

IRON.

In order to show our readers that the United States will, before two years, supply itself with iron, and afford a surplus for exportation, we submit the following, showing the whole amount of iron and steel of all kinds, annually imported into the United States, for sixteen years. The amount embraces bar, bolt, rolled and hammered iron; pig iron; hoop and sheet iron; brasser's rods; nail and spike rods; band, scroll, or casement rods, slit or hammered; old or scrap iron; and steel. We have also annexed the value at the place exported, and average price per ton, uniting cents:

Table with 4 columns: Years, Tons, Value, Per ton. Data for years 1828-29 to 1842-43.

Total—tons 1,261,074 63,537,225. The consumption of iron in the United States is now estimated at about 400,000 tons annually; and it will be seen by the foregoing, taken from official documents, that about one fourth of this amount is imported from foreign countries, or about 100,000 tons. The present price of iron in England, owing to the large amount of railroad iron wanted in that country, will prevent importation to a very great extent, even if no duty was laid upon iron.

We ask the especial attention of our readers to the statistics before quoted, as showing the fluctuating price of foreign iron, and the importance of rendering the country independent of the expense of foreign iron masters. In 1828 and '29 the average price of all kinds of iron imported is more than \$66 per ton. Four years afterwards it was \$41 per ton, being a reduction of \$25 per ton. In 1836-'37, it averages \$62 per ton in Europe. In 1843-'44, \$37 per ton, being a reduction on 1836-'37, of \$25 per ton; and in 1828-'29, of \$29 per ton. The establishment of furnaces for the full supply of this country, will not only render us independent of Europe for this necessary of life, but will produce more uniformity in price; and home competition will, as in the case of cotton manufactures, reduce the price. It will not escape the reader that this country has paid in the period of 16 years, \$63,537,225 to Europe for iron, while we have had the materials at home, to make any amount ourselves. No wonder the whole country became embarrassed. It is estimated that there will soon be wanted 250,000 tons of railroad iron to replace the worn and flat rails with T rails, on the railroads now in operation in the United States; and that more than 4,500 miles of unfinished railroads will require a large amount. As fast as the iron is wanted, such establishments as the Mount Savage Iron Works, in Maryland, the Brady Bend and the Montour Ridge Works, in Pennsylvania, will be put in operation to supply the demand.—Har. Argus.

COAL AND IRON IN KENTUCKY.—The Maysville Eagle speaks of the abundance of coal and iron in that State, and says the production of those two minerals is almost co-extensive with the State. Iron is found in great abundance wherever there is coal, but it extends over a much larger space of country than coal. The ore lies in horizontal strata, or veins from four inches to five feet thick, and some banks are known to be from ten to fifteen feet in thickness. Iron works have been established in many of the counties. At one time there were no less than twenty-two blast furnaces and eight Gorges in active operation. It is supposed that on twelve thousand square miles there may be an average depth of three feet of iron ore, and in the coal formation each cubic yard will make a ton of iron. Kentucky has, at this rate, a sufficient quantity of iron ore to supply the United States with iron for two hundred centuries.

INTERESTING STATEMENT.—The American Sentinel says:—We copy the following statement from an old manuscript, found among the papers of a gentleman who recently died in this city, Philadelphia, and who served in the revolutionary war of the country:

Table with 4 columns: State, Continental, Militia, Total. Lists states from New Hampshire to Virginia.



THE AMERICAN.

Saturday, June 7, 1845.

V. B. PALMER, Esq., at his Real Estate and Coal Office, No. 59 Pine Street, Philadelphia, is authorized to act as Agent, and receipt for all monies due this office, for subscription or advertising.

Also, at his Office No. 160 Nassau Street, New York. And S. E. Corner of Baltimore and Calvert sts., Baltimore.

Town Meeting.

THERE will be a town meeting, of the citizens of Sunbury, in the Court House, on Saturday evening next, at 8 o'clock. All the citizens are earnestly invited to attend, as subjects of great importance to the Borough will be laid before the meeting. W. L. DEWART, Sunbury, June 5th, 1845. Chief Burgess.

"To Izard" will appear in our next, having been crowded out this week.

The frost, by which we were visited last week, left its mark,—doing some damage to the tender kinds of vegetation. We have not heard that it has affected the grain of our farmers. In Lancaster county, however, it has done considerable damage to the grain.

The Editor's absence from his post, will be a sufficient apology for the deficiency in our editorial matter. The selections, however, will somewhat remunerate the reader for the lack and quality of the editorial. On our first and last pages we have placed some entertaining matter. The reader will find another of the celebrated "Curtain Lectures," by Mrs. Caudle, so much relished by some of the fair sex, and a list of some of the inventions of the Germans. It is a well known fact, that the Germans are the most ingenious people upon the globe. The invention of printing, itself, has sounded and ever will sound their fame to the world; for it is well known, that that celebrated German, Dr. Martin Luther, could not have succeeded in his glorious plan of Reformation, unaided by the press. The Germans have contributed more to the advancement of literature, than any other nation.

Col. LEVI TATE, of the "Columbia Enquirer," has associated with him in the publication of that paper, Mr. B. S. Gilmore.

STEAMBOAT EXPLOSION.—The Steamboat "Paul Jones," one of the tow-boats from Havre de Grace to Baltimore, while on a trip, with ten or twelve canal boats in tow, burst her boilers, in the neighborhood of North Point, severely scalding the crew.

THE FOURTH OF JULY.—The coming anniversary of our National Independence will be celebrated with more than usual interest. While we are celebrating the day upon which our freedom was declared, and are rejoicing in the birth day of our country,—of its prosperity at the present time, under our Republican Institutions, and bringing to its alter the offering of thankful hearts, the people of Texas will be engaged,—in accordance with the late Proclamation of President Jones, requiring delegates from each county in Texas to assemble in convention on that day,—in considering the very important question whether they shall add their "LONE STAR" to, and become one of our brilliant confederacy. In the final adjustment, of this long vexed question, upon such a glorious day as the 4th of July,—and we have not the least doubt in our minds that it will be accomplished on that day; for, if the press speaks public opinion, it has been heard in tones of thunder, and has compelled President Jones to yield to its force.—it will give additional zest to the rejoicing of the American people on its reception into the Union. With fond remembrance will we recall to our minds the day upon which the "lone star" was added to our already brilliant Constellation. The fact will be remembered in our rejoicing, and an additional gun to the national salute will welcome it into the Union.

DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY BY FIRE.—Almost every mail brings us news of some dreadful calamity by fire. Another fire occurred at Pittsburg, on Tuesday night, the 27th ult., destroying houses to the number of seventy or eighty. The actual loss, it is said, will not much exceed fifteen thousand dollars,—a very small sum when the number of houses destroyed are taken into consideration. The Pittsburg Chronicle says that this fire will not in the least affect the interests of the city, and under other circumstances would be considered a "small affair." There appears to be a systematic scheme on foot to give that city the fate of Sodom and Gomorrah.

ANOTHER.—The city of New York, last week, was visited by an awful conflagration, which resulted in the destruction of three large squares of buildings, together with forty or fifty fine houses. This fire has left a large number of poor and hard working people homeless.

ANOTHER.—On Saturday night a week a destructive fire broke out at Savannah, Georgia, destroying property to the amount of \$20,000,—half of which, it is thought, was covered by insurance.

STILL ANOTHER.—A fire occurred in the city of Quebec, Wednesday a week, far exceeding and more disastrous in its consequences than all the rest mentioned. The flames of the element spread so rapidly, that a large portion of the city was entirely consumed. A letter from that city states that thousands of souls are without house or home, having lost almost everything.

"The American"—Now is the time to Subscribe.

The new Post Office Law, which goes into operation on the 1st of July ensuing, affords an opportunity to every person residing in the following towns and districts, in this and the adjoining counties, within the distance of thirty miles of this town, of receiving "THE AMERICAN" weekly through the mail, free from any expense of postage. The expenses, accruing from the postage on papers, heretofore, operated very materially against the prosperity of those in the country.—Many persons, on being asked to subscribe for a paper,—and there is no person, who is acquainted with the innumerable benefits resulting from the reception of a good paper in a family, but would subscribe,—have urged that the additional expense of postage made the reading of papers come too high. This, however, never could be considered a very plausible reason, with intelligent persons, for not taking a paper; but, as this expense will now be obviated, we trust that our friends will exert themselves in increasing our subscription list.

All the Post Offices of Northumberland County, are within thirty miles.

- UNION COUNTY. Lewisburg, New Berlin, Middleburg, Middleburg, Beaver Dam, Chapman, Beaver Dam, Shamokin Dam, McKeen's half Falls, Hartleton, New Columbia. COLUMBIA COUNTY. Danville, Cattawissa, Bloomsburg, Lime Ridge, Washingtonville. LYCOMING COUNTY. Muncy.

The last number of Wilmer & Smith's Times, received by the Great Western, has a column of speculation on the probabilities of a war with the United States on the Oregon question. It says:—"There never was a period in the history of England when it was better prepared for war; never did a question exist, not on its abstract merits, but because of its concomitant swag, on which less diversity of opinion prevails, and with heart and soul would the 'dernier resort' be entered upon and pursued."—"The 'Times' should also know that there never was a period in the history of the United States when the great body of the American people were more willing to enter upon, 'with heart and soul,' the 'dernier resort,' if necessary, than at the present time. With the veteran Ritchie, we believe all that the United States have to do, is, to 'sound her clarion and display her flag,' to receive an ample number of patriots to defend her rights.

DIFFERENT VIEWS FROM THE SAME SIDE.—There appears to be a diversity of opinion, with Queen Victoria's subjects, on their ability to sustain themselves if there should be any difficulties between the United States and Great Britain, growing out of the Oregon question, and our abilities to defend our rights, should they be disregarded. The Dublin Freeman's Journal, from which we copy the following article, in its course, is quite the reverse from that of Wilmer & Smith's Times. While the "Times" places but a low estimate upon our strength and competency to protect our rights, and in its articles is very belligerent, the "Journal" is calm and conciliatory.

The English and Anglo-Irish Journals are exhibiting their readers upon the Pacific character of the intellect, once received by the Caladonia. We have journals, and the tone of the articles they contain, in our opinion, show that those felicitations are premature. There is not one line of swagger or braggadocio in these extracts; but there is not a single phrase which can bear the interpretation of hesitation, much less of shrinking. It is evident from them that in America they have counted the cost of war. They estimate their own resources justly, but they do not overrate them. They say that England can bring against America greater naval and military armaments than America can muster. They admit that England may burn their seaboard towns, and immensely damage and destroy the property of American citizens. But they ask, if England were with America where shall she get cotton for her mills and factories? Will she condemn them to idleness, her factory population to starvation, and her manufacturers to bankruptcy and the Gazette? England may war with America, but how shall she protect her merchant ships from American privateers, which, in such a conjuncture, would swarm in every sea? These are the advantages on which, in case of war with England, the United States relies, and they are strong, powerful and peculiar.

Again, England's power is scattered—her territory must be everywhere defended, for it is everywhere vulnerable. American territory is concentrated—and American citizens are prepared to defend it to the death. This is an element which, in case of hostilities between the two people, it would be impossible to over-estimate. The result of such a war would, if unsuccessful, leave England a crippled power, shorn of her colonies, commerce and commerce. It would seriously, fearfully affect the progressive prosperity of the States, but her power as a nation it could not permanently retard. Nature's God, more powerful than empires, has rendered that impossible. His seal is on that land, and she must be great. But apart from these difficulties, which England should in case of war encounter, America does not pass by the consideration of the "two nations," "the rich and the poor," which, born on the same soil, regard each other with a distrust which the first war should rush, perhaps, to active hostility. The first gun fired against America might raise the people against the oligarchy in England. Throughout Europe it would cause a war of democracy against monarchy, which, in the words of the Washington Globe, 'might add whole nations to republicanism in a single day.' While America reckons such chances in her favor—while such elements, even on England's own territory, war for the States, she could not dread the day of battle, and she does not. It may well frighten, not only England, but many other European nations. Hence the language in which the American journals indulge.

POSTAGE.—The distance from Pittsburg to Philadelphia is 310 miles—just enough to make the postage ten instead of five cents. Boston is in the same category.

GOVERNOR OF OREGON.—The New Orleans Republican says, Col. R. M. Johnson, of Kentucky, would have been appointed Governor of Oregon, if Brown's Bill had passed at the last session of Congress. The Missouri Reporter regrets that it was not passed, and Col. Johnson sent over the mountains with fifteen or twenty thousand emigrants, properly armed and equipped. The Hero of the Thames is just the man to lead such an enterprise, and lay the foundation of a Republican State on the Pacific.

GENERAL HOUTON has published a letter in the Galveston Civilian, in reply to an article in a New Orleans paper, charging him with having pledged himself to the British Minister to use his best endeavors to defeat annexation. General H. pronounces the statement utterly untrue, and without any foundation, and adds:—"For a year past I have neither seen nor corresponded with Her Majesty's Minister, nor am I at this time informed as to the position of our public affairs with nations of the earth."

JUDGE STORY, of the U. S. Supreme Court is said to have retired from the Unitarian organization, of which he was Presiding officer.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR has left Washington to attend the annual examination of the Cadets at the Military Academy, West Point. During his absence, the duties of the office will be discharged by the Secretary of the Navy, as Acting Secretary of War.

MINISTER TO RUSSIA.—We have heard it stated upon pretty good authority, says the Louisville Courier, that Col. Wm. O. Butler will receive the appointment of Minister to Russia, some time in July next, at which time the four years of Colonel Todd expire.

The Grand Jury at Point Coupee, La., have found a true bill against O'Blennis, who murdered Frank Combs, son of Gen. Lelslie Combs.

THE MARQUIS DE LA TALARNE came passenger in the Great Western. It is said he is on a visit to this continent in an official capacity, either as Minister to this country, Mexico or Texas, or to the three at the same time. It is supposed that he comes from France to watch the movements in Texas, Mexico and the United States, relative to annexation.

WHAT HAS BECOME OF HIM?—Some of the New Orleans Journals are anxiously inquiring what has become of Mr. Shannon, our Mexican Minister, and where he keeps himself since the Mexican Government refused to have any intercourse with him. The Picayune says, many of his friends, and some who are not in that category, are anxious to see him—out of that country.

GUNS MOUNTED.—The Providence Journal says orders were received at Newport to mount the guns at Fort Adams, and the men were busily engaged in the work last Sunday.

THE FIRST STATE ELECTION in Florida was held on the 26th ult. Returns from St. Augustine show that the Democratic ticket for Governor, Representative, State Senator and County Representatives has succeeded by about thirty majority.

A SPECULATION.—It is said that certain railway contractors in this country, who had received large supplies of iron from England, hearing of the rise in that article, actually reshipped their stocks, sent them thither, and sold them at a profit.

GENERAL JACKSON.—The U. S. Journal learns by a gentleman direct from the Hermitage, that the health of Gen. Jackson had slightly improved. He rode out the day before the informant left.

EARLY HARVESTING.—A gentleman, who is an extensive planter, residing a few miles from Edenton, N. C., commenced cutting his wheat on Thursday, the 23d of May, being some three weeks earlier than the usual time of harvesting.

The day police of Philadelphia wear a silver badge stamped with the city arms on their breast by which they are easily recognized.

A tide water canal boat loaded with iron, sunk at Philadelphia on Friday morning.

A magnificent hotel, larger than the Astor, is to be erected in Boston on Bloomsfield street.

GOVERNMENT MAIL STEAMERS.—The President and his Cabinet have had up for consideration the scheme for transporting the mails between the United States and foreign countries. It is stated that Colonel Sloc is the most prominent competitor for the contract for the steam vessels to run between New York and the ports of New Orleans, Galveston, Vera Cruz, Havana, &c., and he has raised a capital of a million and a half of dollars for the undertaking. The Washington Union says the Postmaster General is awaiting more full information as to the character of the line, and the frequency of the trips he should establish between New York and Liverpool, as to the probabilities of success with regard to the lines from New York to Havre, and New York to Bremen, whether the line to Havana should run from New York or from Charleston, and what kind and size of vessel is best suited for the navigation between New Orleans, Galveston and Vera Cruz. When fully advised, his advertisement for proposals will be issued. This is an important movement, especially as the Government has no fast sailing steamship upon which it can depend for the transmission of news in any emergency, such as the present condition of affairs with Mexico. It is contemplated to make this portion of the commercial marine a part of our military defence.—Ledger.

Texas—Late and Interesting News.

By the Picayune of the 25th, we have later news from Texas. The U. S. Squadron, under Capt. Stockton, was at Galveston. On coming to anchor, a national salute was fired, which was answered by the Texan sloop in ordinary.

President Jones has issued a proclamation, calling upon the people to elect "deputies" to a convention of the various counties, to be held on the 4th of July next, to consider the proposition of annexation to the United States, and to adopt, if they think expedient, provisionally a constitution, to be submitted to the people for their ratification, with a view to admission into the Union.

The President does this because the Constitution of that Republic does not provide for changing the organic law, and because he believes it competent for the people alone to determine so momentous a matter. From this it would appear that President Jones has been forced, by public opinion, into an acquiescence with the popular will. It remains now only for the people of Texas, through their representatives, to say whether they will come into the Union or not. If late demonstrations, and the reluctant action of the President, be considered indications of the force and tendency of popular sentiment, they will settle this question affirmatively in a month's time. If the intrigues of foreigners, and the designing schemes of politicians influenced by them, are successful in turning the tide of popular feeling, annexation is doubtful, and Texas will remain the insignificant state she would be if left as a field for foreigners to play their pranks in, through opposition, hostility and envy of the growing power and importance of the United States. We anticipate, however, no such result as has alluded to. The unwilling consent of President Jones to refer this matter to the people is a strong indication how popular sentiment still runs, and that the proposition from the United States government will receive a favorable consideration.

At a public meeting in Matagorda county, recently held, the Representative and Senator in Congress were appointed to meet the delegates from the other counties at the seat of Government on the third Monday in May, in order to adopt such plans as they may deem most proper to obtain the action of the people throughout the Republic on the question of Annexation. They express their astonishment and indignation at the appointment of Minister Smith to England and France, and say that with the delay in calling Congress together, it is well calculated to excite distrust in the action of President Jones. They resolved that "delay was useless, as they wish to see no overtures from any government save that of the United States."

MOVEMENTS OF THE MEXICANS.—By the last accounts from Texas, intelligence has been received that the Mexicans were crossing the Rio Grande del Norte under General Arista, and taking possession of an immense and valuable portion of the territory on the East side of that river. The Washington Union, alluding to the fact, says:—"Is it possible that Mexico can be so infatuated as to believe that their mere occupancy of a territory, to which they have no legitimate pretension, can give them a shadow of claim to any portion of the country in which their troops may happen to be quartered at the moment of annexation? When that measure is completed through the action of her Congress, and the consent of the people themselves is expressed through their convention, then will we be prepared to solve the question whether we will permit these invaders to molest the soil of Texas. A correspondent at New York may dismiss all his fears. Our government is prepared for any issue. Our squadron is off the coast. Three thousand troops will be on the borders of Texas to preserve our just rights, and to protect her from invasion. But it is highly probable, if Gen. Arista does not retire within his own shell, the Texan volunteers will be sufficient to clear and protect their boundary."

A CURIOUS SPECULATION.—On the day of the great race between Fashion and Peytona, over the Camden Course, an immense number of carriages crossed the river at Gloucester Point. As the hour fixed for the race approached, and the number of carriages in waiting extended in single file to some fifty or sixty, each waiting its turn, the occupants became so exceedingly impatient that preferences were anxiously sought for. The captain was coaxed, scolded and threatened but all to no use, he could be neither seduced nor driven from the just rule of "first come first served," without regard to Jerseyances. In the midst of this anxiety, a Jersey collier thought to turn the position which his coal box held in the line to profit, and for five dollars changed places with a party of anxious gentlemen in his rear. As he approached the wharf a second time, he again yielded his place to some new comers, and so for the third time, pocketing by each change of position five dollars—a proof that nothing is so unwieldy or so ugly, that with human ingenuity it may not be turned to profitable account.—Phil. Ledger.

REVIEWING.—The editor of the True Sun, of New York, is engaged in reviewing Capt. Wilkes' Narrative of the exploring Expedition, and pointing out what it calls discrepancies and blunders.

A DEAD BLUE BIRD was found last week, clinging with its feet to one of the wires of Morse's Electro magnetic Telegraph, a few miles from Washington City. The body of the bird was examined, and no shot wound, or wound of any kind, was discovered sufficient to produce death, which has led to the belief that the poor thing was killed while perched upon the wire, some time during the operation of the telegraph, by a shock of electricity.

Mexico.

A letter from Pensacola notices the condition of Mexico at the present time in the following terms:

"Mexico is in a distracted state, having no settled policy or men to govern the affairs of her Government. The States of Tabasco and Puebla have already declared in favor of the federal constitution; and a general meeting had been held in Vera Cruz by the citizens a few days before the Somers sailed for the same purpose, but active measures were suspended in compliance with the request of the Governor, who is very popular among all parties. Several arrests of military officers had been made in different parts of the Republic, charged with revolutionary designs, and in one instance a quantity of arms were taken from them. The present Government, it is thought, cannot sustain itself much longer, and the idea of declaring war against the United States is not entertained by any reflecting man who is acquainted with the actual condition of that country.

The present army of Mexico is said to consist of 21,000 officers and less than 20,000 soldiers. Santa Anna was still confined in the Castle of Perote, but no doubt would soon be liberated, if not already free to depart at pleasure. The impression that he will again be re-instated in power is generally entertained, and many think it will take place before the expiration of six months. When the English merchants at Vera Cruz heard of Senor Canoso's departure, they chartered a schooner for New Orleans, which sailed the 10th inst; the following evening the Somers came up, and passed about 8 o'clock, a vessel very much like her in appearance, standing upon the same course. Mr. Shannon, late American Minister, had engaged his passage in an American vessel, and would sail about the 15th inst, for New York. It does not appear that he possessed any knowledge of the political affairs in the Capital of Mexico, and he is not considered in any other light than an obscure American citizen, whose name is never alluded to as one at all connected with the important transaction of the day. The Yellow Fever begins to show itself in Vera Cruz; which, I believe, is always the case at this season of the year.

SANTA FE AFFAIRS.—A letter has been received by the editor of the St. Louis Revue, stating that the Governor of Santa Fe, so obnoxious on account of his exactions, has been recalled, and Mariano Chavez appointed in his place. Don Juan Andres Arcluteta, by the same express, received the appointment of Commandante General. The letter goes on to state:—"The Governor is about sending off an express to the Supreme Government, announcing that it will be impossible for him to leave until the debts which he has contracted, on account of the Department, had become personally responsible for, shall have been paid. It is said also that the Junta de Department are determined to back him, and will send forward a petition to Mexico asking for his continuance in office. The authorities entered the stores of Juan Jose Perez and Juan Christoval Armpio and took out goods to the amount of the loan, and paid off the soldiers with them."

CALIFORNIA.—The revolution is progressing in Upper California, and the Mexican authorities have been driven from that portion of the Republic. The Revolutionists were about organizing a republican government, with a President and representative legislature modeled after the legislature of the United States. The revolution in Upper California is said to have been commenced without the loss of a single life.—The people informed the Governor that his exactions were cruel, oppressive, and contrary to those principles of enlightened government which prevailed among the most intelligent and prosperous nations. They asked a withdrawal of certain proclamations, and laws issued by order of the Mexican Government. They had no part in the enactment of those laws, and could not acknowledge the right of any body of men to impose laws upon them without their knowledge or consent. The Governor treated the people with contempt, and threatened instant death if they persisted in their demand. Alarmed for their personal safety, the settlers resolved to risk their lives at once in a struggle for independence. The government herds, cattle, horses &c., were driven from around the Governor's dwelling or fort; scouting parties were stationed at a distance of some miles to cut off all supplies, and after a lapse of a few weeks messengers were dispatched to the fort to ascertain the disposition of Governor Michalortera and his army. The armed settlers number two to one of the army. Resistance was useless and the Governor withdrew with his forces, leaving the country in possession of the settlers, who had proclaimed it independent, as the "Republic of California."

THE MILLERIES who were recently committed to the workhouse at Portland, have had a new revelation since their confinement. It has been revealed to them that they did wrong in refusing to work, and they told the overseer they would reform in that respect if they were let out, and advise their friends to do so. They were discharged.

THREE WHALERS at Nantucket have cleared on their last voyages, over \$100,000.

A NEW STATE CENSUS will be taken in New York in July, the object of which is not only to obtain information as to the number of inhabitants, but information as to the business of the people.