorderly house, and was sentenced in each case to pay a fine of twenty-five dollars.

And Whereas, it has been further represented to me by the petition of the said James Mahoney, and Sheriff and Clerk of the Circuit Court of said county, and Thomas Ford, Judge of the Circuit Court, before whom the convictions were had, that the said James Mahoney is very poor and entirely destitute of property or means wherewith to pay said fines, and that he has a wife and three children dependant upon him for support, and that he is a proper subject for executive clemency.

Now therefore, I, Thomas Carlin, Governor of the State of Illinois, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of said state, for the reasons and causes above stated, do hereby declare and make known that the said James Mahoney is pardoned of said offences, whereof he has been convicted as above set forth, and absolved and released from the penalties thereunto annexed.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of state to be affixed.



Done at Springfield, this 6th day of April, 1840.

"Many Citizens" and "Two Emissaries" who have volunteered to do the dirty work for Geo. E. Walker.

Slander No. 6. People vs. Wm. Mostin. In this case Mr. Mostin paid the costs, and by agreement with and under instructions from the State's Attorney who took into consideration *the hard times*, the fine has not been collected.

Slander No. 7. People vs. Patrick Feeley. In this cause, at the Nov. term, A. D. 1839, Feeley was convicted and sent to the Penitentiary, and because I have not been able to collect the costs, nearly all of which *belong to me*, the State's Attorney fee of \$10,00 being paid, "*Many Citizens*" consider they have been *gricuously injured!* Who ever heard an officer censured for having failed to collect money from a man three hundred miles distant, and under confinement! Wonder if some of the "*Many Citizens*" will not shortly leave *these parts* to join their brethren in the south and carry on a wholesale trade in PICTURES and BUFFALO SKINS, rather than earn their living by the sweat of *their brow*.

Slander No. 8. People vs. Frank Farrell. Respecting this charge, I will here state what is known to many in the community, that he is a poor man; yet in part payment of the fine and costs, he has furnished fuel for the court during court time, and paid the State's Attorney fee, and as soon as he is *able*, he will pay the balance. He is not like some of the "*Many citizens*" and "*Two Emissaries*" who secrete their property to avoid the payment of their honest debts; nor yet like this set of *yelping Hyenas* who stand ready to destroy the character of every honorable man in the community. Fellow citizens, I would not have paid so much attention to the *anonymous thing*, but from the fact that it was concocted in the store of Walker and Sanger. Had Mr. Walker confined his electioneering to that course of honorable competition, acted upon by every gentleman, I certainly would not complain, but when a candidate will urge his claim for election on the ground that my present securities together with myself, are not worth the sum stated in my bond, to wit, \$10,000; and that if I were to be elected I would not be able to give bail; I say "*he stoops to conquer.*" Who is this great man that his *tools and minions* are afraid will be beaten? Why, he is a *banker*—i. e. a *script maker*,—a *wealthy merchant*, and who is abundantly able to give good and sufficient bail. Why this man has more shoe blacks at his command, than an eastern king in the days of yore, had *jackasses*. Yes, he is rich and with his script can hire emissaries, like so many evil spirits, to perambulate the county, attend camp meetings, pervert *times* consecrated to Religion, into electioneering hobbies, and urge upon the good citizens of the

"two emissaries" consigned under fictitious cognomens, I shall consider their attacks unworthy my notice, for with those men that belong to the *genus* of the *mouse* and *bat*, I hold no communion, and shall have nothing to do with them; as I shall view their assaults with the same feeling as I would the *drops which fall from the skunks tail*; and to "*many citizens*" and "*two emissaries*," I would say as the sun said to the *pyramid*, as he hid his bold head behind the western horizon, "*I leave you to your own last reflections*;" and if at any subsequent time you should deem it a duty which you owe the community, to again assail me, do not veil yourselves as *cowards*, but come out like men so that we may know who you are, and how much credence to attach to your statements.

Voters of La Salle county! why were not *these charges* preferred against me until within *four days* of the election: the answer is at hand—they knew them to be *false*, while they expected to impose upon the credulity of the community. FARMERS, will you be imposed upon by some half dozen Ottawa loafers and petiloggers who when their Dayton *clansman* winds his horn, like hungry hounds yelp at their *master's bidding*.

Yours with respect,  
WILLIAM REDDICK.

**To the Public—A few Words.**

Mr. Reddick's Circular, No. 2, is just brought forth. The same is to appear in the "*Free Trader*" which is now going to press, and of course have no opportunity to reply to the same; we say however, to the public that in No. 2, Mr Reddick has displayed his generalship in a masterly manner, by walking round the truth relative to certain matters therein contained: this is to be accounted for when it is considered that Mr. Reddick had not brains sufficient to indite the same himself, but called to his assistance, a foul mouthed calumniator, one despised by the community at large, saving this same Reddick; who certainly showed his *mouth piece* some favor on several occasions in particular when testifying under oath.

One word more, and for explanations on *part* on this subject, we will wait for another opportunity: when a wide mouthed braying Ass calls to his assistance something in the shape of a *Baboon*, with crook'd ears, for the purpose of enlightening the public about matters in which they are concerned, said public can decide and say what credit is due to their *mangled* production.

Mr. G. E. Walker having been absent during this "time of circulares," and having had nothing to say or do on the subject, we inform the public that we, amongst the "*many citizens*," brought out the former circular, and also father this.

WM. HICKLING,  
JABEZ FITCH,  
H. J. REED.

Ottawa, Friday evening.



and make known that the said James Mahoney is pardoned of said offences, whereof he has been convicted as above set forth, and absolved and released from the penalties thereunto annexed.



In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of state to be affixed.

Done at Springfield, this 6th day of April, 1840.

THOS. CARLIN.

*By the Governor,*

A. P. FIELD, Secretary of State.

Slander No. 5 refers to the case of the People vs. Mary Manard. Fine \$25.—On the writ of Execution, the Deputy Sheriff has long since made the following return, "No property found." It is well known that Mary Manard is a poor woman and has a large family to support; and had she not been a native of IOWA, she would not have appeared so conspicuously before the public, by the

beaten? Why, he is a *blatant*—i. e. a script maker,—a wealthy merchant, and who is abundantly able to give good and sufficient bail. Why this man has more shoe blacks at his command, than an eastern king in the days of yore, had *jackasses*. Yes, he is rich and with his script can hire emissaries, like so many evil spirits, to perambulate the county, attend camp meetings, pervert *times* consecrated to Religion, into electioneering hobbies, and urge upon the good citizens of the county, to confer upon his honor "*that justice which (how modest) his merits deserve.*" Had I consulted my own feelings I would not have noticed the *anonymous bantling*, for I hold it to be good philosophy that we should rather pity those who, like a GROUND HOG, hide from the light of day, & attack us, than chastise them. As long as Mr. W. only brings forward his "many citizens" and his

at the time of elections," and having had nothing to say or do on the subject, we inform the public that we, amongst the "many citizens," brought out the former circular, and also father this.

WM. HICKLING,  
JABEZ FITCH,  
H. J. REED.

Ottawa, Friday evening.

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