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### Scioto Simon Pure (Portsmouth, Ohio) - August 5, 1844

Portsmouth Clay Clubs

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#### Recommended Citation

Portsmouth Clay Clubs, "Scioto Simon Pure (Portsmouth, Ohio) - August 5, 1844" (1844). *Scioto Simon Pure (Portsmouth, Ohio), 1844*. 2.

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# THE SIMON PURE.

MONDAY EVENING, AUGUST 5, 1844.

To be published weekly till after the Presidential Election—Terms, 25 cts. invariably in advance.

## Portsmouth Mass Meeting.

IMMENSE ASSEMBLAGE OF FREEMEN, 6000 TO 8000 WHIGS IN COUNCIL.

Saturday the third of August, Anno Domini, 1844, is gone, and its scul-stirring incidents belong to the past, but its high resolves, its lofty enthusiasms and fixed purposes, yet live in the bosoms of multitudes of whigs, and will move them to the accomplishment of those objects that hold a first place in their true hearts, when the hour for action arrives. They bide their time. The fires are kindled and though their flaming glories may not be visible at all times, yet they glow and burn, and are surely consuming apathy and indifference, and ere the "ides of November," but one feeling, one purpose will have a place in the hearts of Whigs, and that a fixed, irresistible and unalterable determination to give their highest gift to the

"Fine Kentucky gentleman,  
The noblest of the land."

In the morning of the day was heard the hum of voices and the busy tread of those who had already gathered in the principal streets to witness the arrival of multitudes who were pouring in by land and water. Upon the sparkling waves of "La Belle River," were seen the boats floating to their landings, literally swarming with people and in the midst were heard the animating notes of the national air as they were rung forth from the life and drum.

The vast concourse from the country conducted by the chief marshal and assistants, in scores upon scores of wheeled vehicles rolled along, and horsemen in countless numbers gaily pranced their steeds in the long line of "human miles." Citizens who had anticipated an unusually large meeting, could not repress their astonishment at the vast excess over their most sanguine expectations, and locofocoism shrunk within itself at the imposing display; it felt doomed, when mentally was contrasted the motly crowd of Whigs and lokies that composed their meeting on Tuesday last, with the multitudes that crowded the avenues of the town on Saturday. The contrast in enthusiasm and numbers, conclusively proved as well that their resort to the vile practices of detraction and abuse only moves the generous impulses of the people in favor of the objects of their malice, as that the "bone and sinew," the real democracy of the country, are whig now as ever.

## THE PROCESSION

Was formed about ten o'clock and when the long line was in motion, it presented a spectacle, grand and imposing beyond any thing that our county has ever witnessed. The stripes and stars with the American Eagle, were flung to the breeze, and majestically floated over the heads of freemen. Banners with almost every variety of inscriptions and devices, now expressive of the humour and now of the determination of the people were seen at every point—no man could have beheld the hosts as they moved along without a conviction flashing upon his mind, that no party discipline had drummed them up, but that the cause of truth, or conviction of duty, a deep and pervading feeling of justice, patriotism and national honor had called them from their fields and homes to meet in council, for it was written upon every countenance and seen in every eye.

## THE MEETING

Was held in a beautiful grove some three-fourths of a mile east of town, and the very efficient committee of arrangements had every thing so arranged as to secure the comfort and enjoyment of every one. The Speaker's stand faced south and immediately in front were the seats prepared for and occupied by the ladies;

a sea of pretty faces and a constellation of bright eyes, infused a spirit of enthusiasm into the breasts of those that could behold them upturned in waiting for the commencement of the exercises. No cold selfishness finds a place in a woman's breast, truth there holds indisputable sway, party with her has no influence, generous sympathy for injured goodness breaks its tiny shackles and the swelling affections of her wells of love cling to what is pure, noble, true; therefore are the great masses of women whig, therefore do they cheer the whigs in their mass meetings by the light of their countenances, and it is because Tom Corwin understands their dispositions so well and pays a merited tribute to their characters now and then, that he is their peculiar favorite. God bless the women.

The meeting was organized by calling Hon. Wm. Russell to the chair, who introduced to the audience Hon. Bellamy Storer, of Cincinnati. Mr. Storer fully sustained the character he enjoys as an eloquent, sound, argumentative and chaste speaker. We cannot present even an outline of his remarks, his lucid and forcible argument upon the protective policy commended itself to every intelligent mind; and upon this policy he illustrated the positions of the candidates, who are, notwithstanding the misrepresentations of Mr. Polk's friends in portions of the country where the tariff is popular at direct issue upon the act of '42, Mr. Polk being in favor of, and Mr. Clay utterly opposed to its repeal. This very tariff, the speaker showed, had infused a new life and energy into the industry of the country, and had relieved the people from many embarrassments that weighed them down previous to its passage. He discussed the annexation of Texas to the U. S. as advocated by the friends of Mr. Polk, and showed that this question was not only a distinctive measure with the friends of Mr. Polk, and Mr. Polk himself, but by far the most important question between the two parties. It would seem, said the speaker, that Capt. Tyler was led to suppose for some reason that he was a chosen agent to accomplish important objects, and that he had a mighty destiny to fulfil, and this was bodied forth in the re-annexation of the lone star to the twenty-six now composing the confederacy. He set forth the humiliating attitude the government had assumed towards the powers of Texas, and that this measure involving the inviolability of public faith, national law, honor and justice, was a distinctive measure between the two parties. Mr. Storer addressed the audience for an hour and a half, and when he had concluded, the mass adjourned to the tables, that were literally loaded with fat viands; no "aristocratic" dishes were found there, but wholesome food, meet for the Whigs, the real "democracy."

After dinner, the people again assembled about the stand, to hear their favorite Wagon Boy, who was introduced by the chairman as one who could with his whip "kill a fly and not disturb a hair." Mr. Corwin though fatigued with his frequent efforts in speaking in the open air, yet enchained the attention of his audience for some two hours, in that varied style peculiar to himself alone. At one time delighting his hearers with an outburst of fervid and impassioned eloquence, at another convulsing them with laughter by his humorous sallies; now pleasing them with the creations of his fertile imagination, & now riveting their attention with the force of reason. He, too, dwelt upon the two most weighty questions between the opposing parties, and presented what before had appeared thoroughly discussed, in new and striking light. Mr. Corwin said that if there were any of the so called "democratic" party present, he was determined to convince them that they were now occupying false positions, and that consistency required that they should cease their opposition to whig policy. If two citizens, said he, have a controversy and cannot settle the question themselves, they carry it to court; and, said he, you and I, my democratic friends, are at issue upon a great question, and I propose instituting a court, who shall decide between us. In his inimitable style he then showed that his judges—chief justice Washington in whom alone he had more confidence than any earthly authority—with Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and Jackson as associates, have decided time and again in favor of both the constitutionality and expediency of a protective tariff, in language and by conduct that could not be misconstrued. Now said he, your judges James K. Polk, David Tod, Wm. Allen, John Brough and Samuel Medary have decided otherwise—whom will you believe? We have not room to dwell

at length upon Mr. Corwin's speech, and we are conscious of our utter inability to present even portions of his remarks without robbing them of much of the force they possess in coming from himself. No man can entertain a proper idea of him as a speaker without enjoying the privilege of hearing him for himself, and seeing with his own eyes the gestures and manner of the man, in which there are at times indescribable power.

Upon the question of Annexation he was very fluent, as he ever is, and strong.

He showed up in true colors the injustice of the U. S. in attempting the annexation of Texas without the consent of Mexico, merely because she possessed the power to do so. Great as is Mr. Corwin's reputation as a public speaker, high as expectation was raised by the descriptions of those who have heard him before, we confidently believe none were disappointed, and that he fully sustained himself, notwithstanding the disadvantages under which he labored, and which were known to his friends.

After Mr. Corwin had concluded, the chairman introduced Mr. Duffield of Maryland, who sang a Whig Song, which greatly entertained the mass. We have never heard a person who combined more excellent qualities as a vocalist, than Mr. Duffield, and congratulate our Whig friends throughout the west, upon the opportunities they will have of hearing him, as he has few superiors in his line.—The Band and Glee Club acquitted themselves, with great credit. And the people expressed perfect satisfaction with the exercises, which must have been highly gratifying to the Committee, who had charge of the responsibilities of the day, and who have certainly entitled themselves to the thanks and acknowledgements of Whig citizens, for their unceasing and untiring efforts in endeavoring to secure the comfort of the immense crowd.

The meeting dispersed towards evening, in the best spirits, and every Whig left the ground with the firm conviction deeply planted in his mind, that if Mr. Clay lives, he will assuredly be the next president of the republic. Long will memories of the 3d of August 1844 live in the minds of those that mingled in its scenes, and great will be the effect of the truths of that day upon the honest minds of those that seek their country's welfare and not the triumph of a party.

*Thunder and Lightning! Immense ingathering and massification of the Democracy of Scioto and the adjoining counties, in Ohio and Kentucky!! At least 150 Sovereign Democrats in council assembled!!! Ohio safe for Polk, Dallas, and Texas, and possibly some other Territory!!!!*

The Polk meeting in this place on Tuesday last was one of the most grand, sublime and imposing spectacles that ever was witnessed either in Texas or Oregon! From the notice that had been given, the preparation and the effort made to procure the first order of speaking talent, we looked for a respectable number, but had no idea of seeing such a multitude as were present. As early as eight or nine o'clock in the morning, you could occasionally see a man riding into town, or coming on foot, as the case might be, and it was very evident from his appearance that if he had not come to attend the convention, he had for some other purpose. This state of things continued until about half past nine o'clock, when it was announced that the main body of the delegates were advancing at the upper end of town; and accordingly no one interfering, they did advance and come into town. And here was truly presented a most magnificent spectacle! Some eight or ten waggons headed the procession, some two or three of which at least were drawn by two horses. These vehicles contained from two to six, and possibly eight individuals, and some of them it was said would have contained more, had it not been that the end board was out. Close behind these followed a string of persons on horse back, estimated to be about as long as "from here to yonder." The whole procession had laid in a good supply of polk stalks on the road, which gave them truly a very green ap-

pearance. These beautiful ever-greens were carried by means of wrapping a paper or cloth of some sort around the end, then by extending the arm as much as possible in order to place them beyond the reach of the olfactory-ries. By adopting this means they all got along very well, except "Ohio's tall young Senator," familiarly called "Bill Allen," who it was said found it impossible to extend his arm beyond the reach of his nose. The procession was headed and captained by the "Gov. of Wheelersburgh," who bore a flag representing Texas in the act of "immediate annexation," which, with a coon and the polk stalks formed the principal part of the "mummery." Thus organized and accoutered, it marched to the lower end of town "then marched back again," and disbanded. At this time the S. B. "Zephyr," (which was supposed to have on board the Cincinnati delegations) hove in sight. Arrangements were about being made to form a procession and meet them at the landing, and most undoubtedly would have been carried into execution had it not accidentally been discovered that there was nobody on board, except some fifteen or twenty from the lower end of this county. The "Lark," also, which was expected to bring down a crowd from "up the river," at this time made her appearance, but upon landing it was found that she had but one man on board and he refused to come ashore. The reason that there were so few on the boats, most undoubtedly was, that many had come by land besides a great many more that had not come at all.

At one o'clock, it was understood that the sovereigns were principally in, and Brough having regaled himself with his "bread and butter," and the rest of the speakers with their dinners, the crowd, consisting of Democrats and Whigs, made its way to the market-house to listen to the arguments, eloquence and humor of Brough, Allen, Byington, "and that other feller." Judge Batterson was called to the chair, who made a few remarks requesting that great attention might be paid to the speakers, &c., after which Francis Cleveland introduced to the favorable notice of the meeting, an individual from Hamilton county, whom if we mistake not, he called Gallaher. The appearance of this speaker denoted great depth of thought and a capacity of mind to grapple with the foundation principles of Governmental policy, and accordingly he at once launched off into the great measure of "Native Americanism." And surely never was a question handled with more precision and acuteness, and every other attribute which characterizes the true logician than was this subject handled by Mr. G. He occupied the attention of the audience from ten minutes to a quarter of an hour, and throughout the whole course of his argument, commanded the attention of his hearers, and at its conclusion, we we doubt very much whether there was a single individual on the ground who was not convinced that "Native Americanism" was a very bad thing.

Mr. Byington was next introduced under the flattering compliment, that if the audience would just put their hands into their breeches pockets (the ladies excepted of course) and draw out a hard quarter instead of a shin plaster, they would recollect the individual who was about to address them. Mr. B. however, with that degree of modesty so peculiar to himself, thought the credit of his glorious result should be placed to the great cause of Democracy itself, instead of him, one of its most humble supporters. This speaker did not feel himself justified in consuming the time of the audience inasmuch as there were two larger guns to follow him, therefore after a few remarks upon "coonery" in general and universal suffrage in particular, he yielded the floor to "Ohio's tall young Senator." Mr. Allen; with his mighty argumentative powers and thrilling eloquence, at once took hold of that darling measure of the whig party, viz;



