

rous and complicated, and greatly simplify the payments of interest. The coupons could be made receivable for all dues to the Commonwealth, for as we intend to continue the payment of the interest as it falls due, it is the same thing, whether the interest is paid in taxes, or the taxes pay the interest. Connected with this arrangement, the five per cent. for collecting might be saved to the State, by authorizing the county treasurers to receive them in payment without the intervention of the collectors.

The report recommends the taxing of guarantees of interest on railroad and canal companies by the Commonwealth; and also, a tax of ten cents per ton on Australian coal.

Finally, the Treasurer recommends the establishment of a Sinking Fund, for the gradual extinguishing of the public debt. On this subject he remarks:—"We have a great prosperous and wealthy State; but the public debt is a grievous burden. The first dollar that would go into the Sinking Fund would be evidence of our safety, and every citizen would breathe more freely. Every species of property and every variety of business would advance under its influence; and whilst the debt would be diminishing, the public revenues would be increasing." We cannot think the importance of this measure overrated, and sincerely hope the recommendation of the Treasurer will have its effect upon the Legislature.

We have now glanced at some of the principle recommendations in this admirable report, perusal of which will be gratifying to every true Pennsylvanian. No patriotic individual can read it without feeling proud now assumed by this honored Commonwealth. She has repudiated repudiation, and will never again allow her to be sullied by the violation of a single engagement. Her resources are undoubted and her course in prosperity and wealth is onward.—Union.

ODD FELLOWSHIP.

In the Newport Herald of the Times of Thursday last we find the following article from the pen of its editor an Odd Fellow:

"We have noticed an article going the rounds of the papers, among others the Providence Daily Journal, from the Lancaster (Pa.) Republican, giving an account of a trial recently held at that place, where the question of the influence of the secrets of Odd Fellowship, to the prejudice of justice, and consequent injury of those who do not belong to the order, is being debated. It seems one of the parties to the suit was an Odd Fellow, and a witness was produced on the stand, who also belonged to the order, but who by the way, from his answer to the question put, ought never to have been admitted for he was a perfect simpleton. He was a good deal wiser drawn by the counsel, and finally blundered out that the Plaintiff (who was the Odd Fellow) had said his friends, before the trial, and being hard pushed he said that the Plaintiff did not say friends, exactly, but brother Odd Fellows? He was then asked if there was anything in the obligations of the Odd Fellows which requires one brother to help another, contrary to justice? This question he refused to answer, and after some conversation between the counsel the matter was dropped.

Now, we unhesitatingly say that there is no such requisition in any of the secrets of the order, from the lowest to the very highest grade; but on the contrary, Odd Fellows are strictly commanded to render justice to all men, whether of the Order or not, and they cannot befriend a brother to the injury of one who is not without violating its fundamental principles. And the witness in the above case ought to have stated so, and there the matter would have ended, and the whole truth been told, but he evidently was a weak minded man, or else he wanted to give an air of dangerous importance to the Order, which never will belong to it.

This witness was very properly expelled from the order, by the lodge to which he belonged, at its next meeting for so flagrant and wilful misrepresentation of its principles.

RESULT OF A VOYAGE.

"One of the belles of the upper ten," and the reigning toast here for two seasons since, took a trip to Madeira a few months ago, accompanied by her brother. The captain of the brig in which she sailed, chanced to be a young dashing Don Juan, who had been sent to sea in order to be reclaimed, if possible, from the numerous little vices, he had acquired on shore. The trip to Madeira was a pleasant one, and the trier entered fully into the enjoyment of the place, and embarked on their return voyage; and the astonishment of the brother may be imagined when the lady announced her intention of sharing the state room of the "violet captain," and exhibited the marriage certificate dated three days before.

On their arrival here, we understand the fond pair were cruelly torn asunder, and the modern "Non" condemned to a probationary term of good behavior before the parents of the lady will consent to countenance this union.—N. Y. Mirror.

DEMOCRAT.

"TRUTH WITHOUT FEAR."

ELCONSBURG:

SATURDAY JANUARY 31, 1846.

A few copies of CHARLES MINER'S new History of Wyoming, for sale at a valuable and interesting book. Price \$2. Inquire at this Office.

Whig Doctrine on the OREGON Question.

The Whig County Meeting held at Danville, on the 20th inst., adopted the following resolution:—

Resolved—That we spurn as dishonorable and highly unjust the attempt made by the designing and unprincipled leaders of our opposing party, to place the Whigs in a false position on the momentous question of Oregon: That we solemnly believe Oregon is and of right ought to be ours, and that so far from consenting to a compromise on the line of 49 degrees, we assert our clear and unquestionable title to the whole territory in dispute, and pledge ourselves to aid the administration in sustaining that title at all hazards.

We are glad to see the Whigs of Columbia county taking ground to support the administration upon this great national question. To their credit they have spoken out in favor of American interests, and we bid them God speed in every similar sagacious and patriotic movement. The first part of the resolution is, however, incorrect, and therefore objectionable. There has been no attempt, from the quarter they indicate, to place the Whigs in a false position upon the momentous question of Oregon. If there has been an attempt to place them in a false position, it has been the attempt of their own leaders. For years the opposition to giving Great Britain notice under the convention of 1827; to extending our laws over Oregon, and to protecting emigrants thitherward, has proceeded, mainly, from the Whig leaders in Congress. Dr. Linn's Bill was voted down by them in 1842, and at every session since they have stood in a similar hostile position. For the conclusive proof of this statement we refer to the journals and debates in Congress. There stands the evidence upon record and indisputable. We know of no better way to ascertain the position of a party upon a national question, than by the solemn votes of those whom that party has elected to office, and who are acknowledged to be its leaders and to express its sentiments. If, therefore, it is the desire of the Whigs to assist in asserting our right to the whole of Oregon, they can only complain of their own leaders for placing them in a false position upon this momentous question.

A New Position.

For about five years the Danville Democrat has been the organ Whig newspaper published in this county. We of course look to it to express the sentiments and define the position of its party, in this county, upon public questions. For most of that time the Oregon question has been a subject of popular discussion. How happens it that that newspaper has never taken ground in favor of Oregon during all that time? How happens it that it has acquiesced in Mr. Johnson's notion of a wise and masterly inactivity, and never expressed itself in favor of asserting American right in that great and valuable territory? The truth is, the Whigs in this county have taken a new position upon this momentous subject. We are glad of it, for although they have been inconsistent, they are now right, and they are for the future they will support the administration in defending our national rights and honor in the Oregon territory.

The nomination of Judge Woodward as a seat on the bench of the United States Supreme Court, has been rejected by the Senate.

The meeting held at Danville in favor of his confirmation last week, was originated at the suggestion of an old member of the Reform Convention from this county, who sat in that body along with Judge W., and who retains, in common with other members of the Convention, a profound respect for his abilities and character. The citizens of this part of the State in the neighborhood of the person nominated, are certainly better able to judge of his qualifications and character than those of other States and of the cities, who have interfered in the matter and controlled its decision.

COURTS.

There is very little business of public interest transacted in the Courts last week. Not a single case was tried in the Quarter Sessions. In the case of *Sturman vs. McWilliams* a new trial was refused, and the cause goes to the Supreme Court. The Courts adjourned on Friday.

At Franconia, N. H., the mercury fell to 38 degrees below zero, on the 12th ult. That is the place where it is said ice crevasses are not directly from the cows in mid-winter.

WHIG COUNTY MEETING.

On Tuesday morning of Court week, we observed handbills up at various public places in Danville, calling a Whig county meeting at the Court House, for the same day. When the time came we attended, from curiosity, and it was one of the most queer and amusing scenes we ever witnessed. Cattawissa and Danville had the honor of furnishing nearly all the officers of the meeting, the speakers, and the members of the committee on resolutions. Col. Paxton was chosen President by an enthusiastic and triumphant vote of 99, and presided with that grace and dignity of manner for which he is so remarkable. Mr. Bancroft was called on for a speech, as a matter of course, as he is always the dependence of his party in that line, at their county gatherings. Mr. B. came forward after some hesitation, inside the bar, looked round at the empty seats where Whigs ought to have been and were not, and finding he had scarce any of his own political faith as an audience, made a queer and random speech to the large number of Democrats who stood outside the railing, looking pleasantly upon the proceedings within. Having a respectable audience of Democrats to keep him in countenance, he made a pretty good speech on the whole, and wound up by proposing a resolution in favor of the American title to the whole of Oregon. George A. Fick, Esq. in order, we suppose, to throw the matter into ridicule, proposed an amendment, to the effect, that the whole of North America belonged to us, north of the Mexican line. The President here arose in a great hurry, apparently to give information that that matter had been all arranged and that the committee would report a resolution upon the subject. This amendment threw the proposition, as the printers say, into the air, and in a few moments in came the committee with the result of their profound labors, in the shape of a preamble filled with waxes, and a string of resolutions denouncing every body and every thing except the tariff of 1842; which in the beautiful language of the committee, makes— the comfort and beside enjoyments ever cluster around the hearths and homes of the honest children of toil. The resolutions were separately adopted, by a powerful vote of six or eight in their favor, including some of the members of the committee reporting them. The meeting then adjourned.

The resolutions have since been published, and are distinguished for venom and bombast; qualities that will not recommend them to the good sense of the people upon whose minds they were intended to produce effect. This mode of treating public questions and public men, is alike impetuous and improper. Opposing sentiment in this free republic is, not, and ought not, to be beaten down by sweeping denunciation; and when honest public servants are venomously assailed, they usually suffer no injury. The motives for such unseasonable bitterness,—petulant anger and thwarted ambition—are understood, and the outbursts they prompt are disregarded.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The long looked for steamer *Hibernia* arrived at Boston on the 23d, bringing 22 days later dates from England. The most important news is the restoration of the Peel ministry, and the pacific tone of the British press in relation to the Oregon controversy. The tone of the President's message appears to have had a salutary effect on the nerves of the English Editors. The effect of the news has been highly favorable on stocks. The restoration of the Peel Ministry and the moderate tone of the English press upon the President's Message, are believed to be positive indications of a strong disposition to preserve the present peaceful relations between Great Britain and this country.

The President's Message was received on Liverpool by the ship *Sea Captain* Freeman, on the 22d, in seventeen days from New York, and was conveyed to London in six hours from its arrival in the *Marsee*. It was conveyed by express to France and Germany.

Parliament was summoned to meet for the despatch of business on the 22d of January, Thursday.

Cotton was a shade better than at the date of our last advice. Flour about the same, though prices were unsettled.

The Oregon correspondence had but just reached England when the steamship left. Of course it had not yet been spread before the people. Some of the papers comment on it with much more bitterness than they showed upon the message. For instance, the *Spectator* spitefully characterizes it as, on the American side, a manifestation of dishonest ability. The *Times* makes its strongest point on the presumed incompetency between the Spanish title and the American title by discovery.

There was a dreadful storm on the English coast, Dec. 21st and 22d which caused numerous disasters to the shipping, and the loss of many lives. The times state that 60 vessels had been lost in the course of a few days, and more than one hundred lives. Among the vessels are two steamers the *St. David* and *Tom Bowling*. Another was a Dutch East Indiaman, the *Twee Cornelissen*, with a cargo worth \$490,000—a total loss.

On the night of the 6th of December, the French Government Steamer *Papin* was lost on the African coast, near Magadore, and half of her crew, 75, perished; among them were M. Marry Monge, the Consul

at Magadore, M. Fleuriot de Langle, commandant of the vessel.

The Arabs displayed upon this occasion as much courage as humanity. In less than two hours they succeeded in bringing off 44 persons, carrying them upon their shoulders, & swimming with them through a very heavy sea.

The committee of the London Peace Society have memorialized Sir R. Peel in favor of settling the Oregon question by peaceful rather than by other means, what ever provocation the British Government may receive to adopt a warlike tone and policy. They earnestly deplore war between the two nations, and urge the propriety of settling the dispute by arbitration.

MEXICO.—Fuller advices from Mexico in reference to the revolution in that country render it very doubtful whether Paredes will be successful against the government. The federal party have signified to Herrera their intention to stand by him. The people generally in the towns where the soldiers have declared against the government, exhibit no sympathy with the movement—this private letters from Vera Cruz positively assert, and the least check experienced by Paredes in his march to the capital, would be the signal of a reaction, which would tumble him and his adherents to the ground. The *Siglo*, of the 22d ult., says that the inhabitants of the city of Mexico show the utmost determination to exhibit the most undoubted enthusiasm taking measures to defend the capital against the revolutionists, who are pushed to this paralytic act by a desire to substitute for republicanism, monarchy or anarchy, or anything which may trouble the national tranquility. The *Monitor*, of the 23d ult., states that letters have been received from Havana, proving, without doubt, that the insurrection of Paredes has been brought about by the friends and emissaries of Santa Anna.

LATEST FROM MEXICO.

The news from Mexico is of a most important character. It brings us an account of the success of Paredes, who has possession of the city of Mexico, the capital of the country. This news shows that Mexico is in the worst condition imaginable, the government too weak and imbecile to sustain itself, the people too fickle and discontented to support its own laws, and the country a prey to the ambition of its military leaders, and the army which they have always at command. Any pretext serves for a revolution. The late government overthrew Santa Anna, because he equated or misapplied the public money, endeavored to diminish the consequences of some of the military chiefs, and by his activity against the Texans, was suspected of favoring their independent movement. Herrera's government is overthrown for nearly the same cause—a disposition to compromise with the United States on the annexation difficulty, and to control and reduce the power and consequence of the army, and provide a substitute for it. How long the new government will last is impossible to predict.

The first act of the revolutionists will be to convolve an extraordinary Congress to organize the executive power, which will be given to Paredes probably, or possibly to Santa Anna, as some of the Mexican journals have hinted. Rumor already says that Gen. Paredes, notwithstanding the late declaration of the revolutionists, that the government of Herrera had lost all respectability necessary to a government, by allowing a plenipotentiary of the United States to set foot in the country, has manifested less opposition to Mr. Sidel, who still remains at the Capital, waiting the issue of events, than President Herrera himself. If Mr. Sidel is well provided with money in his negotiation, so that the new government may be supplied with means to keep a army well fed and paid, it is quite probable that he will find favor with the new administration. We shall see.

From the Washington Union of the 24th inst. By the arrival on the 14th inst. of the United States brig *Porpoise*, at Pensacola, in 12 days from Vera Cruz, the intelligence of a revolution in Mexico has been confirmed.

It appears that on the morning of the 20th ult. the troops relied upon by the government to defend it against Paredes, pronounced in his favor, and the government retreated in terms of capitulation with General Paredes. He entered and took possession of the city on the day without opposition. The rumor was, that Gen. Paredes manifested less opposition to the reception of Mr. Sidel than the late President, Herrera.

T. Fick, Esq., has retired from the U. S. Journal, published at Washington city. The paper will be continued by Jesse B. Dow, Esq., assisted by an able editor.

THE NEWS.—For more than two years past we have asserted that British Government would not wage war against this country for Oregon; that it could not engage in such war; because it was too much embarrassed at home that it could not defend Oregon in war and would lose more by such a war than 50 Orecons were worth; that such war would embroil it with other powers and send the French into Egypt and the Russians into India. But since the publication of the President's Message, the commercial journals of the great cities have been terrified with the apprehension of war, saying that Britain was eager for it, would devastate our coasts before we could even begin to defend it, and that nothing could save us but submission, and a compromise of Oregon upon British propositions. And these terrors have been so greatly augmented by the debates in the Federal Senate upon the motion for inquiry by General Cass, as to call out some of these journals in defence of the British claim to Oregon.

But how stands the case now? According to the late news, the British government will not wage war for Oregon. They have discovered that we cannot be intimidated by threats, are too many to strike without counting the cost, and well know that the cost of striking would far exceed the profit. In the course of last summer, the British press exploded in threats upon the President's inaugural address, and British statesmen in parliament talked very ominously about the President's claim to the whole of Oregon. Perceiving that we heard all these threats very calmly, and offered no signs of submission, they changed their tone, and consented to argue. They have read in the message a repetition of the policy proclaimed in the inaugural address, and have become more calm than ever. Instead of war they talk of its disasters and losses of the insignificance of the Oregon question, compared with the enormous interest of the two nations in peaceful and more extensive commercial intercourse. The tone of the British nation upon American affairs is precisely what we expected, moderate and daily becoming more so. We congratulate Senator Archer's pig!

But we may mention other signs of this peaceful temper. Lord John Russell could not form a cabinet, because Lord Grey would not join it with Lord Palmerston at the head of the foreign office, and merely because the policy of the latter was too warlike. Indeed, then the Whig party of England have no desire for war with any body. Lord John Russell is not proved without Lord Grey, and the latter, holding the balance of power, will not have a war minister at the head of foreign affairs, and thus to prevent an additional chance for war, the Whigs abandon the attempt to conduct the government! And this brings back Mr. Peel, who resigned because he could not carry a measure through the cabinet that would put out of the question a war between the two countries. These indications are no very warlike.

But what is the prospect? If a repeal bill passes the House of Commons, it will not probably pass the Lords; for they will not surrender their cherished monopoly without a struggle. This leads to a new election, which leads to a free party in control; and if the republicans succeed in it, they will be driven to threats of revolution, or force their measures through the Lords, for the latter will probably fight to the last. All this will occupy England for six months or a year, if no more, during this period, the government will overlook Oregon, and the Hudson's Bay Company.

Our government should improve the opportunity thus offered. For it will never occur again. We should fortify the sea ports and the lakes, increase our navy on the ocean and the lakes, extend our laws over Oregon, establish a line of military posts to the Rocky Mountains, and build some strong forts in the territory, settle the boundary question with Mexico, purchase California, and open negotiation for Mexico and a nation. All this might require a national debt of twenty five or thirty millions. What then? It would save the two hundred millions necessary to conduct the war which these measures would prevent, and which will come eventually if they be not adopted. If we sit with folded arms till the British are out of their difficulties, we shall be obliged to fight, and for the last, instead of the first inch of Oregon.—*Edw. Ledges*.

The York Manufacturing Co., of Danville, have just opened a trading room for the free use of the men employed in their mills. It is to be supplied with the best publications of the day—is to be always warmed and lighted for their comfort, and, improve in leisure hours. They had before a large library of about 650 volumes, to which they are constantly making additions, for the use of the operatives.

The Senate of this State has unanimously adopted a resolution instructing our Senators and Representatives in Congress to oppose any alterations in the tariff law of 1842.

A bill has passed both houses making appropriations for the payment of the February interest.

A resolution has passed both houses instructing our members of Congress to oppose any increase of the present rates of postage.

James R. Snowden Esq. has been re-elected State Treasurer.

A singular trial has lately taken place at Dedham, Mass., for criminally abducting an unmarried woman, under a new law to punish seduction. The prisoner was upwards of 40 years of age a married man, with a large family; the female was 17 years of age. According to her statement, she agreed to leave home with, and they went to New York, and thence proceeded to Philadelphia, where they lived. The jury found him guilty.

Another of the Mormon elders, Mr. O. Olney, has come out with a pamphlet exposure of what he terms "Spiritual Wifery at Nauvoo." He endorses the statement of Smith with regard to the corruptions of their doctrine, and gives as a reason for his own course in the matter, that he expected to find Nauvoo a place of peace and piety but found it just the contrary. Brigham Young says, (according to Olney's account)—"The Bible is no more to the people of this generation than a last year's almanac, for I am all the Bible needful for people now, if they obey my counsel."

Two members of Congress from Illinois, Messrs. Wentworth and Douglass, having seats adjoining, in front of the Clerk's desk, afford considerable amusement to the House when they rise together, as they sometimes do. Mr. Wentworth is six feet seven inches in height, and Mr. Douglass five feet four.—They are "one long and short of it."

A GOOD VERDICT.

At a late term of the Superior Court of Virginia, held at Staunton, Jacob Copenhagen obtained a verdict of \$8000 against Sampson Batten, for the seduction of the daughter of the former. Batten was a married man. He was able to pay damages. Make examples of such creatures!

Died, at the residence of her son T. H. Ward, of Richmond, Ky. Mrs. Ward, in the hundred and eleventh year of age! Mrs. Ward witnessed many of the exciting scenes of the revolution, and has for many years drawn a pension, as the widow of a revolutionary soldier.

Joshua R. Hitchcock, a poor mechanic in Baltimore county had added to his family the other morning three daughters, whom he named Mary Florida, Mircha Texas, and Jane Polk. He has now seventeen children.

THE AMERICAN TITLE TO OREGON.

In *Matie Bran's Geography*—a standard work—book seventy-nine, is the following passage:

"On the west side of the mountains (Rocky) the Americans have an unquestioned claim to the country from the 42d to the 49th parallel; and a more doubtful claim, which is disputed by Russia, to the country from the 49th to the 60th parallel."

This celebrated geographer takes no notice of the British claims. The dispute between the United States and Russia was adjusted some time ago, by a mutual agreement in favor of the parallel of 54 degrees and 40 minutes, as the boundary line between the respective territories of the two nations.

Twenty years ago President Monroe assumed the same position with regard to our claims on Oregon, that President Polk put forth in a message. Mr. Root, who was minister to the Court of St. James, at the time, in a work published by him says:—

"When the message arrived in London the whole document excited great attention. It was upon all tongues the press was full of it. The British and American journals were overjoyed. Spanish American securing even in the stock market, and the safety of the new States from all American encroachments was considered no longer doubtful."

Terrible Situation and Fearful Death.

—On Wednesday, Derrick Harwood, of Langdon, N. H., went into the woods with a two horse team, and was returning, seated on the top of his load, when within forty paces of the house, he passing over a small ground, for war then forward, with some portion of the wood, and fell under the sled caught at and above the knees. The reins were wound round him, so that he could not get up, and he remained, screaming for help, not only through the bitter cold night, but seven or eight hours. They had before a clock the next morning, seventeen hours. His limbs were terribly frozen, and his face, but no bones broken. He died from his injuries.