

GEN. HOUSTON ON ANNEXATION.

Gen. Houston has made an address to the citizens of New Orleans, at their request, relative to Texas affairs and annexation. The latter part of his speech possesses interest; as it professes to explain the course of action which he thought it politic to pursue in reference to the project of annexation. Gen. Jackson speaks with great kindness and confidence of Gen. Houston, whose visit he is anxiously expecting. He says, "Texas comes into the Union with an united voice; and Gen. Houston, as I know, puts his shoulders to the wheel to roll it on speedily. ALL IS SAID; and Donelson will have the honor of this important deed."

Gen. H. stated that in 1836 he voted for the measure when it was before the people,—that the first act of his administration (being the first constitutional President) was to despatch an agent to this government, followed shortly by another with extraordinary powers conveying the wishes of the people and empowered to open negotiations on the subject. Their reception and treatment was somewhat cool and cavalier, and they returned to Texas without obtaining any satisfaction. Another appeal was made with similar results—the impression going abroad that nine-tenths of the Texans were Annexationists. Then policy dictated a reserved course, and he thought a little innocent trickery would benefit the cause and help on the measure to a final settlement. He had often heard that when a lover had been kept in obedience by his mistress for some time, unable to obtain a 'yes' or 'no,' some sudden holding off or violent praise of some neighbor beauty would scarcely fail to elicit an answer. Prompted by this idea its efficacy was immediately put to test. Friendly intercourse was courted with other powers, and, aware of the mutual jealousy existing between our country and that of England, her hand was first solicited as a partner in the dance, which she readily granted; but familiarity was never such in the gallop as to unglue with her. The bait was taken, and she who always dearly loved us—sinking affected reserve—made a direct proposal.

If to have voted for annexation—to negotiate for it—to have courted it—and to have even coquetted for it be opposition, then he supposed he was what he has sometimes been termed on that head.

With regard to public sentiment on the subject in Texas, nearly every man was of one mind. He had been at many meetings and a negative voice was a rare thing when annexation was put.

President Jones was IN FAVOR of the measure and would do every thing in his power to satisfy the wishes of the people.

In conclusion, he assured the assembly that if Uncle Sam did take Texas it would be marrying into a good family. He retired amidst the hearty cheers of the multitude.

A STEAMBOAT ON THE CANAL.

We have been informed that on Wednesday last, a steam canal boat passed up the Pennsylvania canal. Some of our citizens who were on the bank of the river, within sight of the canal, at the time, were almost as much surprised to see a boat moving along in the canal with great rapidity, without being drawn by horses, as the people living on the Hudson were, to see Fulton's steamboat passing up that river, belching forth fire and smoke, and ploughing the water with incredible speed. This boat, it is said, belongs to an iron company at Danville, and is intended to convey ore to their furnaces. It is not at all improbable that before the lapse of ten years, the common canal boats, will be displaced by steamboats, and the different depots on the canal will be filled with steamers. Steam canal boats have for some time been used upon canals, and have been found to answer a very good purpose. The Schuylkill Canal is now being adapted to the use of steamboats, and the improvement of the Pennsylvania Canal for that purpose, has been suggested. Should this be done, what a beautiful harbor would our basin afford for boats from the North and West Branch Canals. How easily could they approach our shore to discharge their load to be taken to Philadelphia by the Sunbury and Philadelphia Railroad, and receive loading to be conveyed up the two branches.—Sunbury Gazette.

Forty-four persons died of the small pox in New York within the space of three weeks.

OUR CLAIM TO OREGON.

A late number of the Albany Argus placed this in its true light, and in a few words:

Great Britain claims, without reservation all the territory north of the Columbia river, and with an 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, our title to the forty-ninth 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 as against England. As if to perfect our title, it is not denied that the Lewis and Clark and Wallamette river, 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 Captain LEWIS and CLARK.—There was a minuteness and a fullness in their discoveries which gave the highest authenticity to a little founded upon prior discovery.

Oregon is also ours by purchase (in 1819) from Spain, undeniably the first 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 United States' title, is the well known Nootka Sound contest (in 1780) which terminated in a convention between England and Spain, in the year 1790, some twenty years before the purchase from Spain, and with which conditions our title is undoubtedly 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 laid before that body—the contemporaneous action in relation to the surrender of the English possessions on Nootka Sound, which had been seized by Spain—which surrender, 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 on commercial purposes. Such a one now exists and has existed for twenty seven years between Great 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 our ultimate title to Oregon, by that joint occupancy. Applying the same principle to the convention between England and Spain, and the conviction will arise that the title was left in obedience to be determined by subsequent agreement. The following is a clear summary of the American title:

1. Discovery of the mouth of the Columbia river by Captain 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, acquiring all right of Spain to land north of 42 degrees beyond the Rocky Mountains.
6. The Nootka Sound contest (1780) between England and Spain.
7. The treaty of Utrecht (1763) between France and England, setting 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 an American property.
9. American citizens were once in sole possession of the Columbia river region.

Even should the Nootka Sound contest be considered a cession of title and sovereignty to England on the part of Spain, it only applies to the place named therein, and these are situated north of the 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 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 in acre.

Though this question is evidently surrounded with complicated difficulties and embarrassments, growing too, in no small degree out of 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.

THE MOHOMEDANS, are making no effort to sustain their system—are building no new mosques, nor repairing old ones, and assign as a reason for this course, that according to the Koran, Mohomedanism is to pass away, and therefore it is of no use to do ought to maintain it. Important changes, it is known, are now taking place in the Turkish empire, and the Sultan is pressing on his ministers the duty of providing for the general education of the people. They have a hard task to accomplish—much like raising the dead to life. But in connection with the labors of Christian missionaries, everywhere so abundantly blessed, we hope that such efforts of the government will be successful.

Important to Owners of Rented Farms.—The Bucks County, Pa., Intelligencer, of yesterday, says:—In a trial at the recent sessions of our Court, reported in our last, an attempt was made to prove the removal of hay and straw by the tenant of a farm who was defendant in the case; but the Court ruled out the evidence, on the ground that the tenant had a right to the hay and straw raised by him on the premises, in the absence of any stipulation in the lease to the contrary. The counsel for the defendant stated, that his opinion had always been that where no stipulation in relation to hay and straw was made in a lease, the tenant had a right to remove it, or dispose of it as he might see proper, it being as much his property as the grain he raised—and that it had been so decided by the Supreme Court. The Court coincided in this opinion, and under the decision of the Supreme Court rejected the evidence above referred to. This law, we presume, is new to a majority of our farmers, and is exactly contrary to their views of it. It will be well for landlords leasing farms to bear this in mind, and where they do not intend that the tenant shall remove hay or straw, (which is generally the case,) stipulate its reservation in the lease.

Letter from Mr. Calhoun.—In a late Mobile Register is published a letter from Mr. Calhoun to some citizen of Mobile, in reply to one inviting him to visit that city and accept a public dinner. Mr. Calhoun in his reply refers to the Texas and Oregon question. In relation to the latter he says:

"The absorbing character of the negotiation in reference to Texas, did not engross my attention as to neglect that of Oregon: As soon as the former was sufficient despatched and the business of the department brought up, I entered on that. I left it in an unfinished state, and as it is still pending, I am not at liberty to speak of the course I took in reference to it; but I trust when it comes to be made public, it will not be less successful in meeting your approbation and that of the country generally. It is a subject not without great difficulties, and I feel assured I shall be pardoned for expressing a hope that it may be so conducted by those to whose hands it is intrusted to finish the negotiation, as to bring it to a successful and satisfactory termination, and thus avoid an appeal to arms. Neither country can gain any thing by such an appeal, or can possibly desire it if it can be avoided."

The Alton Telegraph says:—We are deeply pained on learning from a friend who has just returned from Lexington, that the domestic afflictions of the distinguished Statesman Henry Clay; have lately been greatly added to, by his son's becoming deranged. This makes the second son now an inmate of the Lunatic Asylum; and we deeply sympathize with both Mr. Clay and his wife in this hour of their distress. We are also informed from the same good source, that Mr. Clay has lately become a communicant in the Episcopal Church in Lexington.

WHAT NEXT?—A scheme for forwarding the whole mail, at the rate of sixty miles an hour, the Washington correspondent of the Journal of Commerce says, is now in agitation. Experiments are soon to be made, which will demonstrate its entire feasibility. It will be a cheap mode of transporting the mail—and is far preferable even to the atmospheric railroad talked of in England.

Fee Bills

FOR JUSTICES AND CONSTABLES, Printed on a sheet for the purpose of Posting up in their Offices.

FOR SALE AT THIS OFFICE. The Law requires every Justice and Constable to have his bill of fees posted up in his office.

—ALSO— Blanks for CONSTABLE SALES.

NEW POST OFFICE LAW.

The New Post Office Law, goes into operation on the first of July next, and the following is a list of Post offices, at which the Columbia Democrat, can be received FREE OF POSTAGE, after that date. It is the only paper printed in the county, that can be received at all the offices in the county free of Postage, and as the election this fall, will be one of more importance to the people than any other that has ever transpired in the county, since its organization, we ask the friends of Removal, to give our paper a more general circulation, that we may be enabled to counteract the various falsehoods and misrepresentations that may be set afloat by our opponents. If a few of our friends in each township, will take it in hand, they can very readily, more than double our subscription list, which will advantage the cause, as well as ourselves.

- Columbia County.
- |                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Numidia,          | Cattawissa   |
| Cattawissa Forge, | Beaver Vally |
| Mifflinville,     | Berwick      |
| Lime Ridge,       | Espey        |
| Light Street,     | Orangeville  |
| Peaslers,         | Fishingcreek |
| Benton,           | Cule creek   |
| Central,          | Robersburg   |
| Greenwood,        | Millville    |
| Mordansville,     | Buck Horn    |
| Jerseytown,       | Brier Creek  |
| White Hall,       | Derry        |
| Washingtonville,  | Moorsburg    |
|                   | Danville,    |
- Lycoming County.
- |                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Chestnut Grove, | Moreland |
|-----------------|----------|
- Northumberland County.
- |                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Milton,         | Sunbury  |
| Northumberland, | Elysburg |
- Bear Gap, Union County.
- Lewisburg, Schuylkill County.
- Fountain Springs, Luzerne County.
- |                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Cambria,           | Townhill    |
| Fairmount Springs, | Tyler       |
| Salem,             | Shickshinny |
| Beach Grove,       | Beach Haven |
| Cunningham,        | Hazelton    |
| Beaver Meadows,    | Nescopeck.  |

SUNDAY SCHOOL CELEBRATION, AT ORANGVILLE.

We have been requested by the Committee of Arrangements to mention, that a Sunday School Celebration will be held at Orangville, on the 4th of July next, and that a general invitation is extended to all the neighboring Schools to attend, and participate in the festivities of the day. The procession is to be formed at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and the Schools are requested to be present at that hour. Several Addresses may be expected.

FATAL ACCIDENT.

On Tuesday morning last, Mr. Caleb Barton, of Bloomsburg, descended into his well, in which he had been engaged for two days previous deepening. It was about thirty feet deep, and he went to the bottom but soon returned about ten feet to a platform, when he was overcome by the gas, and fell upon the platform helpless. An outcry brought several persons to the spot, and in the panic of the moment, some of them descended into the well to the assistance of Mr. Barton, among them was Mr. Daniel Folmer, a resident of this town, but formerly of Huntingdon Luzerne co. All of them soon returned to the surface except Mr. Folmer, much affected with the gas. A moment after, he faltered and fell about ten feet to the bottom of the well. Successful measures were immediately taken to get Mr. Barton out, and although entirely senseless, his life was preserved: but before the well could be sufficiently cleared of gas to render it safe to descend to the bottom, Mr. Folmer was passed resuscitation, although every means possible were used to effect it by the physicians present, and he thus lost his own life through his humane exertions to save that of a fellow being. He was about 35 years of age, well respected, and has left a wife and three small children, in indigent circumstances, to deplore his untimely death. His remains were taken to Huntingdon on Wednesday for interment.

JOHN T. DAVIS, Esq., of Berwick, has been appointed Deputy Surveyor General for Columbia County in the place of THOMAS WOODSIDES, of Danville.

The above appointment is quite judicious and acceptable. Esq. Davis is an excellent Surveyor & an estimable citizen, & all who have business to transact with him in his new situation, will find him to be, a perfect gentleman, at all times prompt, intelligent and correct. We sincerely wish him plenty of patronage and an increase of friends, in the performance of the duties of his appointment.

The Intelligencer man, who was for several years, and is now for what we know, a defaulter to the State for a considerable amount, affects a holy horror at the idea that the County Commissioners should not take measures to assist the state to pay her August interest. By an advertisement in another column it will be seen that they are attempting to relieve him of this trouble, but, poor soul, he is much to be pitied, and we are afraid, he can get no permanent relief until October Election.

EDITORIAL CHANGES.

Mr. Tate of the 'Columbia Enquirer,' has associated with him Benjamin S. Gilmore, and the paper is hereafter to be published by 'Tate & Gilmore.'

Our old friend J. W. Brewer has assumed the control of the Huntingdon Globe, L. G. Mytinger, Esq. having retired from its management.

James Rafferty has also retired from the Monroe Democrat, and is succeeded by B. J. Schoonover.

The few days warm weather since June came in has had a terrible effect upon the nerves of the Intelligencer man. We fear he will become completely rabid before the dog days are over. We would advise his being muzzled until then, for if he can weather it till October, the people will administer a medicine that will effectually cure him. Mad dogs are dangerous when they run at large. Stop the mad dog.

TEXAS.

Galveston dates to the 28th have been received. The recommendation of President Jones for electing members of the Convention, meets with general favor, save perhaps in the West, and it is thought that in that section the people will give way and make choice of delegates. The feeling in favor of annexation to the United States grows stronger and stronger, and the little opposition that has been manifested is rapidly dying away.

IMPROVED CANAL BOAT.

We are pleased to learn, says the Wilkesbarre Advocate that Mr. Converse, whose Boat we noticed last week, has made such arrangements as will enable him to thoroughly test his invention. In perfecting the improvement Mr. Converse had incurred expenses which some what embarrassed his operation. We understand Messrs. John L. Butler & Co., have proffered the necessary aid, and engaged Mr. Converse to use his Boat in towing Coal from Port Mallery to Haver De Grace. The object of the Messrs. Butlers is, we believe, to thoroughly test the improvement, in which they have every confidence, and to ascertain how successfully the Canal may be navigated by Steam Power. It is far more than probable that anticipations will be fully realized in the trial of the experiment, and that sooner or later Steam Power will in a great measure supply the place of Horses, in the larger operations on the Canal. We mention with pleasure the prospect of the speedy trial of so important an experiment. We may add the expression of a sincere belief that the Proprietor of the Boat will yet realize an abundant remuneration for an improvement that promises to be of great utility, and those who, with commendable public spirit, have come forward to aid in testing the experiment, will find a noble reward in its complete success.

Col. Hillman, Mr. Gray, and other business men, who are engaged in sending off Coal are united in the opinion, that the improvement of Mr Converse will answer its intended purpose. A little time since, a similar opinion was expressed by the editor of the U. States Gazette, and other citizens of Philadelphia.—Generally, we believe, so far as the improvement has been examined, there is but one opinion on the subject of the certainty that it will succeed.

Mr. Whitney and his band of forty young men have left to make the survey of the contemplated railroad across to the Pacific. They reached Rochester a few days ago: the next we shall hear of them will be on their prairie.

A Portland paper tells of a beautiful copper fastened schooner of about 80 tons, which was launched there a few days since. She is intended as a packet between Thompson and Boston. Her name is the 'I. O. of O. F.' She was built by an Odd Fellow, is to be commanded by an Odd Fellow, and her first trip will be on the 17th of June, when she will carry a load of Odd Fellows to the celebration in Boston on the 19th of the same month. Such an oddity will no doubt attract much attention.

MORE TROUBLE IN IOWA.

There is trouble on the Half Breed land in Iowa. A great excitement prevails among the settlers. They have repeatedly met under arms to prevent the sale of the lands by the Sheriff, under a decree in favor of the New York Company. More than 600 had taken arms at last accounts; Those lands are in the southwestern part of Iowa, very valuable, and include Keokuck, a place probably designed to be larger than any other on the Mississippi, north of St. Louis.

An intelligent lady of Tioga county, Pa., informs us that the settlers in that section of country care little for the bite of a rattlesnake. She states that a piece of common indigo, made into a paste with spirits of camphor, and applied to the wound, will prevent any serious consequences occurring, and in fact at once neutralize the poison.

The new Post Office Scale is not a new invention, but was used by the ancient Romans. It is the common steelyard, fixed upon a platform. The advantage of it is, that it combines sensitiveness with celerity of operation. The larger offices are to be supplied with these scales at \$1 50 each—the smaller offices are to be supplied in some cheaper mode.

REMAINS OF A HUGE MONSTER.

It is stated in the Mobile Advertiser that Dr. Albert C. Koch has brought to light the fossil remains of a monster in the animal creation that puts in the shade the celebrated 'Iguanodon' of England, of colossal size, and the still more gigantic Missouriium. This last discovery may be set down to the State of Alabama, and to a county adjoining Mobile, namely, Washington, being found imbedded in a yellow limestone formation, near the old Washington Court House.—The description of this monster is in substance as follows:—I have succeeded in bringing to light the very nearly complete skeleton of a most colossal and terrible reptile, that may be justly termed the king of the kings of reptiles. Its length is one hundred and four feet, the solid portions of the vertebrae are from 14 to 18 inches in length and from 8 to 12 inches in diameter, each averaging 75 pounds in weight. Its greatly elongated jaws are armed with no less than forty incisor or cutting teeth; four canine teeth or fangs, and eight molars or grinders. These teeth all fit into each other when the jaws are closed, and it is clear that the animal was of the carnivorous nature. The eyes were evidently large, and were prominently situated on the forehead, giving the animal the power of keeping a constant and vigorous watch for his prey. The body had members attached resembling paddles or fins, which, in proportion to the size of the animal, were small, and were doubtless intended to propel the body of this enormous creature through the waters of those large rivers and seas which it inhabited or frequented. Each of these paddles or fins is composed of 21 bones which form in union seven truly articulating joints. The ribs are of a peculiar shape and exceedingly numerous. They are three times the thickness at the lower that they are at the superior extremity.

In Pittsburg, the late disastrous fire has been traced to a boy, who was seen by a little girl to fire with a match the hay in Mr. Young's stable. The incendiary threatened to kill the girl if she did not remain silent. He is under arrest. The whole loss by that fire is now reduced to the estimated sum of \$15,000.

New England has already invested \$30 millions of dollars in railways, most of which investments pay a dividend of 6 and 7 per cent; some as high as 10 and 12 per cent. Railways now in progress will absorb twelve millions more of capital, all of which will probably be completed in 5 years.

The Democrats have triumphed in the first Election in the new State of Florida, for Governor, Congress, and State Legislature. This secures the election of two Democratic United States Senators from that State.