

# REPORTER

Wednesday, May 23, 1845.

## REMOVAL.

The Office of the Bradford Reporter has been removed to Col. Means' Brick Store, (up stairs,) entrance on the North side.

## EXTRAORDINARY EFFECTS OF LIGHTNING.

On Tuesday of last week, as a thunder storm was passing over a portion of Leroy township, in this county, the lightning struck the chimney of Mr. Perley Morse's tavern house and knocked off some half dozen bricks. It is supposed, the electric fluid descended the chimney and stove pipe, as its effects are next visible on the floor in the Bar-room near the stove; where it appears to have struck, tearing up a large splinter in the joint between two boards, and passing through in an oblique direction it entered the cellar wall shattering it considerably. Its course was traced downward on the back side of the wall, to within about eighteen inches of the bottom where it again came out of the wall shattering the stones in its course. It then struck a barrel of beef which stood near the wall, and dashed it to pieces, scattering the beef and fragments of the barrel in various directions. Passing directly through the beef-barrel, it knocked in the entire head of a whiskey barrel, which lay on its side with the head near the beef barrel, and partly filled with liquor, and from the other head of which Mr. Morse's son, a young man 18 or 20 years old was, at the moment drawing liquor, or rather had drawn it, and was in the act of turning it through a tunnel into a glass bottle. The lightning knocked the head of the barrel next the young man partly out, dashed the glass bottle which he held in his hand into a thousand fragments—striking the young man on both legs above the knee, passed down his legs, marking its course by singeing and blistering the skin, it passed out at the toes of his boots, tearing them asunder. The young man was knocked down and stunned, though not seriously injured. Near where he stood a mark on the ground is visible, as if a pick had been struck into it, which is the last trace of the effects of the fluid.

There were, at the time, some half dozen glass tumblers standing on the counter of the Bar in the room where the effects of the lightning are first visible—they were all prostrated on their sides with the tops or mouth pointing towards the stove pipe or place where the lightning is supposed to have entered the room.

Strange as the above account may seem to the incredulous, it may be relied on as strictly correct. We visited the place on Friday last, saw the fragments of the barrels and bottle, and obtained the details from Mr. Morse himself—whose word is not to be questioned.

**A MAD BULL IN THE STREETS.**—We learn from the True Sun, that on Tuesday noon a mad bull ran up Greenwich street, N. Y., and thence towards Walker street, and while in full and furious headway rushed over several persons: one man being tossed on his horns into a store and receiving considerable injury. From Walker he went to Orange street, and thence the Centre Market. The butchers set their dogs on him; three or four of which were disabled in the conflict. Another, however, seized him, and kept hold until the animal reached Elizabeth street. A negro here caught him by the tail, when assistance coming up the bull was captured and knocked in the head.

**PENNSYLVANIA IRON WORKS.**—From the Harrisburg Argus, we learn that the anthracite furnace of Messrs. D. R. Porter and Michael Burke, recently erected near that town, is almost ready to commence operations. It is intended to make four thousand tons of iron annually, and to consume twelve thousand tons of anthracite coal, twelve thousand tons of iron ore, and four thousand tons of limestone, in producing that quantity of iron. The new rolling mill of the Messrs. Pratts, in the neighborhood of the same place, will soon be in operation.

## Destructive Fire in Allegheny City.

The Morning Post Extra, of May 17, says, "The most destructive fire that has occurred in this neighborhood for many years—except the conflagration of the 10th of April—took place in Allegheny city been 12 and 1 o'clock this morning. We were informed that it originated in one of the large Canal Warehouses, and no doubt is entertained but it is the work of an incendiary.

Before it could be arrested the following buildings were totally destroyed:—

P. Graft's Canal Warehouse, Union Line.

Wallingford and Taylor's.

J. M'Fadden & Co., Reliance Line.

Bingham's, Bingham's Line.

There was an immense quantity of Goods in all these houses, consisting of Produce from the West and Groceries and Dry Goods from the East. The piles of Tobacco, Bacon, Coffee, Dry Goods, &c. that lay smouldering in the ruins, presented a lamentable spectacle this morning.

Many of the merchants who were burnt out on the 10th of April, sustained a heavy loss by this fire also, as they had large stocks of Goods in these Warehouses, just received from the East, and not having any regular place of business, they kept them stored in the Forwarding Houses.

In consequence of the late hour at which the fire occurred, but few persons were on the ground until it was beyond human effort to subdue it, and but a very small portion of the moveable property was saved.

Three or four Section boats that were lying in the Canal, close to the Warehouses, were burnt before they could be removed. It is a fortunate circumstance for the canal lines, that the water will be let into the Aqueduct in a few days, and as they all have warehouses on this side, their forwarding business will not be interrupted.

We learn that many of the Books and papers of the Forwarding men have been destroyed. We observed several of the Iron Safes lying among the ruins broken to pieces.

## THE EARTHQUAKE IN MONTREAL.

A correspondent of the New York Commercial, writing from Montreal, under date of the 2d inst. says—"On Tuesday we experienced a smart shock of an earthquake, which had the effect of shaking us up a little. It occurred at about half past four o'clock in the afternoon, and was felt principally in the suburbs. The concussion lasted about a second, and was sufficiently strong to cause houses to vibrate sensibly, and throw down heavy articles of furniture. The shock was felt in several other places at the same time. At Cote St. Paul, near this city, it was much more severe, and continued half a minute.—It was also observed at William Henry, forty-five miles distant from here, where goods, &c., were thrown down from shelves. Several accidents occurred in consequence; it is said that a person crossing the river at the time in a small boat was thrown into the water by the concussion, and that a short distance from the city a dwelling house sank several feet in the earth. The shock was much more violent than that which occurred on the 29th of last November."

**FASHION VICTORIOUS.**—The race over the Long Island course, between Fashion and Jeannetta, came off on Saturday, in the midst of a pelting rain, and a slough of mud. Fashion triumphed with ease, making the first four miles in 8.38, and the second in 8.48.

## IRON ORE AT NORTHERLAND.

The people of Northumberland have discovered a bed of Iron ore in theiridge immediately, in the rear of their Bough. We learn that some capitalists have it in contemplation to erect Iron works at that point, which is a most desirable one.

## DEATH OF HON. JOHN GILMORE.

The Hon. John Gilmore, formerly State Treasurer of this State, and for some years a member of Congress, died at his residence in Butler, on the 11th inst., in the 65th year of his age.

## WOLVES.

An Iowa editor acknowledges the receipt of Congressional documents "in advance of the mail," in consequence of a flock of wolves and an old she-bear chasing the post-rider across the prairies.

## New York and Erie Railroad.

The Legislature of the State of New York having passed the bill releasing the N. Y. and Erie Railroad from the payment of the loan of \$3,000,000, there seems now to be no doubt of the speedy completion of the Road. The Owego Gazette speaks thus encouragingly:—"there ought no longer to be a doubt as to the speedy construction of the road; and, yet, there are those who are still faithless and unbelieving. For our own part, we hesitate not to give it as our decided opinion, that the Stock of the company will be immediately taken, and the work at once be resumed and prosecuted to completion. This opinion is based upon the most authentic information we have been able to procure, as well as upon the great inducements held out to capitalists to subscribe to its stock, in view of the importance of the work to the city of New York and the whole range of country through which it passes, and its entire certainty ultimately to become a source of profitable income to its owners.

We felt, then, justified in speaking not only encouragingly, but confidently upon this subject. We believe the suspense which has so long hung over the people and weighed so heavily upon the interests of the "southern Tier," is well nigh removed, and that a brighter day is dawning upon us. A few weeks more and we expect to be able to announce to our readers that the requisite amount of stock has been taken, and to speak definitely as to the letting of the work, and the commencement of operations. It must, of course, require some little time for the company to consummate their arrangements under the recent law, preparatory to putting the work under contract, but that they will be successful and that the N. Y. & Erie Railroad will be completed without unreasonable delay, we see no ground whatever to doubt."

## DARING ROBBERY.

From the Binghamton Courier, we learn that on Sunday night, 18th inst., the house of Mr. Thomas White, in Conklin, about three and a half miles east of that village, was broken into and robbed of about \$400 in cash and a quantity of valuable papers. The burglars were evidently acquainted with the premises, as they made their attack directly upon the unoccupied room containing Mr. W.'s desk and papers, effecting an entrance by cutting out a portion of a window. They seem to have made short work with the desk; and taking out the drawers they proceeded to the bank of the river near by, where they rifled them, possessing themselves of the cash and scattering and wantonly destroying the papers. On Monday, three individuals, viz: Peter Shear, an old offender, Mordecai Corsaw and Charles Coon were arrested in this village on suspicion, and are now in jail. Coon, who is the youngest of them, and has formerly lived with White, has, we are informed, made a partial confession; admitting that he told Shear and Corsaw, where White kept his money, and went with them on the night of the robbery to the vicinity of Mr. W.'s house, but denies that he received any share of the plunder.

## THE NEXT CONGRESS.

The election in Virginia brings up the number of members chosen for the next Congress to 163, of which 58 are Whigs, 99 are Democrats, and 6 Nativists.—There are 58 more members to be elected, in Maryland, North Carolina, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi and Florida, and a vacancy to be filled in each of the States of Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

## DISCOVERY OF ANCIENT TREASURE.

The Macon (Geo.) Messenger gives an account of the discovery of hidden treasure to the amount of forty-five thousand dollars in Tatnal county, in that State. The discoverer, on blowing up the root of a tree, discovered three dollars, and on digging deeper succeeded in exhuming the above large amount.—The money was found on the land of Mrs. Gray, a widow, in needy circumstances.

## NEW IRON WORKS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

We learn from the Clarion Democrat that six new furnaces in Clarion county, Pennsylvania, and three in Venango, have lately gone into operation.

## STILL LATER FROM TEXAS.

Galveston dates to the 8th inst. have been received.

Major Donelson, the United States Charge, has returned to the United States.

Gen. Houston, with his wife and son, arrived at Galveston on the 3d inst., from his farm on the Trinity. He proposed to visit the seat of Government of Texas, and will then come at once to the United States; he being extremely solicitous to see Gen. Jackson once again before the death of the latter, which appears so imminent. He yields to Annexation as a matter of necessity, if not of choice.

Mr. Wickliffe, the ex-Postmaster General, was at Galveston on the 7th instant.

Commodore More has involved himself in a controversy with Gen. Houston, and publishes an address to the people of Texas, in which he exposes his grounds of dissatisfaction with the ex-President. He enclosed a copy of this address to the ex-President, threatening to follow it up with other exposures, until he can receive personal satisfaction for the injuries which he thinks himself to have received.

## THE PECAYUNE SAYS:

"There is no limit to the enthusiasm of the people of Texas in regard to Annexation. The only trouble with them appears to be, whether to meet in Convention and form a Constitution for the State of Texas" prior or subsequent to the meeting of Congress. This is a fertile theme for the several editors. To show the disposition of the President of Texas, we make a short extract from the Morning Star of the 3d inst., published at Houston:

"We rejoice to say that we have the most positive evidence that the President and a majority of the members of his Cabinet are anxious to act with the utmost harmony with the people, and will cordially co-operate with them in their efforts to consummate this great measure at the earliest practicable period."

The Hon. E. Allen, the acting Secretary of State, arrived at Houston on the 22d ult. The Telegraph assures us that he is an ardent friend of Annexation, and is desirous that "the great measure should be consummated at the earliest practicable period."

The papers contain ample reports of public meetings declarative of the feelings of the people in regard to Annexation. There is no occasion to give these reports, so nearly unanimous are the sentiments of the whole country.—The Texans already regard themselves as part and parcel of the United States, and, proud of the Union, are only impatient that any delays should be interposed to its completion. Even the papers opposed to Annexation but insinuate their objections; they see that it must take place, and refrain from any open resistance of it. If we can judge from the tone of the press, and from verbal communications, not all the diplomatic resources of the world can sway at all the general mind of Texas.

The papers have some rumors of disaffection to the Mexican Government in some of her Northern Departments. The "wish may be father to the thought" in this case. We have probably as late advices here as to the movements of Gen. Arista as have been received in Texas.

## THE NEW POST OFFICE BALANCE.

The U. S. Journal informs us that the Postmaster General has selected from a vast number of models, after patient and careful investigation, the balance of Messrs. Stephenson, Howard & Davis, of Boston. It is as simple as Fairbanks' small balance, very much like it in principle and appearance, and so graduated as to stand unmoved when a half ounce letter is placed upon it, but kicks the beam when a straw is added to it.

## SOMETHING LIKE SETTLERS.

The Buffalo Commercial gives an account of a family of Allens who were on their way to settle in Wisconsin, where they are to found a village called Allen village, in Walworth county. There are three generations numbering 112 souls, of whom 50 are now on their way to be quickly followed by the rest.

**A SOFT BASIS.**—The Cashier of the Bank of St. Clair, Michigan, is redeeming the bills with pine lumber, at par. Some of the advocates of a paper representative as money, because of its being convenient to carry, would be puzzled to dispose of a cart load of change of this species.

## DEATH OF REUBEN M. WHITNEY.

We learn from the U. S. Journal, that Reuben M. Whitney, Esq., who has held a conspicuous position in the political world for many years, died in Washington, on Thursday morning, in the 57th year of his age.

## News from all Nations.

The Michigan Farmer says, the wheat crop has not been much injured by the exposure to frost the past winter. It anticipated a good crop.

The books of the Collector at this place, says the Pittsburg Post show that the business doing on our Main Line far exceeds that of any former season.—Mr. Clay has sent from Ashland, Ky., recently, 10,138 pounds of hemp to New Orleans, to be shipped from thence to New York.—At Columbia, S. C., on the 8th inst. the editor of the South Carolinian ate ripe peaches grown in the open air there this season.—Late accounts from Jamaica, Trinidad, and Barbadoes speak favorably of the condition of the growing sugar crops.—Among the passengers in the Hibernia, was Mr. Rives of Virginia, late Secretary of Legation at London, which appointment he has resigned.—The black tongue, or what is termed by Prof. Dunglison the "black tongue fever," is prevailing to a considerable extent in Raleigh N. C. and the surrounding country.—The tolls received on the North Branch Canal for the month of April, 1845, amounted to \$5,132 83.—Last year for the same month, \$2,759 38; being an increase of \$2,373 45.—The twenty eighth anniversary of the New York Sunday School Union, was celebrated in that city on Tuesday 13th inst.—Major Polk, U. S. Charge to Naples sailed from New York on the 16th inst. in the packet ship Yorkshire.—Two gentlemen of New Orleans, who had prepared to fight a duel were arrested on the 3d inst.—one held to bail, and the other put in prison, because he would not give security.—The Santa Fe traders at St. Louis, Mobile are afraid to risk sending their goods purchased by them to their usual destination in the present precarious situation of our Mexican relation.—The New York Post says:—"It is true, as we learn from undoubted authority, that the war clause has been inserted in the English policies of insurance."

The Courier des Etas Unis states that Messrs. Buchanan and Bancroft, are jointly preparing an elaborate defence of the American claim to Oregon.—Rev. John Pierpont, pastor of the Hollis st. church, Boston, delivered his farewell sermon on Sunday afternoon, dissolving his connection with that body, over which he has been settled nearly twenty-seven years.—Cassius M. Clay is about to publish a paper at Lexington, for the purpose of advocating the gradual abolition of slavery in Kentucky.—Mr. George Q. Pomeroy, heretofore a highly respectable merchant of Cleveland, Ohio, recently drew a draft of \$5,000, upon a house in New York, and then forged its acceptance by that house. It has been ascertained also, that Mr. P. is the person who perpetrated the \$12,000 fraud upon the Phoenix Bank of Hartford.—30,000 cigars were seized at Boston on Friday week, for violation of the revenue law.—Out of more than 100 iron safes exposed to the fire in Pittsburg, not one of them saved even silver from melting.—Baltimore has now 100 churches, of which 32 are Methodist Episcopal, 13 Presbyterian, 11 Catholic, 10 Protestant Episcopal, 9 Baptist, 7 Lutheran.—The expense of traveling from New York to Cincinnati is now about \$25, time required, five days.—A young girl, named Ann Mason, took poison at Pittsburg last week. A short time previous to her death she had been robbed of \$150, the result of years of laborious toil.—On the 25th ult. the wife of George Duffie, of Jefferson, Ohio, bore four living daughters. One has died.—A man named Butler murdered his son-in-law named Leary, in Livingston county, N. Y., a short time since, by running a fork into his eye, penetrating the brain.—There is a manufactory in Connecticut, where two and a half tons of pins are made in a week.—Wm. L. Marcy, the present Secretary of War, captured the first British standard that was taken during the last war.—A ballot was found in the box at a township election, endorsed "No schule Tacks."—Mr. Jared Wells, of Bath, Ohio, has a cow that has given birth to seven calves in one year.—The Swallow has at length been raised and towed on the flats.—The Pittsburg fund amounts to \$129 47 1/2.

## Our Claim to Oregon.

Great Britain claims, without reservation, all the territory north of the Columbia river, and with equal right to navigate that river. It is said that she has offered to make that river the boundary between the two Governments. This claim, if allowed by the United States, would take full one half of the Oregon—perhaps more. To this, our country will never accede. During the discussions in the papers and in Congress, on title to the 49th parallel, was considered valid and unquestionable.

The American title rests upon the strong and acknowledged right of discovery. Captain Gray, of Boston, in the year 1792, in the ship Columbia, entered for the first time the great river of Oregon, which he named after his ship the Columbia, and to this day it bears that and no other name. This is of some moment, as there is a law of nations which reads thus: "The nation which discovers and enters the mouth of a river, by implication discovers the whole country watered by it." In virtue of this discovery, the Columbia valley belongs to the United States against England. As if to perfect our title, it is not denied that Lewis and Clark and Wallamette rivers, its tributaries, which spread through all Oregon were first explored by Americans by the expedition sent out by the American Congress at the suggestion of Jefferson under the Captains Lewis and Clark. There was as much minuteness and fullness in their discoveries which give the highest authenticity to a title founded upon a prior discovery.

Oregon is also ours, by purchase (in 1819) from Spain undeniably the discoverer and occupant of the coast even as far north as the 55th parallel. In 1819, Spain, for a consideration of \$5,000,000 ceded to the United States Florida, and also all her rights, title and claim to all territory on the Pacific coast north of the 42d parallel of latitude.

The only circumstance calculated to weaken the perfectness of the U. S. title, is the well known Nootka Sound contest (in 1789) which terminated in a convention between England and Spain, in the year 1790, some twenty years before our purchase from Spain, and which conditions our title is undeniably clogged. The terms of that convention have been the source of infinite dispute. After an examination of the terms of the treaty, the debates in the English Parliament when the treaty was had before that body—the contemporaneous acts in relation to the surrender of the English possessions on Nootka Sound, which had been seized by Spain—which sender, by the way, an English historian, Belsham, insists was never made—the whole convention seems to be resolved into a joint occupancy on the part of Englishmen and Spaniards for commercial purposes. Such a one now exists and has existed for twenty-seven years between G. Britain and the United States in relation to the very same territory. Yet we doubt whether any American considers that we yielded in the least ultimate title to the Oregon, by that joint occupancy. Applying the same principle to the convention between England and Spain, and the convention whereby that title was left in abeyance, as determined by subsequent acts, the following is a clear summary of the American title:

1. Discovery of the mouth of Columbia river by Capt. Gray, of Boston, giving the name of his vessel to the river.
2. The discovery of the head of the same river by Lewis and Clark, under the authority of the United States.
3. The settlement of Astoria under the auspices of Mr. Astor, an American naturalized citizen.
4. The treaty of 1803 with the French Republic.
5. The treaty of Spain of 1819, acquired all rights of Spain to land north of 42 degrees beyond the Rocky mountains.
6. The Nootka Sound contest (1789) between England and Spain.
7. The treaty of Utrecht (1763) between France and England, setting her boundaries—this settlement becoming ours as the successor of France in that part of her dominions.
8. The treaty of Ghent, (1815) restoring Astoria to the United States as American property.
9. American citizens were once in sole possession of the Columbia river region. Even should the Nootka Sound convention be considered a cession of title and sovereignty to England on the part of Spain, it only applies to the places named therein, and those are situate north of 49th parallel of latitude. It is well remarked, "Not an inch of soil, in the valley of the Columbia and its tributaries were included in the provisions of the convention of 1790." South of the Nootka Sound all parties in this country concur that our title is "clear and unquestionable." And there is not the remotest probability that our people will ever consent to surrender an acre.

Though this question is evidently surrounded with complicated difficulties and embarrassments, growing out of small degree out of the joint occupancy, we have the hope that it will be settled peaceably, honorably and satisfactorily under the auspices of our President and his able Secretary of State.

## DIVIDING THE METHODIST CHURCH.

The Rev. Dr. Bascom has come on with a book in favor of the separation of the Methodist Church, with references to its Northern and Southern portions.