

Towanda, Wednesday, May 6, 1846.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER, WILLIAM B. FOSTER, JR.

M'Cook Found Guilty!

The grand jury of the County of Dauphin having found a true bill of indictment against M'Cook...

We have no account of the trial, further than verbal information that the jury have found M'Cook GUILTY...

The Notice to be Given!

The voice of this mighty nation, calling upon their representatives to adopt measures for the preservation of our rights...

It is with much pleasure that we record the final passage of the "notice," in a shape but little less desirable than as desired and recommended by President Polk...

This measure was demanded by the country; it was required for the safety of our citizens living within the borders of a territory acknowledged to be our own...

It now remains to be seen what effect this notice will have upon the state of our relations with England...

We find the following good-natured, liberal and generous paragraph in Simon Cameron's paper at Sunbury...

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THE STATE OF TOWANDA.—The poet of repeated lines, that "Western the star of empire takes his way," does no longer hold good in this state...

AMERICAN MANUFACTURES.—The Washington Union says:—"The temporary building which is erecting near the City Hall for the exhibition of national manufactures during the month of May is of spacious dimensions..."

FOUND.—The Lewisburg Chronicle, of Saturday the 25th ult., says:—"The body of Mr. Thomas Peltner, who was drowned some weeks ago at Turtle creek, was found on Saturday last in the river about two miles below where drowned..."

THE CROPS—AND THE WEATHER.—The balmy, spring-like weather with which we have been blessed for some time, and the refreshing showers, have given a beautiful appearance to the face of Nature...

BRADFORD COUNTY COURT.—Our court was opened on Monday last by Judge COVINGTON, assisted by Hon. Reuben Wilber and Harry Morgan...

WEST BRANCH.—The water was let into the West Branch canal from Muncy to Northumberland on Tuesday the 21st ult.

The Secret Service Fund.

We give in another column, Mr. Ingersoll's speech, charging Hon. Daniel Webster, with unlawful and unauthorized use of monies entrusted to his care...

While Mr. Webster commands our admiration by these efforts of his genius which enrapture his auditors, yet his venality and his time-serving political tactics render him at the same time alike an object of admiration and scorn...

Mr. Ingersoll's name is a guaranty that these charges are not idly made; and his character render it certain that they will be proved to the bottom...

Fire at Owego.

We find in the Owego Advertiser a full account of the late fire at Owego, which we copy entire.

On Monday night about 12 o'clock, the stable of Mr. Mosher, Inn keeper, on the corner of Lake and Maine streets, was discovered to be on fire...

One traveller lost a span of horses, a wagon and load, all valued at \$400. One horse was owned by Doctor Churchill of this village, which with his sulkey and harness was burned.

This fire was the work of an incendiary. The intention undoubtedly was to burn the village, and but for the stillness of the night the bellish plot might have been consummated.

It is well known that a band of desperate villains have threatened to destroy our village, and several attempts were made to fire it last summer.

To collectors of tolls and taxes, County Treasurers, and other officers authorized to receive monies due the Commonwealth.

Amount of notes issued, which the Commonwealth is bound to redeem, \$107,500 00

Amount uncancelled, \$400 00

Amount outstanding, \$275 00

The amount outstanding will be received when paid directly at the Treasury; but in order to prevent any over issue being received, and thus a loss occasioned to the Commonwealth, I hereby direct you not to receive any of the notes above mentioned.

Very Respectfully Yours, JAMES R. SNOWDEN, State Treasurer.

ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS.—The Harrisburg Reporter publishes a list of the acts and resolutions of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, passed session of 1846.

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New York Elections.

The election for Delegates to Revise the Constitution of the State of New York, took place on the 28th ult. we give the returns as far as we have received them.

TIOGA COUNTY.—John J. Taylor, (Dem) elected by a majority of about 150, over G. H. Barlow, (Whig.)

CHEMUNGE.—In this County, a very warm contest was carried on, and much feeling manifested between the different branches of the Democratic party—the Old Hunkers and the Ban-burners. The latter had placed in nomination Col. Samuel Young, of Saratoga county; a proceeding very common we believe, and practiced as the late convention, to secure the services of Martin Van Buren, and other able and distinguished Democrats.

BROOME.—The Democrats of Broome, have achieved a most brilliant victory in the election of Col. Hyde, over B. T. Cooke, the editor of the Broome Republican.

The following table includes all the returns which we have received in addition to the above:

Table with columns: Albany, Orange, Oneida, Hamilton, Dutchess, Sullivan, Greene, Genesee, Herkimer, Kings, Madison, Monroe, Westchester, Otsego, Schoharie, Warren, Yates, Ulster, Albany, Oneida, Hamilton, Dutchess, Sullivan, Greene, Genesee, Herkimer, Kings, Madison, Monroe, Westchester, Otsego, Schoharie, Warren, Yates, Ulster.

THE REVENUE BILL.—It is stated that the Revenue bill, which was hurried through the Legislature on the last day of its session, will be inadequate to supply the anticipated deficit in the Treasury.

We trust that notwithstanding this culpable act of legislation, the credit of our Commonwealth can still be maintained, and the August interest paid; and we are certain that such will be the case, if it is in the power of Gov. Shunk—by the prompt and determined efforts he has hitherto made, to preserve the reputation and character of the State.

FROM CAPTAIN FREMONT.—The editor of the Washington Union has been favored with the following extract of a letter just received in Washington, from "Japsa, March 27th, 1846," giving an account of this brave and adventurous explorer:

Letters from Maxilian of the 4th instant, state that Captain Fremont, with his corps of observation, arrived at Sutter's Settlement, on the Sacramento, early in January; he is said to have discovered a good wagon road to Oregon, which is much shorter than any heretofore traveled. He had gone to Monterey, in Upper California, leaving his corps on the Sacramento.

THE WYOMING MONUMENT.—The Committee of Arrangements, for the Wyoming Monument, met at the Phoenix Hotel on the 23d ult., and appointed committees to make the necessary arrangements for a celebration.

RELIEF NOTES DESTROYED.—The Auditor General on the 18th ult., destroyed forty thousand dollars of Relief Notes, which had been cancelled by the State Treasury.

THE PUBLIC WORKS.—The Huntington Globe of Wednesday says, "The Pennsylvania Canal, from Holidayville to Columbia, is now, we understand, in complete repair, and the business thereon has resumed its usual activity."

MAIL ROBBERY BETWEEN BUFFALO AND ERIE.—When the mail reached the Post Office at Erie, Pa., on Thursday morning last, it was found that the great mail from Buffalo west had been robbed of its contents.

THE READING RAILROAD.—The Berks and Schuylkill Journal says, "to give our readers abroad an idea of the business of the Reading Railroad, we will state that arrangements are now making to run immense trains of one hundred coal cars and upwards, from one end of the road to the other—up and down—with an interval of only ten minutes between each train!"

OPERA HOUSE IN BOSTON.—The site of the late Howard Athenaeum, Boston, has been sold to Mr. Edward A. Raymond for a little less than \$40,000, or \$4 per foot for the land.

Proceedings of the 29th Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. WASHINGTON, April, 27th, 1846.

THE SECRET SERVICE FUND. Mr. C. J. INGERSOLL rose and asked leave to make a brief personal explanation.

Mr. HARALSON. If the application relates to the personal matters between the gentleman from Pennsylvania, [Mr. C. J. INGERSOLL] and the gentleman from Massachusetts, [Mr. WEBSTER], I protest against it. It is from no personal feeling that I object, but because the time of the country is too precious to be consumed in matters of personal crimination and recrimination, to the exclusion of the public business; especially when the former can be settled between the parties as easily through the public prints as in this House.

So the rules being suspended, And leave having thus been granted, Mr. C. J. INGERSOLL spoke as follows:

Mr. SPEAKER: When Mr. Webster, in virulent terms, in Senate, assailed my truth, concerning transactions of which proofs ought to be in the Department of State, I went there in search of them for my vindication.

Searching for proofs, not to expose him, but vindicate myself, I fell most unexpectedly on others which led me, next day, to denounce him as a delinquent.

When the President's answer to the resolution of the House of Representatives refused certain documents, I repeated, in general assertion, the fact of delinquency, and added that it is easily susceptible of proof. My friends advised me to go no further, supposing that Mr. Webster would challenge investigation.

Secondly, Misapplying part of that fund to corrupt party presses.

There are three charges of delinquency: First, Unlawful use of the fund appropriated for the contingent service of foreign intercourse commonly called the secret service fund.

Secondly, Misapplying part of that fund to corrupt party presses. Thirdly, Leaving the Department of State in default of that fund.

First. Congress appropriates annually a small sum, common by about \$30,000, for the contingent expenses of foreign intercourse; the disbursement of part of which is sometimes usefully clandestine, never, as has been erroneously supposed, corrupt.

These funds have, for the last sixteen years if not always, been in the hands of a clerk, called, by acts of Congress, the disbursing agent of the Department of State, who kept them in banks, as agent.

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In this way the first check I saw, when I went to the department, was drawn by the agent for the service at New York in McCleod's case, \$1,000.

But shortly after President Harrison's death and before Vice President Tyler was at home in chief magistracy—in April, 1841—Mr. Secretary Webster began an entirely novel method of dealing with the secret service fund.

In this way he drew to himself from the disbursing agent twelve thousand dollars during the first nine months of Mr. Webster's incumbency as Secretary, about \$1,300 a month, in 1841, and three thousand dollars more early in 1842.

Thus he took into his own hands fifteen thousand dollars in his first twelve months.—The President, there is written evidence in the department to show, never authorized this, knew nothing of it, and when first apprised of it, more than fourteen months after it had been going on, to the large amount of fifteen thousand dollars, refused its sanction.

It was not till July, 1842, as the evidence in the department shows, in Mr. Webster's hand writing, that he got a President's certificate for four thousand four hundred and sixty dollars, (\$4,460.)

That President's certificate, of which I took a minute, dated 19th July, 1842, is—To J. J. Crittenden, for expenses of journey to New York, \$100

To F. O. J. Smith, services connected with the northeastern boundary, 2,000

To Alexander Powell, for journey to, and stay on the frontier in 1841, on the subject of the disturbances, 1,000

With several other items. The first item in this short account concerning McCleod, will show how I was led from that to other objects; and some of the other items will show the agents whom, as Secretary of State, Mr. Webster employed.

Both Houses of Congress, if not the public at large, have not been left in ignorance of the characters of some of those on whom the Secretary of State bestowed large sums of public money, if their receipts correctly vouch what they got.

In a memorandum of payments to Mr. Webster by authority of the President, there is a minute dated June 23d, 1842, "By cash returned, \$5,000."

After drawing \$15,000 to himself during fifteen months, during which period there is no trace of what he did with those large sums, he appears to have returned one-third of the amount withdrawn.

These \$5,000 were returned ten days after, according to the published correspondence, his negotiation with the British envoy extraordinary, began by conversational and confidential intercourse, without protocols or other usual records of such transactions.

In 1843 Mr. Webster took to himself \$2,000 more, making altogether \$17,000. On closing his account, crediting the \$5,000 returned, and various other sums, there remained a balance against him of \$2,390 of the secret service fund.

One of his credits against it was for \$1,300, published in House document, report No. 29, first session, 28th Congress—report of Mr. Rogers for maps, charts, surveys, and expenses of bringing them to the seat of government, and for copies of transcripts, and for various agencies to procure information connected with the boundary treaty...

This inarticulate and comprehensive mixture of many incongruous items, without specification of prices, dates, or any apparent test of rectitude, Mr. Secretary Webster certified himself as a proper credit for himself, and deducted from his debit to the secret service fund. Without that credit his default to that fund would have been \$3,690, instead of \$2,390, which it was when he was removed from office.

The \$17,000 were in his hands, contrary to uniform usage; if used by him, contrary to the sub-treasury act. Whether so, is for him to make appear. The burden of proof is on him.

Secondly; Application of the secret service fund to corrupt party presses. The Ashburton treaty bears date the 9th August, 1843. Congress were then in session; and, as Mr. Adams had charged me lately, and I confess I did what little I could as one of a small minority in the House of Representatives (we had forty votes, I think, under the previous question) to resist a treaty which Mr. Webster has lately stated in the Senate granted near half a million of dollars from the treasury of the United States to the people of Maine and Massachusetts.

I then desired to contend, when put down by the previous question, that the House of Representatives had a constitutional right to pass on such a treaty.

What I am now enabled to add, of revelation from the Department of State, will prove that my instincts of aversion to the treaty were even truer than reason.

In the Department of State there is now a letter signed F. O. J. Smith, marked private, dated Portland, the 10th August, 1842, addressed to Mr. Webster, Secretary of State, substantially as follows:

It begins by congratulating Mr. Webster on his settlement of the Maine boundary question by a new mode of approaching the subject after forty years of diplomacy, without which new mode another forty years of diplomacy would have come to nothing.

[F. O. J. Smith seems to have suggested the boast with which his correspondent Mr. Webster hugged himself in his elaborate vindication in Senate.]

Mr. Smith informs Mr. Webster by this letter that he had occasion to resort to services & influences, in order to adjust the tone and direction of the party presses, and through them of public sentiment, to a purpose so desirable of accomplishment under Mr. Webster's administration.

Mr. Smith, therefore, submits a claim or account, if recollect right, in blank for Mr. Webster to fill up, of which he calls for payment out of the contingent fund. Mr. Smith presumes that the contingent fund will be ample, and Mr. Webster's control of it complete, to do whatever he may think just.

The sums Mr. Smith vouches as got by him from Mr. Webster are \$2,000 for services connected with the northeastern boundary, and two years after he vouches \$500 more, as will be shown.

Thirdly; Leaving the Department of State in debt to the secret service fund, \$2,390.

The records of the department show this default beyond all denial or question. They show, furthermore, that it was neither paid or accounted for during nearly two years after Mr. Webster's removal from office.

They show several letters sent to him by President Tyler's direction, urging payment, and evasive letters of excuse from Mr. Webster for non-payment.

At length, a peremptory letter that exposure would or might be the consequence of more delay, produced reimbursement. But settlement did not take place till the 1st February, 1845, ten days before President Polk arrived in Washington to be inaugurated, when Mr. Webster produced another voucher from Mr. F. O. J. Smith, for an additional \$500, and other vouchers, one from George Smith for \$500.

George Smith, since dead, denied that he had ever been paid or vouched more than \$150 to whom sum Mr. Webster reduced the \$500 at first demanded, as his agent, now in Washington, will prove.

Granting all the vouchers Mr. Webster produced, there was nevertheless a balance of about \$1,200 due from him, at all events, when he left the department. That sum he was in default to the secret service fund, after crediting every thing in the way of re-payment offset, or voucher, that he claimed.

In all I have said in this affair, no allusion has been made to any private aggravation.—Regretting the exposure forced from me, having afforded Mr. Webster several opportunities to meet the charges in his own way, that which he chose, left me no alternative but this forbearing justification of myself.

A resolution, or committee, which I cannot institute, will soon test the truth of my statements.

[Correspondence of the Public Ledger.] THE NOTICE PASSED—REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCE—THE VOTE OF THE TWO HOUSES.

WASHINGTON, April 23d, 1846.

It was known this morning, before the assembling of the two Houses, that the Committee of Conference had agreed to make a report to the two Houses on the Oregon question.—The official report and resolutions I have given below.

In the Senate, 13 o'clock, Mr. Berrien, from the Committee of Conference, on the disagreeing vote of the two Houses on the joint resolution of the House of Representatives, entitled "Joint Resolutions of Notice to Great Britain, to annul and abrogate the Convention between Great Britain and the United States of the 6th August, 1772, relative to the country on the Northwest Coast of America, westward of the Stony Mountains," reported:

"That they have met the conferees on the part of the House of Representatives, and after free and full conference upon the subject of said disagreeing votes the joint conferees have unanimously agreed to recommend, to the respective Houses, as follows:

"That the first section of the amendment of the Senate to the original resolution of the House be so amended as to be, in form, a preamble to the second section of the said amendment.

"And that the Senate and House of Representatives respectfully recede from their disagreement to the amendment, and amendment to the amendment, of the original resolution of the House, and eventually agree to substitute, therefor, the following joint resolution:

Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the Practitioner of United States be, and he is hereby authorized, at his discretion, to give to the Government of Great Britain the notice required by the said second article of the said Convention for the abrogation of the same.

At one o'clock, the report was taken up and concurred in by a vote of 42 to 10. In the House the same report was made by Mr. Ingersoll, and concurred in by a vote of 142 to 46.

The only change in the phraseology from the Senate resolutions, are the words which have marked in italics, and by a comparison with the original resolutions you will perceive that it is a mere change in the form of expression, and that nearly the precise language is retained.

Joint Resolutions concerning the Oregon Territory.

Whereas, By the convention concluded on the twentieth day of October, 1878 between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Great Britain and the Kingdom of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, for the period of ten years, and after indefinitely extended and continued in force, another convention of the same period, concluded the sixth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seven, it was agreed that any country that should be claimed by either party on the North West Coast of America, westward of the Stony Mountains, now commonly called the Rocky Mountains, should, together with its harbors, bays and creeks, and the navigation of all rivers within the same, be free and open to the vessels, citizens and subjects of the United States, and without prejudice to any claim which either of the parties might have to any part of said country, and with this further provision in the second article of the said convention of the sixth of August, eighteen hundred and twenty-seven, that either party might at any time, by a joint resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives, terminate the said convention, on giving due notice of twelve months to the other contracting party—

And Whereas, It has now become desirable that the respective claims of the United States and Great Britain should be definitely settled, and that said territory may no longer than remain subject to the evil consequences of the divided allegiance of its American and British population, and of the confusion and conflict of national jurisdictions dangerous to the cherished peace and good understanding of the two countries.

With a view, therefore, that steps be taken for the abrogation of the said convention of the sixth of August, eighteen hundred and twenty-seven, in the mode prescribed in its second article, and that the intention of the government of both countries may be the more earnestly directed to the adoption of all proper measures for a speedy and amicable adjustment of its differences and disputes with regard to the said territory.

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APRIL AT CHARLOTTEVILLE, (Va.) We learn by yesterday's Richmond papers that a riot occurred in Messrs Raymond & Co's Menagerie, exhibiting at Charlottesville, between the students and the keepers, which resulted in the death of one of the students. The following letter to the Enquirer seems to be an authentic account of the fatal affair:

"During the performance, and just as one of the managers had entered the cage with the lion, tiger, leopard and cougar, some of the audience approached near the cage and were cautioned by one of the men attached to the Menagerie not to do so as serious consequences might ensue to the person in the cage with the beasts. Some words passed between the keeper and one or more of them pressing on the cage, when one of the latter struck the keeper twice with a cane or stick, and he struck in return with a stick, and leveled two or three persons, one of whom never afterwards spoke a word, and died last night at about 12 o'clock; his name is Glover, from Alabama. Two others were seriously injured, and are now at the Mechanics House. Messrs Jenson and Williams, and another, Mr. Waring less injured.

"While these things were taking place, the elephant entered the crowd, throwing his proboscis about, to drive the people from the cages of horror arose on all sides; some were paralyzed with fear, and could not move, or be moved by their friends. Men, laying as if dead on the ground; the huge elephant dragging out the people; the keeper in the lion's cage, man pale with fear; the women shrieking; children and servants crying out that wild beast had broken through their cages, and was upon them, and each person anxious to make his escape, presented a scene which few would desire to witness. No damage was done to any person, except what resulted from a blow given by one of the keepers. The magistrates committed to the jail three persons belonging to the menagerie, to undergo further examination."

"The Enquirer states that the man who struck the fatal blow escaped and secreted himself last Monday morning, when he was recognized in the cars at the Junction, was instantly arrested, and brought down a prisoner to Richmond. His name is said to be John J. Bailey.

LIGHTNING'S FREAKS.—On the night of Saturday, the 18th April, the house and barn of Mr. J. A. Waldron, in Conklin, Broome County, were struck by lightning, and the barn with a portion of its contents consumed. The house was badly shattered but did not take fire. Every room, as we learn, was more or less mutilated, the furniture, floor boards, window casing and other wood-work having been torn up and broken, and often projected with great force against the walls. Wonderful to tell, of the eleven persons in the house at the time, no one was injured, farther than a slight singeing of the hair, or a toe in one case. A chimney was thrown down by the concussion, which broke through the roof, and the fragments fell in parts upon a bed, but its occupants escaped with the same impunity as the rest.

NATIONAL FAIR.—It is proposed to clothe the "National Fair" at Washington, with a grand National Ball. A correspondent of the National Intelligencer says:—"The floor of the building erected for the occasion measures 20,000 square feet, and will accommodate 150,000 persons, giving 300 square feet to each; 600 couples, or 1,200 persons may be seen dancing on the same floor at the same time, a thing never surpassed in this or perhaps any other country. It would be desirable, if convenient, that both sexes should appear dressed, partly at least, in goods of American manufacture."

POTATOES FROM THE AZORES.—The former native position of the Azores has exempted the potato crop of those islands from the plague which has so extensively prevailed. We observe that large quantities have been imported into Great Britain, where they meet a ready sale.