

WAR NEWS

Interesting from Tampico and the Army

The army correspondent of the New Orleans Delta gives a diary of the march to Tampico, from which we make the following extracts:

January 23d.—I started this morning at 3 o'clock, ahead of the troops, and got into Tampico at 8. All along the road are fields of green corn, plantains, oranges, &c., and although it is January, everything looks as green as if it was May.

28th.—I learned last night that Lt. Ritchie of the 4th Infantry, was assassinated at Villa Grande, by a Mexican. He was on his way to Victoria, escorted by a company of Kentucky Cavalry Gen Taylor camped there for the night, and the Lieutenant was sauntering about the town when it happened. The next morning the General had arrested the slayer; but I have not learned whether the perpetrator of the outrage had been taken.

One of the officers of Gen. Quitman's division stated to me yesterday, that the Mexican cavalry were in sight of them for more than half the march from Victoria. On some clear place on the mountain side they would arrange themselves for a charge, and then start pell-mell in the direction of the column. But I need not say to you, that they never came within musket-shot. Several of the men who lagged behind were killed by them. One, a member of the Baltimore battalion, was killed close to the rear guard—being first shot and then lanced in the breast. I have not, as yet ascertained to what corps the other missing ones belonged.

A Tennessean lost his horse. His captain took the responsibility of sending for the Alcalde, and informing him that he would remain close prisoner until the horse was produced. In a short time after a horse was brought in, belonging to the same, and ultimately the one in question. The three had been stolen by the minions of the Alcalde, and the arrest of that individual saved the service three horses. Gen. Quitman, it is said, put the man under arrest for the "responsibility."

We hear nothing of an early movement from this place, and from the preparations that are being made, it would be difficult to say when one would be made. At the encampment of Gen. Twigg, they are clearing off ground and building wharves, as though they contemplated a six-weeks' stay, and I understand Gen. Pillow will move nearer to the town than he now is.

At \$90 per month there are at least 100 Mexicans working on the fortifications here, and from the manner in which they are being constructed, one would think they had not the least intention of ever surrendering the place again.

The sale of spirituous liquor has been stopped by order of Gen Shields, and it cannot be procured publicly, but from the number of drunken men about, and frequent rows that occur, it must be as plenty as the water in the Pauneto, somewhere.

Tampico, January 30th.—The Tennessee cavalry, numbering over seven hundred men, have selected for their encampment a place about two miles from the town, on the edge of a lake. Gen. Quitman had also moved in from the ten miles' encampment, and is now about half a mile in the rear of General Twigg. With these two divisions encamped so near together, on the same ground, it is perfectly lined with soldiers and officers, going to and coming from Tampico, from reveille to retreat. This is particularly pleasing and valuable to the Mexicans who live on the road side.

We have some later news from the city of Mexico, brought by land. The news of the great fight of Col. May, with the rancheros in the pass of Santa Rosa, had been received, and the Chamber of Deputies had been convened in extra session to receive the report of the courier. The received account went on to state that 25 valiant citizens of the Republic of Mexico, seeing 150 or 200 Americans go through the pass, immediately resolved that they should

never return from their daring adventure, and for this reason assembled in the narrowest of the defile, and when the enemies were retracing their steps, rained upon them, killed a number—about 30—took 11 prisoners and a large train, and offensively scattered the others; and would have had the honor of sending all the command to the capital had they not made such good time on the passes. A vote of thanks had been tendered to the rancheros, and I believe the liberty of the great city, but I have yet to learn whether there was an illumination. I have ever been of the opinion that this adventure in the mountains, when rightly made known, would not reflect any great credit on our arms; but were I not aware of the lying and bombastic character of the Mexicans, I could not for a moment believe it to be anything like that reported. Col. May no doubt, thought it prudent to leave there—in fact, he said so in his narrative but no such insignificant number as 25 men caused him to do it. [I should have mentioned to you before the end of the court martial which was convened to investigate the charges against Lieut. Surges, and his acquittal, had I not been promised a copy of his defence but it has failed to come to hand; I might as well now say that he came out in flying colors, and stands one hundred per cent. higher in the estimation of the officers of the army than he did before. He was rather severe on Col. May and Lieut. Wool, but considering the aggravating circumstances that brought him before the court, may excuse him. He said the Col. had not too great a share of moral courage, and that the Lieut. could not see what was going on all the time, as he had acknowledged in his evidence that whilst the fighting was going on, he had taken shelter under an overhanging ledge.]

There are rumors here that Gen. Taylor's rear-guard had been attacked, near Linares, and that he had lost a number of wagons and mules, but I will not believe it until I hear something more, although it is a section of country where an attack of that sort is most likely to be made. Besides the numerous hiding places about there for Mexican soldiers, and the large settlements, the Mexicans would like to trouble old Taylor for that money transaction in Linares. You may kick a Mexican, and he will probably forget it, but touch his pocket; and he'll remember you the longest day he lives. Bigelow, the deaf contractor, who was shot by the Mexicans a day or two since, has been brought into Tampico, and will get well without a resort of amputation. I learned last night, that an Illinois volunteer was killed on the first day's march of Quitman's division, this side of Chiooy. He had lagged behind the rear-guard, and a party of lancelets rushed upon him, shot and lanced him. He was found during the day, & at night his company returned and buried him.

Gen. Worth, with the 8th and 4th Infantry, has been some time on the road to this place, and may be looked for here in a very short time. When he arrives, all the regular force, as Scott desired, will be on the sea board.

Passengers by a later arrival of the bark Mopang at N. Orleans, from Tampico, mention as a rumor that the yellow fever had broken out among the troops there. The ship Ondisks, with part of the second Pennsylvania Regiment on board, had been seen off Tampico, but had passed on without stopping. Their destination is supposed to be Vera Cruz. The schooner Sius had arrived at New Orleans from the Brazos, with dates to the 6th, when Gen. Scott was still furthering the transportation of troops. Gen. Taylor was at Monterey, and Gen. Worth at the mouth of the Rio Grande with his entire command. The utmost secrecy prevailed as to the utero operations of the army, which are unknown by any save the General in command. It is rumored that an officer of the regiment, despatched by Gen. Scott with an express to Gen. Taylor, with an escort of ten men, had been cut off by the enemy, and the whole put to death. There is nothing stated as to the movements of Santa Ana

or the Mexican forces. A correspondent of the Picayune states that a rumor was current at Vera Cruz of the assassination of Santa Anna, for opposition to the decree of Congress, but this letter is dated Anton Lizardo, Jan. 30th. Other reports are the same effect but not believed.

DEMOCRACY

"TRUTH WITHOUT FEAR"

BLOOMSBURG

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1847.

AGENCY

V. B. PALMER, Esq. is authorized to act as Agent for the 'COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT,' and receipt all monies for Subscription and Advertising at his Agency in Philadelphia No. 59 Pine-street. New York 180 Nassau-street. Boston 16 State-street. Baltimore S. E. cor. Bal. and Calvert-sts. Merchants-Mechanics and Tradesmen may find it to their advantage to advertise in this paper as it is the only one published in the County Seat and has a greater circulation in the county than any other paper published within its limits.

THE VETO MESSAGE

Upon our first page this week, will be found the Veto Message of Gov. Shunk upon the Blair County monopoly Bill, and we trust that it will be carefully read by all our patrons.

This veto is a just and well considered reiteration of the Executive authority, to prevent a most mischievous and unconstitutional species of legislation, legislation which if successful and persisted in, will produce more injustice and evil in the community, than almost any other policy of which we can conceive.

1.—There are a very great number of individuals in the commonwealth now engaged in manufacturing iron; whose whole capital and industry are embarked in this business, who do not enjoy any special legislative favors and do not ask them. But they have a right, a constitutional right, to be let alone. And whenever our State Legislature attempts to stamp and to embarrass them to take from them indirectly the fair profits of their capital and the just rewards of their industry, or which is the same thing to give to mammoth associations of men, facilities, privileges and immunities which they do not possess, they have just cause for complaint for there is, in such case, a most unjust and unconstitutional invasion upon their rights by the Legislature.

2.—Such legislation is in violation of the spirit if not the letter of the constitution of Pennsylvania, the fundamental law of the commonwealth 'ordained and established' by the people for the control and guidance of its authorities. The first section of the ninth article declares, that all men are born equally free and independent and have, (among other things,) the inherent and indefeasible rights of acquiring possessing and protecting property.

Is it constitutional then, to give, by act of Assembly, greater rights in acquiring, possessing and protecting property, to an association of men, than are enjoyed by the other members of the community?

3.—By the bill presented to the Governor for his signature, this Blair county Iron Company was to have a capital of \$200,000, & was authorized to manufacture iron in all its varieties. Could not a few such powerful corporations effectually monopolize the whole business of manufacturing iron in this state? Could they not break down all competition by individuals? And could they not after a little control, in a great degree, legislate of the state?

4.—This iron company was also to have the right to purchase and hold one thousand acres of land. Was not this highly objectionable? Shall land as well as other species of property, be subjected to corporate ownership?—Land is pre-eminently calculated for individual ownership and control. Even the system of renting it, is found to be, in general, against the interests of the community, as it is not so well tilled and cared for, as when in the hands of the owner. The most insufferable of all monopolies would be a monopoly in land. The best policy, in regard to land, is to have it owned in moderate quantities by individuals who will reside upon it, and who will seek to make it as productive as possible. A limited power of renting is the only allowable exception to this rule, and even now, by our laws, this right of the temporary alienation of possession, cannot be for a longer term than three years, by parcel.

5.—This iron bill further provided, that the stockholders of the corporation should be individually liable, in case of its insolvency for those debts due certain classes of

persons enumerated, and not others! This is legislation with a vengeance! It is flippantly opposed to common justice, and calculated to awaken the lively indignation of every honest and fair minded man—and yet such are the laws given us by the High Legislature of 1847!!

The Governor has done his duty in killing this bill, and he has done no more than his duty. We sincerely hope, that the sound and honest sentiments of this veto message, will in all time to come, be the sentiments of the Governors of Pennsylvania, and that the veto power will in all cases similar to the present be unhesitatingly used for the protection of individual rights and the preservation of the constitution.

The \$2500 Appropriation

The last Danville Intelligencer comes to us with an article on the above subject, which is substantially a repetition of the Remonstrance, the errors of which we exposed in our paper two weeks since. It is a rehash of the same ideas, with the exception of a few statements that appear fresh from the mint, but are no whit more important than their predecessors.

The act before the Legislature is given but the preamble which accompanies and explains it, is omitted. The recital of the reasons for the act, in the preamble, would enable the reader to understand the subject more fully; and hence, for purposes of fair representation, it must be omitted!

The attempt to create prejudice by insinuating that the act was drawn in this county and sent to Harrisburg, may be a masterpiece of argument, but it happens unfortunately to be entirely untrue.

The point of the charge that this petition or memorial to the Legislature, was 'quiet, secret and extraordinary,' it will be very difficult to perceive—

'He must have optics sharp I ween,
Who sees what is not to be seen.'

Is it not rather a novel mode of keeping a petition 'secret' to lay it before a Grand Jury, gathered from all parts of the county, for their action?

Would it not be well for these sticklers for publicity—our Editorial neighbors at Danville—to print this Petition &c. in their papers, (as we did two weeks ago,) and let their readers have a fair understanding of what is proposed?

The poor, pitiful, sneaking, insinuation, conveyed in the remark that the Grand Jury was drawn by the Commissioners, could only originate in the mind of about the meanest man living, and it is as unworthy of notice as it is dastardly in character. The suggestion that the proposal be submitted to a vote, is somewhat remarkable. We had thought that our neighbors had got enough of voting during the last five years, and that any more medicine of that sort would but sily agree with their stomach. The proposition would carry at any election—but our neighbors would be the first to ridicule a decision at a March election with probably but a third or a fourth of the voters out, and a decision at the October one is impracticable, as the Buildings are to be finished before that time.

The reference to an old handbill signed by gentlemen now on the building committee, gives a part only of the truth. Let it be remembered that that was before it was proposed virtually to give away the old buildings and lots to Madoning. Now if our neighbors will agree that the proceeds of the sale of the old buildings and lots shall go into the county treasury, and (only \$2,500 thereof) be applied to extra work and for furnishing the new buildings, there will be no difficulty, not the least? But we imagine that they will hold on to all they can get—and that there is not the slightest danger of their injuring themselves by any sudden excess of liberality!

The stringing together of a series of declarations heretofore made by myself and others, that the new buildings required by the Removal act should be put up by subscription, is all right if our neighbors wish to fill their papers with important scraps of history. Their historical tastes are quite to our liking, and we approach the perusal of these extracts with entire respect. Some of them are the children of our own brain. Mr. Fanston is the parent of others, some are the progeny of the removal act, and others have been brought forth by every body in general. Well, what of it! What have all these extracts, or any of them, to do with the \$2500 appropriation? In the name of common sense, will the somebodies who print newspapers and do job work at a certain town on the lower edge of the county please to define their position on this very important subject!

This is a great country and the greatest people in it are the Editors, but they are nevertheless required to be occasionally intelligible. What is the signification of

this weekly pounding upon the dead side of the Removal question, a very respectable animal that made its exit from this troublesome world in '45?

The Removal takes place with or without the appropriation; and the Removal act as we proved two weeks ago does not require any of the extra work or furniture proposed to be paid for by it.

This stringing of extracts together then, to prove that nobody denies that individuals agreed to do what the Removal act required, is about the biggest business that a man could be employed at in the year of grace 1846. It is like manufacturing a man of straw in order to enjoy the gratification and glory of knocking him down. The man of straw would be a very naughty and a very terrible fellow if he were only alive and kicking; as it is, he is one of those harmless creatures of the imagination that never cut any figure in the world, except to render their originator ridiculous.

We repeat that all the pledges, promises sayings and declarations of Removal men, and all the obligation of the removal act, have been more than met by individual subscriptions; that none of the matters to which this appropriation is to be applied are required by that act, and that therefore all this array of declarations on the part of individuals, of compliance with the requirements of that act, has nothing in the world to do with the appropriation proposed.

We had supposed that the Editor of the Danville Intelligencer had heretofore received a sufficient rebuke from the people of the county for his personal and ungentlemanly attacks upon individuals, for selfish ends, to induce him to have been more cautious in this respect thereafter. But it seems that the lessons already taught him have not had the effect to curb the irascibility of his temper, or prevent the workings of his vicious heart from giving vent to its spleenetic feelings towards others, whenever their acts do not square with his notions or interests, or that of a few wounded and disappointed spirits in Danville.—However honest, honorable, or praiseworthy they may be—whether in their private or official capacity, they are alike to be misrepresented and falsified—nay, even insinuations thrown out that their acts are the result of knavery or perjury. We have been led to these remarks by noticing some articles in his last weeks paper, especially that portion of one of them reflecting upon the County Commissioners as to the manner of drawing the Grand Jurors for January term. For when he made the insinuations contained in the article, he knew in his heart, that the Commissioners were as incapable of a dishonest act of the kind as he was incapable of a true estimate of an honorable act where his own feelings or purse were concerned. He knew that the Commissioners alone did not draw the Grand Jurors, but must, by law, be assisted by the High Sheriff of the county. He thought it best, however, for certain reasons, not to refer to him by name, though virtually doing so in fact. His spite was at the Commissioners for certifying to the justice of the \$2,500 appropriation, and he cared not who else might be wronged by his insinuations, if he could succeed in wreaking his vengeance upon their devoted heads. His weapons, however, fall harmless to the ground. They injure no one but himself. His motives are too well understood, and the moral standing of the Commissioners too well known to have the ebullitions of his spite injure them in the estimation of the people.

AN ACT

To regulate the standard measure of charcoal.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,

That from and after the passage of this act the standard measure of charcoal shall be twenty-five hundred and seventy one cubic inches for each and every bushel thereof.

Approved the twenty-second of January 1847.

A man, named Daniel Aiken, died in Wexford, Canada West, a few weeks since, aged 120 years. He had during his life contracted seven marriages, and had 570 grand children and great grand children—370 boys and 200 girls.

U. S. Senate.—The Legislature of Massachusetts has re-elected the Hon. John Davis, Whig, United States Senator, for six years from the 4th of March next. The term of the Hon. Daniel Webster will not expire until 1851.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

The U. S. Senate has expelled Mr. Ritchie the Editor of the Union from a seat on the floor of their chamber; because they took offence at an article in his paper containing strictures upon some of their proceedings. This revival of the seditious law was effected by the votes of the Whigs in that body, and of the four Democratic Senators from South Carolina and Florida. This high handed proceeding is greeted with general condemnation, as an act of petty persecution & as a most flagrant violation of the freedom of opinion.

On the 17th inst, we observe that our Representative from this county in the House at Harrisburg offered the following Resolution suggested we suppose by the extraordinary event above noticed.

Mr. Pearce submitted the following resolution relating to the freedom of the press:—

Whereas, no government can be free unless it secures to the people the full enjoyment of their invaluable rights, among which is the freedom of the press, the impregnable and sacred bulwark of human liberty; and whereas this priceless right and privilege is guaranteed and secured by the Constitution of the United States and of the State of Pennsylvania—therefore,

Resolved, &c. That every attempt judicial legislative or executive, to abridge or fetter the free expression of thoughts and opinions in writing printing or otherwise, is a direct invasion of the rights of men and a fearful usurpation of power.

Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The \$2,500 Appropriation bill passed the Senate on Saturday last without any opposition, and was referred in the House to a special Committee.

We have received another letter from Mr. Fortner, dated January 29, while passing down the river below New Orleans. It was received too late for publication this week, but its interest will induce us to give it in our next.

There is a old negro in the Baltimore prison, convicted for murder 40 years ago, and whose sentence of death was commuted to imprisonment for life.

The Steamer Cambria arrived at Boston, on Saturday last, bringing fifteen days later news from England when the Cambria left there as a downward tendency in price of grain, owing to the large quantity that had arrived from foreign countries.

The Cambria brings \$2,000,000 in specie.

The Pope of Rome has contributed one thousand Roman crowns from his private purse for the relief of Ireland.

There was no mitigation of the suffering in Ireland from the effects of the famine.

In France there were more disturbances and a threatened famine seemed to be impending.

The French Chambers have adopted a bill providing for the lowest possible rate of duty to be levied on food until September next.

Much distress prevailed in the manufacturing districts of England. There was but little work and food was high.

The Pope preached a sermon on the 13th of January, which was the first sermon preached by a Pope in three hundred years.

ETERNAL

MARRIED.—On the 18th inst, by Rev. William J. Ever, Mr. JAMES BOONE to Miss CATHERINE COLKETT, of Rush township, Northumberland county.

OBITUARY

DIED.—On Saturday morning, Feb. 20, in Espy town, after a protracted illness of pulmonary consumption, Miss CATHERINE FOX, in the 17th year of her age.

NOTICE

IS hereby given that I have purchased at Constable Sale as the property of Elisha Hess, on the 26th day of January, 1847, the following property, to wit—

Two Horses and Harness, one two horse Wagon, two lg Chams, and have left the same in his possession during my pleasure.

GEORGE DILLS.

Sugarloaf, Feb. 26, 1847—45

CARPETING

The subscribers have on hand some splendid grain and Venetia Carpeting which they will sell very low.

SLOAN & THOMPSON

Espey town, Dec. 28

WINDOW GLASS

JUST received at the NEW STORE L B RUPERT