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☞ PHILADELPHIA NORTH AMERICAN—Advertisements and subscriptions to the North American and United States Gazette, Philadelphia, received and forwarded from this office.

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BALTIMORE AMERICAN.—Subscriptions and advertisements for this paper received and forwarded free of charge from this office.

☞ CINCINNATI DAILY GAZETTE—Advertisements and subscriptions, for this paper, will be received and orwarded from this office.

☞ SEE NEXT PAGE FOR LOCAL MATTERS, TELEGRAPHIC NEWS, &c.

MACHINERY FOR THE CALIFORNIA GOLD MINES.—We examined yesterday a splendid set of machinery, just completed at the establishment of Mr. Wm. P. Eichbaum, in Allegheny City. It is a splendid piece of workmanship, and seems most admirably adapted to the purpose for which it is designed. It is to be used in pulverizing the quartz rock, at the mines. It consists of six heavy cast iron mortar, in each of which three heavy chilled iron stampers are worked for the purpose of pulverizing the quartz, preparatory to the final separation of the gold from the rock. In one side of the mortar is an opening, or hopper, into which the quartz is put after having been broken up in small lumps. It then undergoes the pounding process, being covered with water in the mortars, after the quartz has been sufficiently pulverized, the small particles of gold are carried off with the sand by a copper screen on the opposite side of the mortar from the hopper, and the machinery works so nicely, that the very smallest particles of gold are separated from the sand, and saved without loss.

After the process above described, the gold, and sand passes into another distinct and ingeniously constructed machine, called the Amalgamator. It here passes over another set of screens, by which the gold is separated from the sand, and gathered by the application of quicksilver. The particles of gold adhere to the quicksilver, which is gathered into small balls, and the gold is finally seperated from the quicksilver by means of another process.

The plan of this machine was taken from one used at the gold mines in Rack cghqm County, Virginia, by Mr. Eichbaum, who was employed by the Pacific Mining Company, for whom the machine was built, for that purpose.

In taking the draft, and constructing the machinery, the searching eye, and mechanical skill of Mr. Eichbaum, discovered several parts which were susceptible of improvement. These improvements have been added by which its utility has been enhanced, so as to be capable of turning off a larger amount of work than the one from which it was taken.

It is estimated that this machine will work up 25 tons of quartz per day. The apparatus is now completed, and is ready for shipment. It will be sent to California by way of New York.

Mr. Clay was received with great demonstrations of respect and popular enthusiasm on his arrival at Lexington. Bonfires were kindled and cannon discharged in his honor, and an immense crowd assembled to meet him. He was compelled to make a speech to the multitude. After thanking them for their kindness, and making a few remarks upon the condition of the country, he told them that, happy as he was to meet them, there was an old lady about a mile and a half off, (pointing to Ashland) with whom he had lived fifty years, and whom he would rather see than all of them. He was released, after this good natured remark, and suffered to go home.

The Hon. Solomon Foot, a sterling Whig, and formerly a leading member of the House of Representatives from Vermont, has been elected by the Legislature of that State a Senator in Congress, to succeed Mr. Phelps, whose term expires on the third of March next. Mr. P. will have served his State in the Senate for twelve years, and with eminent ability, although his usefulness has been much impaired by bad health.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH.—The Senior Bishop (Soule) and Rev. Messrs. John Early, D. D., William A. Smith, D. D., and A. L. P. Green, D. D., are now in New York as commissioners on behalf of the latter church, to prosecute its alleged claim to a certain portion of the property acquired by the church previous to the secession of the Southern branch. The Post of Saturday, says:

Suits are brought, we understand, in the United States, simultaneously in this city and in Charleston, because the great bulk of the property in dispute lies partly in both cities. This is a most important case, and has been in agitation for several years; it enlists the interest of the largest religious denomination in the United States.

The Charleston Mercury has the following:

Rev. L. Boozer, preacher, in charge of the Southern Methodist Church, at Alexandria, Va., spent last Sunday in that city, preaching, and making handsome collections for the erection of a church edifice for the benefit of his congregation, who have been turned out of their place of worship by Northern influence. As he intends to go further South, it affords us great pleasure to commend him and his good cause to the liberality of the Southern community.

WHEELING AND THE RAILROADS.—A large meeting at Wheeling, Va., on Thursday last appointed a committee to procure signatures to petitions praying the Council to appoint an early day to take a vote of the citizens for and against a subscription not exceeding $300,000 to the stock of the Western Ohio Railroad. The Gazette says:—

"There seems to be no difference of opinion as to the importance of prompt action on this road, and the only question is at what time and on whatterms and what amount shall be subscribed. There is interest in Ohio may be secured that Wheeling is in earnest and ready to do her duty, which will be shown on the day of voting."

The editor is now from home, and his assistants crave the indulgence of the readers of the paper for any short comings which may be perceptible. As his absence is occasioned by matters connected with the improvement of the Gazette, its patrons will the more readily excuse it, although it may be necessarily protracted for some two or three weeks.

Official Vote of Maryland.

The following are the official returns of the votes given at the late election for Governor of Maryland, in all the counties except Calvert, from which we have only the reported majority:

Counties	(Whig.) Clarke.	(Dem.) Lowe.	Major-ity.	Major-ity.
Alleghany	1443	1855		412
Anne Arundel	1624	1518	106	
Baltimore city	8812	11564		2752
Baltimore county	1923	2645		722
Calvert			147	
Caroline	597	616		19
Carroll	1651	1611	52	
Cecil	1472	1478		6
Charles	663	446	159	
Dorchester	1255	923	332	
Frederick	3121	3193		72
Hartford	1478	1480		2
Kent	654	547	107	
Montgomery	907	818	89	
Prince George's	948	675	273	
Queen Anne's	746	711	35	
St. Mary's	744	417	327	
Somerset	1399	1045	354	
Talbot	791	798		
Washington	2600	2517		
Worcester	1454			67
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	392	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1142	312
	34,359	36,033	2566	4901
				2566
Lowe's majority				1,337

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTION.—A Telegraph despatch from Columbia states that all the present Representatives in Congress from South Carolina, except one, have been re-elected without opposition. Their names, placed in the order of the Districts they represent, are as follows

1. Daniel Wallace,
2. Jas. L. Orr,
3. Jos. A. Woodward,
4. John McQueen,
5. Armistead Burt,
6. Wm. Aiken, (vice Mr. Holmes)
7. Wm. F. Colcock

CHOLERA.—Within the last twenty four hours, there have been two deaths by cholera, to wit:—

Franklin Zimmerman,
Miss Cecilia Dexter.

Of other diseases, to wit:—

Mrs. Anderson, (bilious cholic)
Miss Ann T. Frew, (hemorrhage)

On yesterday morning, we had a heavy frost—the previous night was cool enough to produce ice in tubs of one inch thick upon water in vessels, and although we have not much faith in frosts as a cholera preventative, we are of the opinion that the epidemic will now disappear gradually, as there are fewer cases, less alarm, and those attacked apply at an earlier period for medical aid.—*Steubenville Herald, Oct. 22.*

INDIANA.—The Constitutional Convention of this State assembled at Indianapolis on the 7th instant. Geo. W. Carr was chosen President.

For the Pittsburgh Gazette.

FINDLAY, Allegheny Co., Pa., October 23, 1850.

MR. WHITE: *Dear Sir*—I have taken up my pen to give you a brief outline of the dreadful mortality in Findlay township, Allegheny county.

The dysentery has been raging with fearful malignity, accompanied with typhoid fever, and confined entirely to the upper end of the township—the majority of it in one school district, adjoining the village of Clinton. There has been thirty one deaths in the inside of four weeks. In one family of eight persons, seven died, and another of eight, five died. Since the weather has set in cool, the dysentery has nearly disappeared. The typhoid fever is still bad, but the deaths comparatively less since the disappearance of the dysentery.

This part of the township has heretofore been considered very healthy. Our two physicians are both down—one of them is better, the other is still in a critical situation.

Yours, truly,

A SUBSCRIBER.

THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION.—The proceedings of Friday were unimportant. It was agreed that all the various resolutions previously offered touching the new organization of the State Government, together with many which were introduced on Friday, should lie on the table to await the report of the committee, directed to report the most expedient mode of considering amendments to the constitution. And in order to give that committee time for consultation, the convention adjourned over to this day.

The Richmond times says that it is already manifest that the changes proposed in the fundamental law will be almost numberless, and relating to nearly every branch of the civil polity.—*Nat. Intel.*

REDUCTION OF POSTAGE.

At an early period of the late session of Congress, the reduction of postage on letters and other mailable matter was pressed upon the attention of that body in an emphatic manner. The memorials and petitions presented, were numerous beyond precedent, and were characterized by a remarkable unanimity of opinion on the subject of the petitioners. These petitions were but faintly responded to; but, whatever may have been the desires of a majority of the members of Congress on the subject, their failure to take action, we think, we think, been justly attributable to another very obvious cause—we mean the all absorbing interest of other questions then pending.

In order to state this question aright, it will perhaps be well to give the present rates of postage, which we will do as concisely as possible:

	Cents.
Letters, each ½ oz. or less, 300 miles or less	5
" " over 300 miles	10
Drop letters	2
Circulars, handbills, &c., printed or lithographed, per sheet, *pre paid.*	3
Pamphlets, magazines, and other matter, one ounce or less	2½
Each additional ounce or fraction	1
Newspapers not exceeding 1,900 square inches, sent from office of issue, 100 miles or less	1
Newspapers over 100 miles, and out of State	1½
Newspapers sent by other person than publisher, *pre paid*	3

These are the present terms for those who pay postage; but the number of those who do so, and the extent of their privileges, are subjects worthy attention. There persons are the President of the United States, the ex-Presidents, the widows of ex-Presidents, the Vice President, Senators, Representatives, and Delegates in Congress, Governors of States in their correspondence with each other, the Postmaster General and Assistants, editors and publishers exchanging papers, postmasters writing on official business, and those whose compensation does not exceed $200 may correspond generally free of charge.

The requests in the petitions called for the reduction of letter postage for any distance to *two cents*, a half ounce being fixed upon as the weight of a single letter. In accordance with these requests, a bill was presented to the Senate, on the 3d of April last, by Senator Rusk, fixing the rate at two cents, if pre-paid, and five if not; but, subsequently, this Senator submitted an able report on the subject, and charged his plan, recommending a uniform rate of two cents, pre-paid. This bill was not acted upon in the Senate. But in the House of Representatives, on the 24th of July, Judge Potter, the chairman of the Post office Committee, presented a report and bill, in which three cents, pre-paid, and five if not, were recommended. This bill failed to receive the attention of the House during the session. We have been told by a writer, whom we believe to be correct, that the Committee were divided in opinion respecting their proposition. He states that four of the members were in favor of five cents; two for three and five; and three for a uniform rate of two cents, pre-paid.

The following is a synopsis of this bill

The first section fixes half an ounce as the weight of a single letter, and makes the charge three cents, if pre-paid, and five if not, to any part of the Union.

The second charges upon newspapers, not exceeding 1,900 square inches surface, half a cent within the State of publication, and one cent beyond it. Pamphlets, books, periodicals, &c., to be charged two cents per ounce. Bound books, if not more than thirty two ounces weight, to come within the class.

The third authorizes the mints to coin three cent pieces.

The fourth authorizes stamps representing three cents to be issued by the Postmaster General, and to be sold by Postmasters, to whom, as well as to other persons, a discount of ten per cent is to be made, when fifty dollars worth are purchased.

The fifth appropriates half a million of dollars to supply any deficiency that may arise in the Post Office Department.

A minority report was submitted by a single member, (Mr. Durkee,) which embodies in a comprehensive manner, the arguments in favor of the adoption of two cents, prepaid, as the just price of postage throughout the Union, and the reduction of the charge upon newspapers, books, &c. It declares that the people of the Union were never more united in any purpose than in calling upon Congress for this reduction, and sets forth many facts in illustration of the advantages of the measure.

We will endeavor to state substantially the provisions of the bill accompanying this report.

The First Section fixes two cents, prepaid as the uniform postage of a letter sent any distance, the weight not exceeding half an ounce, and one cent for each drop letter.

The Second orders the sale, at all post offices, of stamps representing two, four, and ten cents.

The Third makes the postage on newspapers uniform one cent; and on pamphlets, magazines, &c., half a cent an ounce, handbills and circulars to be charged as letters, and bound books at a cent an ounce.

The Fourth allows a discount of fifty per cent, to publishers who prepay the postage on their publications.

The Fifth allows a salary to any postmaster whose income is by this act reduced below the present rate.

The Sixth provides for the appointment of carriers who will receive letters at certain depots, and deliver them on the post office, and convey back to such depots, the letters so directed to be delivered.

The Seventh abolishes the franking privilege, "except so far as it may have been conferred by Congress upon individuals as a mark of respect and honor," and requires the payment by the Government of all postage due on account of the public service.

The Eighth authorizes the Postmaster General to draw upon the treasury, under certain checks, for any amount exceeding the actual postage of the year, when needed for certain purposes specified in the act of 1836, &c.

The Ninth repeals all acts conflicting with this.—*Republic.*

MONONGAHELA SLACKWATER EXTENSION.—We believe that our readers generally, especially those situated on, or contiguous to the Monongahela river, are interested in the further extension of the Slackwater improvement, and take this opportunity of responding to the request of calling attention to the subject. It will be recollected that the Legislature of Virginia passed an act, a year or two ago, granting the privilege to incorporate a company to construct dams, to render the Monongahela navigable for steamboats from Pennsylvania line upwards, as far as [illegible] the Pennsylvania Legislature authorizing the Board of Public Works to subscribe three fifths for its [illegible] stock, provided the company raise the $20,000 are subscribed, appropriate $30,000 [illegible] organize, and the Board shall [illegible] 000—which is three fifths of $50,000 [illegible] commenced out of the work.

Although the people between Pittsburgh and Brownsville may not feel that the project is one of such vital importance to them as those above the latter point, yet that they would all be greatly benefitted is too apparent to require an argument.—Any improvement that will tend to increase the trade upon this river, will in an equal proportion benefit all connected with it. The Monongahela traverses a region of Pennsylvania and Western Virginia rich in resources that are rapidly growing, which renders the project one of increasing magnitude. And there is no improvement so well calculated to develope these resources at so small expense.

We think, however, that the citizens of Pittsburgh are as deeply interested in its success as any others. By thus opening up a channel that would divert the already increasing trade of Western Virginia, throughout the head waters of the Monongahela and its tributaries, and deposit it right into her market, it would vastly more than compensate her for the whole expense of completing the work. She would then become the recipient of a very extensive commerce, that is now inactive for want of access to market, or that finds an outlet to other places.—*Monongahela Repub.*

Sir Henry Lytton Bulwer, the British Minister, accompanied by his Lady and a Secretary, arrived at Albany on Thursday last, on their way to visit Niagara Falls and Canada.—*Nat. Intelligencer.*

THE AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.—It is intended (Says a late English paper) to have thirty two steam vessels constantly employed for the suppression of the Slave trade on the coast of Africa; one of these vessels being ordered to proceed about the 1st of every month with the mails, and relieve another from duty on the coast. The sailing vessels at present on the African station are to be withdrawn as soon as steamers are ready to replace them, and no sailing vessels will in future be employed for the suppression of the slave trade.

FORMS FOR OBTAINING BOUNTY LANDS.—We publish the forms necessary under the bounty land law. These forms will, with the military roll, be deposited in the clerk's office of every county. The evidence of service and discharge being thus accessible, together with the forms necessary to verify the claims, the simplest business knowledge will be sufficient to fill up and forward an application for a warrant, and to direct, if necessary, the location by the commissioner of the General Land Office.

INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMS

To be observed by persons applying to the Pension Office for Bounty Land, under the act of September 28, 1850, entitled "An act granting Bounty Land to certain officers and soldiers who have been engaged in the military service of the United States."

In every application for the benefit of the act aforesaid, whether made by the surviving officer or soldier himself, or by his widow or minor child or children, a declaration, under oath, must be made as nearly according to the following forms as the nature of the case will admit.

Such declaration and all affidavits must be sworn to before some justice of the peace or other officer authorized to administer oaths for general purposes, who must certify the same.

The official character and signature of the magistrate who may administer the oath must be certified by the clerk of the proper court of record of his county under the seal of the court. Such certificate must accompany every case.

In every instance where the certificate of the certifying officer who authenticates the paper is not written on the same sheet of paper which contains the affidavit or other papers authenticated, the certificate must be attached thereto by a piece of tape or narrow ribbon, the ends of which must pass under the official seal, so as to prevent any paper from being improperly attached to the certificates

The 3d section, in express terms, only provides for the location of a warrant under the law—Thus, the right to *locate* not being given to an *assignee*, the Department may well say that no assignments made prior to location will be recognized.

The 4th section declares all sales, &c., going to affect the title to any *land* granted or to be granted "prior to the issue," shall be null and void, and expressly declares the *land located* shall not be charged with or subject to any debt or claim "incurred prior to the issuing of the patent." It thus appears clear that it was the intention of Congress that the claim of the soldier or his heirs should continue free from every kind of incumbrance until after the *issue of the patent*, and thus relieve the Department from all the evils growing out of conflicting claims under alleged assignment.

The object of the law is to confer the right to the land itself on the warrantee or his heirs. After that purpose is effected, it is of course competent for the grantee to dispose of it as he may think proper.

Form of declaration to be made by the surviving officer or soldier.

STATE OF.....} ss.
COUNTY OF.....}

On this ..... day of...., A. D., one thousand eight hundred and ....., personally appeared before me, a justice of the peace, (or other officer authorized to administer oaths for general purposes,) who is duly authenticated, and the seal of office affixed, ... aged ..... years, a resident of ..... in the State of ....., who being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is the identical person who was ..... in the company commanded by Captain ..... in the ..... regiment of ..... commanded by ..... in the war with Great Britain, declared by the United States on the 18th day of June, 1812, (or other war declared in said act, describing what war); that he enlisted (or volunteered, or was drafted) at ..... on or about the .... day of ..... A. D. ..... for the term of ..... and continued in actual service in said war, for the term of ....., and was honorably discharged at ..... on the ..... day of ..... A. D. ....., *as will appear by his original certificate of discharge herewith transmitted*, or by the muster rolls of said company.

He makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which he may be entitled under the "act granting bounty land to certain officers and soldiers, who have been engaged in the military service of the United States," passed Sept. 28th, 1850.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year above written. [illegible]

Form of a declaration to be made by the widow of a deceased officer or soldier

STATE OF.....} ss.
COUNTY OF.....}

On this.....day of....., A. D. one thousand eight hundred and....., personally appeared before me, a justice of the peace (or other officer authorized to administer oaths for general purposes), within and for the county and State aforesaid, ... aged.....years, a resident of....., in the State of....., who, being duly sworn, according to law, declares that she is the widow of ..... deceased, who was ..... in the company commanded by Captain....., in the.....regiment of .....commanded by....., in the war with Great Britain, declared by the United States on the 18th of June, 1812 (or other war as the case may be) that her said husband enlisted (or volunteered or was drafted) at ..... on or about the.....day of....., A. D. ..... for the term of ..... and continued in actual service in said war for the term of ....., and was honorably discharged at ..... on the.....day of ..... A. D. ....., *as will appear by his original certificate of discharge herewith transmitted.*

She further states that she was married to the said ..... on the.....day of....., A. D. ....., by one ..... and that her husband died at ..... on the.....day of ..... A. D. ....., and that she is still a widow.

She makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which she may be entitled under the "act passed September 28, 1850"

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year above written. (Officer's signature.)

Applications by Minor Children.

If any officer or soldier who would be entitled to bounty land under the act of 1855, dying, has died, leaving no widow who still survives him, but leaving a child or children under the age of majority at the time of the passage of said act, such minor child or children are entitled to the same quantity of land that the father would be entitled to if living.

In such case the guardian of such minor child or children must make the declaration as nearly corresponding with the foregoing forms as the nature of the case will admit. He must state the time of the father's death, the fact that no widow survives him; and must state the name or names, and ages or ages, of his surviving minor child or children.

This declaration must be accompanied by satisfactory proof of the father's death, that no widow survives him, of the ages of the minor children, and of his own appointment by competent authority, as guardian. If there is any family record showing the ages of the children, it or a certified copy of the same should be forwarded, with the affidavit of some disinterested person, proving the genuineness of the original, and that the copy certified is true and correct copy of it.

"If the claimant was a regimental or staff officer, the declaration must be varied according to the facts of the case.

"If the discharge has been lost or destroyed, the words in *italic* will be omitted, and the facts in relation to the loss of the discharge will be stated in lieu thereof. If the claimant never received a written discharge, or if discharged in consequence of disability, or if he was in captivity with the enemy, he must vary his declaration so as to render it applicable to the case.

"The notes to the preceding form of declaration are also applicable to the case in hand. In some cases, it will perhaps be impossible for the widow [illegible] to state the facts, in relation to her husband's services, with the particularity as to dates, &c., indicated by the above form. In such cases, [illegible] as must set forth the facts *as nearly as possible.* It will be sufficient if she states the company and regiment in which her husband served. If her husband was killed in battle, that fact must be set forth in the declaration.

This declaration must be accompanied by satisfactory proof of the marriage, and of the husband's death. If there is any public record of the marriage, a duly certified copy of such record should be forwarded, if possible. If there is no public record of the marriage, but a private or family record, such family record, or a certified copy of the same, should be forwarded, with the affidavit of some disinterested person, proving the genuineness of the original, and that the copy certified is a true and correct copy of it. If no public or private record of the marriage exists, or can be procured, that fact should be set forth in the declaration; and in such case, other evidence, such as the testimony of persons who know the parties in the lifetime of the husband, and know them to live together as husband and wife, and to be so reputed, will be admissible.

☞ In no case, however, will the mere statement of witnesses that the claimant is *the widow* of the deceased be taken as evidence of the marriage; but the witnesses must state the *facts* and *circumstances* from which they derive their knowledge or opinion that she is the widow of the deceased.

A certificate from the clergyman or magistrate who solemnized the marriage, is not competent evidence, unless the genuineness of the certificate be proved, and the person who gave it be shown to have been authorized to solemnize marriages.

CURIOUS BIGAMY CASE.—Jacob Meyer, a Jew, who was married in Baltimore to Caroline his wife, about nine years ago, was arrested in New York, on Thursday, for bigamy, in marrying Mary Steine, a pretty German girl, on the Sunday previous. Himself and Caroline had been divorced, re-married, and divorced again, as they thought by a Jewish priest, named Henry L. Goldberg, who also married Meyer to the German girl. The priest pleaded ignorance of our laws, and no complaint was taken against him.

It has been stated by Telegraph that ex-Governor Henry Johnson was elected to Congress from the New Orleans District, to serve out the unexpired term of Mr. Conrad, now Secretary of War. We observe by the New Orleans papers that this report was erroneous. Judge Ballard, the regular Whig nominee, is elected. The name of Governor Johnson was used by the opposition, without his consent, he being absent at the North during the Canvass.

THE MUSTER ROLLS.—The following extract from a letter of the Adjutant General to a member of Congress will give information as to the rule adopted in reference to copies or inspection of the muster rolls:

"If it be necessary to give any information respecting the time, &c., of the mustering into service the regiments and companies of the * * * volunteers, with a view to obtaining the land bounty it is equally necessary in the case of all the volunteers enrolled and received into service from the other States, but to do this would be almost impossible. In the Black Hawk war, (1832,) and the Seminole or Florida war, (1835 to 1842,) there were not less than 34,984 militia and volunteers enrolled and during the Creek disturbances, and on the Southern frontiers, in the years 1836 and 1837, nearly 20,000 militia were mustered into the service of the United States. If we go back to the war with Great Britain, we find that 471,000 militia were called out. It will be seen, therefore, that to begin with answering such calls for information as you have made in the matter of claims to land bounty, may end in examining and reciting muster rolls so complicated and numerous as to embrace no less than 531,729 names.

"It has always been assumed by the Government that persons having claims upon it know what they are entitled to. The only proper way, therefore, is, for to applicants to apply to the Commissioner for their land, (under the regulations that no doubt will be duly published,) and whenever he may want any information from the records of the War Department to establish the claim, he as a matter of course, applies for and officially obtains what ever can be procured. And this is the course, I am instructed by the Secretary of War to say, which must be continued to be observed. And I may add that, with the clerical force of this office, it would be almost impossible, if it were proper, to answer the calls of the description in question, without greatly obstructing the general business of this branch of the War Department."

It will be seen from the foregoing that copies of the rolls are not to be furnished. The "instructions and forms" necessary to be observed have been forwarded in every direction throughout the country, and we understand that official certificates from the rolls are daily furnished to the Commissioner of Pensions, in support of claims.—*Republic.*

FROM THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

Despatch received by the Navy Department from Lieutenant E. J. De Haven, commanding the Expedition in search of Sir John Franklin.

UNITED STATES BRIG ADVANCE,
Off Port Leopold, Aug. 22, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to acquaint you with the proceedings of the squadron under my command since leaving the Whale Fish Island, whence my last despatch was dated.

We sailed on the 26th June, but, owing to calms and very light winds, we did not reach the latitude of Upernavik till the 9th of July. We took the place no obstruction from ice was met with. We found a clear passage of from ten to twenty miles in width, between the land and the "pack." The latter was sighted daily, and had the appearance of being impenetrable.

To the northward of Upernavik many streams of ice were found extending from the main pack close into the land. Through these, with a fair wind, we found little difficulty in forcing our way until we approached Baffin's Islands, in the latitude of 74 deg. Here the ice appeared so close and continuous along the land that our progress in that direction was arrested. At the same time a clear and wide opening presented itself leading to the west. We had a fair wind to enter it, and it was so directly in our course for Lancaster Sound that I could not resist the temptation, particularly as the passage looked to be almost hopeless by the usual northern route through Melville Bay.

For several hours our hopes of a speedy and direct passage to the west seemed to be confirmed, but after a run of forty miles, we was made ahead and on both sides in a continuous line. We had but entered a deep bight in the main pack.

To retreat from the northward whence we came, would, perhaps, have cost us days, with the uncertainty of being able to get along even then. Besides, the only three authentic accounts of attempts to make the passage through the pack in about this latitude, two were eminently successful. The third did not succeed so well.

In view of these facts, I thought it advisable to enter the pack and endeavor to push through it, in a direct line, for the theatre of our exertions.

We accordingly did so, and for several days succeeded in making some headway, until at last the ice became so tight and immovable that it became impossible either to advance or retreat. In this helpless condition we remained until the 29th of July, when, by a sudden movement of the floes, an opening presented itself to the north. A southeast wind springing up at the same time, we availed ourselves of it, and, with a press of sail, succeeded in forcing our way through into clear water.

On the following day we were brought up again by the ice, but, having made a run of more than sixty miles. The wind by this time had freshened to a gale, which, together with a thick fog, made our position not a little embarrassing. The vessels were placed in a position as secure as could be found; notwithstanding which they were in imminent danger from the heavy masses of ice driven before the gale, which pressed upon them. They withstood the shock, though, heavily. The danger was over on the gale abating.

We are now in latitude 75 degrees, latitude 60 degrees in the usual Melville Bay route. It did not appear much more favorable than the middle one, from whence we had just escaped. However, by keeping close along the edge of the land ice—which had no appearance of having moved this season, and extended full thirty miles from the shore—we were enabled to avail ourselves of occasional narrow openings which appeared with the changes of the wind, so that, with the aid of warps, during calm weather, we succeeded in reaching Cape Yorke on the 18th ult.

Between Cape Yorke and Cape Dudley Diggs we had open water, but were delayed by calms.—We took advantage of the delay, and landed the stores on the shore at the "Crimson Cliffs of Berzelius," where we filled up our casks from a mountain stream. These cliffs are so named from the red stain, specimens of which were obtained.

A few miles to the east of Cape Yorke, two Esquimaux were met with. The only thing we could understand them to say, was, that more of their people were living not far distant.

On the 15th we got a fair wind, and, passing Cape Dudley Diggs, shaped our course for the western shore of Baffin's Bay. The "pack" was soon met with, but it was in streams and very loose, so that little obstruction was found from it. On the morning of the 19th we cleared it entirely, and a favorable wind of the west indicated that we had reached the "north waters."

The same day we fell in with the squadron of two vessels under Captain Penny. They had been unsuccessful in their efforts to enter Jones' Sound. They were now bound in the same direction as ourselves.

On the evening of the 19th we entered the Sound, but a violent gale came on from the eastward, accompanied by a thick fog and heavy sea, which compelled us to heave to. During the gale we parted company from the Rescue.

The following day the wind moderated, but the weather still continued thick and foggy. We attempted to get out of the Sound, but our efforts were without success, when, both to save so good a wind, we bore up for the westward.

On the morning of the 21st, the fog cleared off, and we found ourselves in Lancaster Sound, on the northern side of the Sound. At the same time a sail was seen, which I hoped might be the Rescue, and proved to be the schooner Felix, Capt. Sir John Ross.

From him we learned that Commodore Austin was at Pond's Bay, with two of his vessels, seeking information, whilst the other two had been despatched to examine the north shore of the Sound. We also learned that the North Star might be looked for at Port Leopold. At that place I resolved to touch—as well to gain information as to send despatches home—previous to repairing to Wellington Channel, the appointed place of rendezvous with our consorts.

I am happy to inform you that the officers and men of both vessels are perhaps in better health than they were on leaving New York, and they are now possessed with a spirit which I think ar[illegible] bility, or if he was in captivity with the enemy, he must vary his declaration so as to render it applicable to the case. [illegible] with the facts of the case.

"The notes to the preceding form of declaration are also applicable to the case in hand. In some cases, it will perhaps be impossible for the widow [illegible] to state the facts, in relation to her husband's services, with the particularity as to dates, &c., indicated by the above form. In such cases, [illegible] as must set forth the facts *as nearly as possible.* It will be sufficient if she states the company and regiment in which her husband served. If her husband was killed in battle, that fact must be set forth in the declaration.

This declaration must be accompanied by satisfactory proof of the marriage, and of the husband's death. If there is any public record of the marriage, a duly certified copy of such record should be forwarded, if possible. If there is no public record of the marriage, but a private or family record, such family record, or a certified copy of the same, should be forwarded, with the affidavit of some disinterested person, proving the genuineness of the original, and that the copy certified is a true and correct copy of it. If no public or private record of the marriage exists, or can be procured, that fact should be set forth in the declaration; and in such case, other evidence, such as the testimony of persons who know the parties in the lifetime of the husband, and know them to live together as husband and wife, and to be so reputed, will be admissible.

☞ In no case, however, will the mere statement of witnesses that the claimant is *the widow* of the deceased be taken as evidence of the marriage; but the witnesses must state the *facts* and *circumstances* from which they derive their knowledge or opinion that she is the widow of the deceased.

A certificate from the clergyman or magistrate who solemnized the marriage, is not competent evidence, unless the genuineness of the certificate be proved, and the person who gave it be shown to have been authorized to solemnize marriages.

CURIOUS BIGAMY CASE.—Jacob Meyer, a Jew, who was married in Baltimore to Caroline his wife, about nine years ago, was arrested in New York, on Thursday, for bigamy, in marrying Mary Steine, a pretty German girl, on the Sunday previous. Himself and Caroline had been divorced, re-married, and divorced again, as they thought by a Jewish priest, named Henry L. Goldberg, who also married Meyer to the German girl. The priest pleaded ignorance of our laws, and no complaint was taken against him.

It has been stated by Telegraph that ex-Governor Henry Johnson was elected to Congress from the New Orleans District, to serve out the unexpired term of Mr. Conrad, now Secretary of War. We observe by the New Orleans papers that this report was erroneous. Judge Ballard, the regular Whig nominee, is elected. The name of Governor Johnson was used by the opposition, without his consent, he being absent at the North during the Canvass.

The survey of the Mississippi River Banks, by the Committee of the Louisiana Senate, is developing some curious facts. The New Orleans Bulletin gives the result of the examination of the following breaks:

"Fortier crevasse, 13 1-2 miles above New Orleans, on the right bank of the river, 300 feet wide; the volume of water 10 feet deep. Shaw crevasse; this break is well known to our readers; crevasse opposite Port Hudson, 2,640 ft wide, volume of water there 8 and a 1-2 ft deep. Crevasse on West B. R. below Fausse river, 10,137 feet of levee washed away; the volume of water is 5 feet deep. Grand Levee crevasse, at Morganzia, 465 feet long, water 7 feet deep. Swain's crevasse, 2,103 feet long, 5 1-2 feet depth of water. Moreau crevasse, below Red River, 3,960 feet of levee gone, water four feet deep. Raccourci Grand Levee Crevasse, 1,161 feet long, 4 1-2 feet depth of water. The total lengths of the five fragments of "Fausse river island crevasse" was found to be 4,080 feet, mean depth 5 1-2 feet."

The following account of the Fortier crevasse, which we copy from the Bulletin, shows the extent of the devastation consequent upon these breaks:

This crevasse occurred on the 7th of April, 1849. The levee through which it broke was only four feet high, but such was the inefficiency of the means used to close it, that in about twenty days it was abandoned as impracticable. At this time the breach was only 300 feet wide, and as first the waters were discharged into Lake Catauache, and thence over the large interior lake and prairies. From the peninsular character of the country, however, between the high grounds fronting on the river, and those on Bayou Lafourche, the waters accumulated upon the interior area to the depth of about four feet, submerged the rear of all the plantations not protected by swamp levees, and destroying a large portion of their growing crops. Some well informed planters estimated the loss to be upwards of 10,000hogsheads, but others have even advanced on these figures.

"Young plant cane" was killed by hundreds of acres, fences torn away, the plantation cattle driven off to a distance which prevented even inquiry as to where they were, and comfort and the prosperity of scores of Plantations utterly destroyed or injured for an entire year. At a distance of forty miles below New Orleans the waters stood against the rear levees of plantations near three feet above the "swamp level." The lands continued submerged until about the 15th of September, though the water had fallen some three feet by the 25th of July, the widening and deepening of the mouth of the crevasse by abrasion seeming to keep up its capacity to discharge its accustomed volume.

We visited in person the crevasse about four days after it had broken through, and at a time when it could have been stopped at an outlay of $3,000. The indifference of the authorities of the parish allowed it to cost the planters over half a million of dollars, and then compelled the proprietor to build a new and expensive levee through his best sugar fields. The area submerged by this crevasse is estimated at 850 square miles, or 544,000 acres.

The Hon. James Cooper has been recently tendered the compliment of a public dinner by a number of his personal and political friends residing at Harrisburg. He respectfully declined, in an able letter, in which he took occasion to review the action of Congress upon the Compromise question.

☞ FAMILIES should never be without a supply of MCLANE'S VERMIFUGE.—At this season particularly when worms are so troublesome and so frequently fatal among children, parents should be watchful, and on the first appearance of those distressing symptoms which warn us of the presence of worms, at once apply a powerful and efficacious remedy. This remedy we can now supply, confident that it only requires a trial to convince all that it richly merits all the praises that have been lavished upon it. It is safe and infallible. Volumes of certificates might be produced, showing its great value in all cases.

☞ For sale by J. KIDD & CO, No 80 Wood street. oct19-dkw8

REMARKABLE CASE!!
EVIDENCE IN OUR MIDST!!!

MR. KIRK—Sir, I cheerfully comply with your request that I would give you an account of the almost miraculous cure of my little daughter's eye by the use of your "Petroleum."

She was attacked with a very sore eye in February or March last, when I immediately applied to the best medical aid in the city, by whom it was pronounced "a very bad eye" and all gave me no hope of doing her any good. After which I took her into the country to an old lady, who had been very successful in curing eyes. She told me that her case was hopeless, and she would be mainly lose not only that one, but also that the other would follow. Being a stranger in the affection of the blood. And I do certify that at the time my father (J. B. Vashon) came to the conclusion that we had better try your "Petroleum," she was BRITELY BLIND of one eye. It is now about two months since we began its use, and she can now see with both eyes, as well as ever she did in her life, and as far as I can tell, I believe she has, with the blessing of the Almighty, been cured by "Petroleum"

Yours, respectfully,

M. FRANCES VASHON COLEMAN.

Pittsburgh, Sept. 30, 1850.

For sale by Keyser & McDowell, 140 Wood street; R. E. Sellers, 57 Wood street; D. M. Curry, D. A. Elliott, Joseph Douglass, and H. P. Schwartz, Allegheny, sole agents for the proprietor.

S. M. KIER.

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