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IN pursuance of law, I, JAMES BUCHANAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby declare and make known that public sales will be held at the undermentioned land offices in the Territory of Kansas, at the periods hereinafter designated, to wit: At the Land Office at Fort Scott, commencing on Monday, the 21st day of December next, for the disposal of such of the public lands not covered by individual location as are situated within the following townships and parts of townships in the parts of townships 23, 24, 25 and 26, of range 25.

Public Land Sales.

By the President of the United States.

IN pursuance of law, I, JAMES BUCHANAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby declare and make known that public sales will be held at the undermentioned land offices in the Territory of Kansas, at the periods hereinafter designated, to wit: At the Land Office at Fort Dodge, commencing on Monday, the 19th day of November next, for the disposal of such of the public lands not covered by individual location as are situated within the following townships and parts of townships, viz: North of the base line and east of the fifth principal meridian.

NOTICE TO PRE-EMPTION CLAIMANTS.

Every person entitled to the right of pre-emption to any of the lands within the townships and parts of townships above enumerated is required to establish the same to the satisfaction of the register and receiver of the land office, on or before the 1st day of January next, (the commencement of the public sale) or the day appointed for the commencement of the public sale of the lands embraced in the tract claimed; otherwise, such claim will be forfeited.

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The Patriot & Union.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOV. 7, 1860.

METEOROLOGY.

If not unacceptable, it may be instructive to your readers to learn what those who lived thousands of years past knew, and what those who live now know of the wonders of the heavens—the nature of lightning, aurorites, and other celestial phenomena. As, at this time, and towards the last of November, we may look for brilliant exhibitions of meteoric streams, some little knowledge of the past were surely useful.

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said to be offered to Jupiter Elicius.

Having imperfectly understood the art, the prescribed rite, (parum rite), he perished, struck by thunder.

In 1759, by incautiously attempting one of Franklin's beautiful experiments, Professor Reichman met a similar fate. He had constructed an apparatus for observing atmospheric electricity, and whilst intent upon examining the electrometer, a large ball of electric fire glanced from the conducting rod which was insulated, and killed him instantly.

Let us pass what Dion Cassius and John of Antioch say of the abortive expeditions of Calligula, or that of Sylvius Alindas, (or Remulus), in imitating thunder, ridiculously, as set forth by Eschylus.

But in doing so, he not unprofitably was what Ovid said, (Metamorph. lib. xiv., vers. 617-18. Fast. lib. iv., vers. 61), that the same Prince, despising the Gods, had invented a method of imitating thunder, in order to pass as a Divinity in the minds of those whom he inspired with terror, by which he perished through imprudence or ignorance, as we say, although then ascribed to impiety. "Fulmineo peritulator fulmine ictus," says Ovid.

Virgil (Æneid, lib. xii., vers. 200,) saith,

"And he who giveth his fulmine Jovis amentem," which would seem to indicate that in those days it was regarded as a miracle that a nation so lately subdued should be terrified by thunder.

Servius, the learned commentator, (the same quoted by Rabelais, livre v., chap. lxxvii.) says:

"The first inhabitants of the earth never carried fire to their altars, but by their prayers brought down the heavenly fire." But he also says, "Prometheus discovered and revealed to man the art of bringing down lightning (Æliendonus fulminum), and by the process which he taught to them, he brought down fire from the region above, (superius ignis eliciatur.)" And Servius thinks Numa used the sacred fire for holy purposes; "The fire of Prometheus," as the learned Hebraic, Ben David, has asserted that Moses understood the laws of electricity, in which view he has been ably supported by Mr. Hirt, a celebrated philosopher, of Berlin. But Michaelis surpasses him. (Magasin scientifique de Göttingen, 3e année, 5e cahier, 1783.) He says there is no indication that lightning ever struck the temple of Jerusalem during a thousand years. That, according to Josephus (Bell. Jud. adv., Com. l. v. c. xiv.) a forest of pines, either of gold or gilded, and very sharp, covered the roof of the temple. And that these communicated with the heavens in the hill upon which it was situated, by metallic pipes setting as conductors. Josephus, however, simply alludes to them as resting places for birds—a result thought unworthy the plan, or the residence of the architect.

Zoroaster seems to have been the apostate disciple of the Prophet Daniel.

He was the Reformer of the Magi, and evidently acquainted with all the science of his age. He is said to have perished by fire from heaven—fire which he had originally and often brought down for the Persian worship. According to their story, he was burnt up by the demon whom he impudently offered to repeat his brilliant miracle. He died about 513, B. C.

Eroletes, also, seem to have been known to the ancients.

Diogenes, Laertius, Pliny, Aristotle and others, all refer to the immense mass that fell at Ægus Potamos, according to the Parian chronicle, in the seventy-eighth year of the first Olympiad. But—to save farther space here—the whole of the learning on the drawing topic is admirably set forth in the first volume of Humboldt's Cosmos, that its earnest study is respectfully urged upon each reader. For those whose time and opportunity prevent its full perusal, the following condensed results thereof are here presented, as those of modern learning:

1. The enormous velocity of the shooting stars, fire-balls and aerolites can now be ascertained by measurement. They travel from 18 to 30 miles in a second.

2. Their actual diameter varies from about 500 to about 2500 feet. Their general density may be set down as 3—water being 1.

3. But prodigious swarms of shooting stars are occasionally seen. The meteoric shower of 1833 was estimated to have shown a fall of 240,000 stars in nine hours. Such as this, however, must not be looked for again until the 12th to 14th November, 1867.

4. The meteoric showers are periodical.—They occur at the following periods, viz: 22d to 25th April; 17th to 20th July; 10th August; 12th to 14th November; 27th to 29th November; 6th to 12th in March.

5. They are celestial bodies moving with planetary velocity, and revolving in obedience to the laws of gravitation in orbit sections round the sun.

The present length of this communication, however, must defer other matter to some other time.

J. D.

St. SWITINUS DRYDEN.—There is now before the Academy of Sciences at Paris, "a wonderful invention of Mons. Helvetius Otto, of Leipsic, by which he promises to insure fine weather." He erects a platform at a considerable height in the air, on which he places a "propeller," or huge bellows, worked by steam. With these bellows, which are "very powerful," he blows away the clouds as they gather; and, as rain comes from the clouds, it must necessarily be blown away. He maintains that if certain number of his "Rain Propellers," or "Pluvifuges," as he has named them, are placed at intervals over the city, he can provide for the inhabitants a continuance of fine weather, and a certain protection from sudden showers and muddy streets, so long the terror of fair pedestrians. The poor inhabitants of adjoining towns would be to be pitied. What would become of them? As for the Pluvifuge proprietors, their motto ought to be, "Après nous le déluge." Victims, however, as we in England have to be to wet weather, still we cannot blame the Frenchman's "Pluvifuges," inasmuch as France itself has been in early the same predicament—at least the northern parts of it.—English Paper.

Typoid fever is prevailing at Wrightsville, Pa.