MARTIN VAN BUREN voted that every free negro be entitled to vote at the polls!!

MARTIN VAN BUREN voted against universal suffrage, thereby giving to every free negro of property the right to vote, and excluding free white citizens who had no property from voting!!!

Fellow Citizens:—We consider it altogether unnecessary to trouble you with extended comments upon this subject. We have produced the record, whereby Mr. Van Buren is proved to have voted in favor of investing the negroes of New York in the right of mingling in the decision of who shall be our rulers. We have shown that he could not be ignorant of the effect of his vote, because it was fully discussed before him. We have shown that upon this question of paramount interest to the South, he took ground, deliberately and advisedly, with the fanatics of the North, and that he aided in engrafting upon the constitution of New York, the odious principle of allowing negroes to vote. This is or ought to be enough for the South. Elect a man with such principles to the Presidency, and what security have we that an attempt will not be made to introduce the tenets of New York upon this subject into the constitutions of all the new and non-slaveholding States, until at length, the control of our institutions may pass into the hand of "colored people," as they are called, and their fanatical allies?

We invite the most rigid scrutiny into the facts we have here proclaimed in reference to Mr. Van Buren, and pledge ourselves that they are incontrovertible.

VOICE OF MARYLAND.

Extracts from the "Reports of the proceedings and "debates of the convention of 1821, assembled "for the purpose of amending the constitution of "the State of New York." These Reports were taken at the time and published in 1821.

It appears from page 178 of this volume, that on the 19th of September, 1821, the convention proceeded to consider the subject of the Elective Franchise, and that the Report upon that subject, made by Mr. Sandford, was taken up. This report proposed, as a part of the constitution, that "every "*white* male citizen of 21 years who shall have "been one year an inhabitant of this State, and for "six months a resident in the town, county or dis-"trict where he may offer his vote, &c. &c., shall "be entitled to vote, &c."

In submitting this report, Mr. Sandford addressed the convention at length—and was followed by Mr. Ross, who, in the course of his argument, in favor of the Report, used the following language:

"That all men are free and equal, according to the usual declarations, applies to them only in a state of nature, and not after the institution of civil government; for then many rights, flowing from a natural equality, are necessarily abridged, with a view to produce the greatest amount of security and happiness to the whole community. On this principle the right of suffrage is extended to white men only. But why, it will probably be asked, are blacks to be excluded? I answer, because they are seldom, if ever, required to share in the common burthens or defence of the State. There are also additional reasons; they are a peculiar people, incapable, in my judgment, of exercising that privilege with any sort of discretion, prudence, or Independence. They have no just conceptions of civil liberty. They know not how to appreciate it, and are consequently indifferent to its preservation."

We have made this extract to show that, by inserting the word "*white*" it was distinctly designed to exclude "negroes" or "coloured people" from the right to vote. The Report was discussed by Mr. Rensellaer, Mr. Fairlie, Mr. Young, Mr. Root, Mr. Clarke and others. The latter gentleman declared himself in favor of striking out the word "white" for the following reasons:

"I am unwilling, said he, "to retain the word '*white*' because its retention is repugnant to all the principles and notions of liberty, to which we have heretofore professed to adhere, and to our declaration of Independence, which is a concise and just expose of those principles. In that sacred instrument we have recorded the following incontrovertible truths—"*We hold these truths to be self evident—that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.*"

"The people of colour are capable of giving their consent, and ever since the formation of your government they have constituted a portion of the people, from whence your legislators have derived "their just powers;" and by retaining that word, you deprive a large and respectable number of the people of this state of privileges and rights which they have enjoyed in common with us, ever since the existence of our government, and to which they are justly entitled."

After much debate, Mr. Jay, who is now at the head of the abolitionists in New York, moved to strike out the word "white," the effect of which would be to admit *all persons, black or white*, possessed of certain other qualifications, to the exercise of the right of suffrage. In opposing this measure, Chief Justice Spencer said—

"I have believed, and do still believe, that we are called on to extend the right of suffrage as far as the interests of the community will permit; but I do think we cannot contemplate carrying it to the full extent recommended in the report, without knowing that we are not giving to those people who will nominally enjoy the right, but to those who feed and clothe them. I shall vote against striking out the word white, on the ground that it is necessary for securing our own happiness. I cannot say I would deprive those people, who have acquired property, of the privilege of voting; but I cannot consent to extend it to others, in whose hands it will be as much abused as by these coloured people. I am willing to extend the right of suffrage as far as my conscience will admit; but I never can agree to extend it so far, as to deprive the agricultural interests of this state of the rights which they ought to enjoy. I never can consent to extend this right, and make an aristocracy by giving the man who has the longest purse, the power to control the most votes."

Many other gentlemen spoke upon the subject, and the policy and propriety of permitting negroes, mulattoes and Indians to vote, was discussed ably and fully. The following was the result, as will be found on recurrence to page 202 of the volume before us:

"The question on striking out the word *white*, was then taken by ayes and noes, and decided in the affirmative, as follows:

AYES—Messrs. Bacon, Baker, Barlow, Beckwith, Birdseye, Brinkerhoff, Brooks, Buel, Burroughs, Carver, R. Clark, Collins, Cramer, Day, Dodge, Duer, Eastwood, Edwards, Ferris, Fish, Hallock, Hees, Hogeboom, Hunting, Huntington, Jay, Jones, Kent, King, Moore, Munro, Nelson, Park, Paulding, Pitcher, Platt, Reeve, Rhinelander, Richards, Rodgers, Roseburgh, Sanders, N. Sanford, Seaman, Steele, D. Sutherland, Swift, Sylvester, Tallmadge, Tuttle, VAN BUREN, Van Ness, J. R. Van Renselær, Van Vechten, Ward, A. Webster, Wendover, Wheaton, E. Williams, Woodward, Wooster, Yates—63.

NOES—Messrs. Bowman, Breese, Briggs, Carpenter, Case, Child, D. Clark, Clyde, Dubois, Dyckman, Fairlie, Fenton, Frost, Howe, Humphrey, Hunt, Hunter, Hurd, Knowles, Lansing, Lawrence, Lefferts, A. Livingston, P. R. Livingston, M'Call, Millikin, Pike, Porter, Price, Pumply, Radcliff, Rockwell, Root, Rose, Ross, Russell, Sage, R. Sanford, Schenck, Seely, Sharpe, Sheldon, I. Smith, Spencer, Starkweather, I. Southerland, Taylor, Ten Eyck, Townley, Townsend, Tripp, Van Fleet, Van Horne, Verbryck, E. Webster, Wheeler, Woods, Young—59."

Some of Mr. Van Buren's partszans, fearful of the effect upon his popularity, of the exposure of a vote so much at war with Southern interests, having denied the correctness of the above extract, when heretofore published, it has been submitted to the examination of a notary public, and his certificate is hereunto attached.

United States of America,

State of Maryland, to wit:

I, Jas. B. Latimer, Notary Public in and for the city of Baltimore, do hereby certify, that I have carefully examined and compared the above extract, as printed, with the original on page 202, of the volume entitled "Reports of the Proceedings and Debates of the Convention of 1821, assembled for the purpose of amending the constitution of New York," and find the same to agree with said original in all particulars.

SEAL. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal, on this eleventh day of August, 1836.

JAMES B. LATIMER.
Notary Public.