

The Huntington Globe.

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Department of the Interior.

The annual report of the Secretary of the Interior contains much interesting information, which we condense below: "The quantity of public land thrown into market during the next season will be amply sufficient to supply the most extensive demand. Land surveys have been prosecuted in the newly organized territories. The provisions of the land graduation law intended to secure the interests of the actual settler, are very defective, and have caused much trouble, so that it may become necessary for Congress to interpose. During the last fiscal year 8,720,474 acres of land have been sold at graduated prices for \$2,358,918. In the year ending September 30th, 15,315,283 acres of land were surveyed. The true boundary line between Alabama and Florida has been established. No new land was brought into market, owing to the large body of land subject to entry already.

The quantity of lands sold for cash during the last fiscal year was 15,729,524 83 acres. Received therefor \$1,435,384 75

Located with military scrip

Swamp land selected for

States

Selected on donations for

rail-roads, &c.

Making a total of

Exhibiting an increase of 8,693,789 81

acres over the previous year, of lands sold for cash, and a decrease of 2,071,222 26 acres located with scrip and warrants. The quantity that will be entered the present fiscal year with land warrants will be much larger, the number being greatly multiplied by the requirements of the recent boundary law.

The amount of lands sold during the second and third quarters of the present calendar year is about 6,264,163 acres; being an increase of about 827,625 acres (in cash \$477,442 06) on that of the corresponding quarters of the preceding year.

The quantity of land covered by warrants, issued to soldiers of all the wars in which the United States has been engaged, is 37,958,412 acres. For the satisfaction of Virginia military land warrants, there were taken 1,460,000 acres of the public lands.

The Secretary reiterates the importance of proper discrimination in making grants of lands to railroads and canals. The grants of land to the State of Wisconsin for the improvement of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, and their connexion by a canal, covered 260,433 acres, of which there were selected 268,303 acres, the rest not being taken, because all the land referred to had been previously sold by the government. Subsequent legislation, as the authorities of the Land Office construed it, increased the grants to 684,269 acres, or an addition of 423,836 acres. But the company, which purports to have succeeded to the rights of the State, not satisfied with the construction given to the law by the Land Office, preferred a claim for the alternate sections on the Wisconsin river, from where it enters the Mississippi to the portage, which would enlarge the grant upwards of 352,000 acres, increasing it from 260,433 acres to 1,036,269 acres, and probably much more, depending on the rule that might be adopted.

The lands on the Wisconsin river having never been embraced by any action of Congress, but the grant being expressly restricted to the Fox river, lakes and portage, the claim, after full examination, by the Commissioner of the Land Office, and review on appeal, by me, written every proper disposition to favor the State, was rejected, and the grant has been confined to the enlarged limit before mentioned.

The Secretary again recommends that officers connected with the survey and sale of the public lands be not permitted to become purchasers.

Much difficulty has been experienced in the execution of the laws granting the swamp and overflowed lands to the several States in which they lie. Some patents have been issued, while others have been suspended for further inquiry and investigation.

The commission to ascertain and settle the private land claims in California will be able to complete its labors within the period fixed by law.

The Board of Commissioners, under the act of 1854, to adjust land titles in Indiana, was unable to finish its business within the time allowed. The Secretary recommends that a Commissioner be appointed to complete the work. As much difficulty has been caused by the creation of new land districts, and the acts creating them going into effect immediately, the Secretary recommends that the new ones shall not go into operation for six months from the passage of the law establishing them, unless, in the judgment of the President, an earlier period is necessary.

The field work of the Mexican boundary survey has been completed, and the office work will be prosecuted with vigor. The Gadsden purchase contains twenty millions of acres of land. The eastern portion of it is traversed from north to south by several streams, which, though not navigable, afford affording facilities for irrigation. The valleys of some of the streams are cultivated, and produce wheat, corn and tobacco luxuriantly, though in general they are better adapted to grazing. Gold, silver, and copper are found in the hills, but not in places, and, in many places, the remains of ancient Spanish mining operations yet exist. The western portion of the country bordering upon the Colorado and Gila rivers, presents a strong contrast, being a hopeless desert, though known to abound in silver ore.

This territory is not so much the abode of hostile Indians, as it is the avenue through which they pass from their country north of the Gila to the northern States of Mexico. A portion of it, however, is occupied by a semi-civilized nation of Indians composed of the federacy of Pimos and Maricopas Indians, numbering, they till the soil with such success, raising cotton, wheat, corn and beans, and are said to be ever kind and friendly to American emigrants passing through their country to California. They are understood to set up a claim to the land they occupy,

under some general law of Spain or Mexico, and manifest much anxiety lest, by the transfer of territory to the United States, their possession may be disturbed or injuriously affected.

They are said to be at constant war with the hostile tribes inhabiting the country north of the Gila, and their only barrier to the occupation of this newly acquired country.

The difficulty about the boundary between the Territory of Washington and the British possessions, is thus spoken of:

"In the channel which separates Vancouver's Island from the main continent, and through the middle of which, according to the convention of 1846, the line of boundary passes, there is a large and interesting group of islands, which are much desired by our citizens, but the settlement of them will naturally be retarded, if not entirely prevented, until the boundary line shall have been definitely determined."

From the first of January, 1855, the number of patents issued was eighteen hundred, and the number for the whole year would probably reach two thousand. It is recommended that the revision of the accounts of the United States Marshal and District Attorneys be transferred to the Treasury Department. On the subject of the erection of court houses the Secretary says:

The government has adopted the plan of constructing its own buildings for court purposes, in different States, but nothing has yet been done in Baltimore, New York, or Boston. With this view, acts were passed by Congress giving you a limited power, which, however, was not exercised. The proposals which had been received for sites in New York and Boston were sent in as a criterion in making the proper appropriations. Nothing was effected, and the subject remains for the further action of Congress. I have no doubt the true course would be, to make ample provision for the purchase of the sites and the erection of buildings in these cities, expressly limiting the expenditure to the specific sums appropriated, leaving the selection of the sites, and the plans for the buildings to the sound discretion of the President. Knowing the necessity that exists for such buildings in these cities its consideration cannot be too strongly urged.

From this it will be seen that Philadelphia, the first to move in this matter, has been entirely overlooked by the government. Congress has made appropriations for constructing court houses, in conjunction with custom houses, and post offices, at several points where courts are not held, in States in which the number of places for holding courts may not be increased for many years.

This is one of the ways of wasting public money. Another is narrated thus by the Secretary:

In my last annual report, I brought to your notice the number of terms the United States courts held in the different States, during each year, being two hundred and twenty-three terms, in eighty-eight different places. In several of them, there is very little local or general business, the peculiar reason for holding the courts there having ceased; and yet the expense and inconvenience to the judges and officers, as well as the Government, are not trifling. By way of illustration, I will instance one judicial district only. By the act of Congress, approved March 3, 1849,

"For the better organization of the district court of the United States, within the State of Louisiana," the State was divided into two judicial districts—the eastern and western. Several annual sessions of the court for the western district were directed to be held at Opelousas, Alexandria, Shreveport, and Monroe, and the judge was authorized to appoint a clerk to reside at each of these places. By the amendatory act, approved July 29, 1850, another term of the court was required to be held at St. Joseph's, and the judge authorized to appoint a clerk to reside at that place also. The fee bill of 26th February, 1853, provides that, when the compensation of any clerk shall be less than \$500 per annum, the difference between his receipts and that sum, shall be paid from the Treasury.

It appears from the enrolment accounts of the clerk at St. Joseph's, that from the 4th of May, 1845 to the 30th of May, 1855, his fees only amounted to \$13 95, and that, during the whole of that period, there was not a single session of the court held at that place. From the 1st of January, 1853, to the 31st of December, 1854, the clerk at Monroe did not earn anything, and during the whole of these two years, no session of the court was held. At Alexandria the clerk's fees, from the 15th of April to the 31st of December, 1854, amounted to \$2 50, and the court was in session only two days.

Thus, it will be seen, that, in an aggregate period of about four years, only two terms of the court have been held at these three places. The Department is not in possession of reports from Opelousas and Shreveport, though it is not doubted the same condition of things prevails there. If so, the cost to the United States for clerical services alone, over and above the fees earned in a period of about four years, would amount to nearly \$10,000, without any corresponding benefit to the government.

Several important treaties have been made. Many provisions in force contain objectionable features, inserted at the urgent solicitation of the Indians, being the production of the vicious influences surrounding them on treaty occasions. A treaty with the Stockbridge and Munsee Indians in Wisconsin, has been disapproved by the government as not likely to prove beneficial either to the Indians or the United States. A tripartite treaty has been made between the United States and the Choctaws and Chickasaws, which if ratified by the Senate will adjust existing difficulties, and open up a large portion of the Choctaw territory for the introduction and permanent location of the Southern Camanches, Wichitas, and other Southwestern tribes. All the prerequisites for the sale of the ceded Indian lands in Kansas territory have been completed, and the sales may be ordered early in the spring. The following information respecting the Indian tribes is interesting:

Many of the Texas Indians are being gathered on the reservations set apart in that State for them, and are conducting them-

selves with marked propriety. These reservations are too small; still, for a time they may answer a good purpose. It may be proper for Congress to extend over them the laws regulating trade and intercourse with the Indians, as their application may be found necessary.

The Indian agents are instructed to reside amongst the tribes, so as to be constantly present to advise and aid them. It is often impossible to ascertain whether the instructions are faithfully complied with, owing to the remoteness of the agencies. The rule, however, has thus far operated well, and will, it is believed, be of much service to the Indians. My own opinion is, that it would be far better to have fewer agents, and to give a compensation to each suitable to the condition and circumstances of his position, so as to bring into requisition the character, ability and peculiar fitness so much required.

The distance of the Indian Bureau from the different tribes of Indians is so great, that frequently it is very difficult to obtain correct information about them, more especially were the agents carelessly or remiss in the discharge of their duties. The present commissioner has visited many of them, at much inconvenience; but by so doing has acquired a great deal of useful information. I believe it would be advantageous to the Indians and the government, to provide for an officer, to be attached to the bureau, whose duty it should be to visit the superintendents, agents and tribes, examine into all their affairs, and make such general and detailed reports as would enable the office to correct abuses, and submit such suggestions as, if adopted, would have a tendency to ameliorate the condition of the Indians.

The facility with which many of the chiefs, headmen and warriors are overcome by the temptations to which they are subjected, and thus induced to sign important papers without understanding their object or purport, has been productive of much evil. They are not generally corrupt, but become the simple tools of cunning, designing men. Indians are addicted to drinking and gambling, and these passions are ministered to by many of the traders and evil-disposed persons.

The cash system of payments is the root of most of the evils which attend the Indian trade; but its success has been only partial, owing to the powerful resistance of the traders. If a well-regulated system could be introduced among them, by which they could obtain, at cost price, what would be, under fixed rules and regulations, deemed essential to their comfort, and all the licenses were withdrawn from the traders, a stronger hope of their civilization and domestication might be entertained. The license system is an incubus upon all healthful action in their behalf, and, until abandoned, will continue to demoralize and enervate them.

A more simple and efficient civil and criminal code should be provided for them, and a cordial cooperation of the States and Territories in which they are located invoked.

The slightest conflict of jurisdiction or policy leads to disastrous consequences, and should be sedulously avoided.

For some of the tribes permanent homes have been established, and many of the Indians have contracted habits of industry, sobriety, and economy. The effect of this upon the whole is very perceptible and encouraging.

These tribes, however, are increasing, their mode of life improving, and they are being rapidly prepared for the healthful exercise of the privileges, and the proper discharge of the duties, of good citizens.

During the past year, many of the tribes west of the Mississippi have had to contend with the most untoward circumstances, and it is really extraordinary that they have not been utterly dispersed, they have yet under the severest adversity, exhibited a degree of fortitude and forbearance well worthy the imitation of many of the whites, who boast of their superior moral and mental culture.

Few of us would go unresistingly, have permitted ourselves to be unceremoniously thrust from our homes and deprived of our fire-lands. They are incessantly pressed by the whites, who, under the plea of necessity, exercise their superior sagacity in devices to invade their rights and degrade them of their property.

We must, however, provide for the existing state of things; and a recurrence to the events that have transpired in connection with them for the last few years, will show that a condition of affairs has arisen that never was contemplated, and could not easily have been anticipated. This cannot be changed without an attempt to stay the onward progress of our people, which would be fruitless. The mode of treatment must be adapted to their present peculiar condition, and the policy a fixed one, as it is not likely the character of the circumstances by which they are now surrounded will ever change.

Many years have not elapsed since it was considered that a mixed occupancy of the same territory by the white and red man was incompatible with the safety and happiness of either. A remedial policy was adopted, and the removal of the Indians west of the Mississippi river determined upon. A guaranty was given them that they should have exclusive possession of that country forever, exempt from all intrusion of white men, with ample provisions for their security against external violence and internal commotions, and the extension to them of suitable facilities for their advancement in the arts of civilization. The country was congratulated by one of your predecessors upon their removal to their new homes, and the dawning to them of a new and happy era was publicly proclaimed. But this guaranty has not been fulfilled, and that preparation has not yet arrived. A quarter of a century has not elapsed before the same state of things, so much deplored, is found to exist, and the evil that was intended to be remedied, appears in a far more appalling form. The strong arm of the government is constantly invoked to stay its progress, and the guaranty is continually being repudiated to us for faithful performance. Our only reply to all the appeals made is, that the force of circumstances has rendered it impracticable.

Congress has been generous in its more re-

cent appropriations for the benefit of the Indians, and displayed a commendable spirit in aid of their reclamation. The only increase desirable is in what is usually denominated the civilization fund, being an annual appropriation by the act of March 3d, 1819, of \$10,000. This might have been sufficient then but it is not so now.

Whoever will study their history, in connection with the conduct of our people, will not be so much surprised at many of the outrages they commit. They are savages, and are seldom taught to discriminate between white men. Individually, with them, in case of a wrong, is out of the question. Indian disturbances are too often traceable to the indiscretions and aggressions of white men. We have reliable reports of such cases, and of the most murderous and unprovoked attacks upon them when entirely defenceless. Notwithstanding the Mississippi was established as a boundary to their country, our people have passed it, and seized upon their choicest lands, and are encroaching on the aboriginals to the narrowest limits.

For the Democratic Review for December. Why every Man should be a Politician.

Never be last at a feast nor first at a fray. Sound philosophy. Our good folk, our worshippers of the almighty dollar seem to interpret the adage thus: Never be first to undertake a service to your country, nor last to abandon upon those who do. To them, money-making is a perpetual feast; politics a perpetual fray.

Stop and think, gentlemen. Is not your money making so intimately bound up with politics that, as a mere calculation of business, it would be well for you to try and get at the principle of the thing? We mean no disrespect to the men who are powerful upon "Change"—no slur at the spirit of trade. To that spirit of enterprise we owe our present unparalleled march of empire. But we are forced to speak the truth. Something more powerful than our will, always compels us to say what we believe or know. It is, therefore, a remarkable fact, gentlemen, rich men, great merchants, magistrates, that the mechanic, the tradesman, the laboring man in America is commonly a better reasoner in politics than you—any of you—think. He reasons out things for himself. By a shrewd, though often rude logic, he arrives at great truths which altogether escape your finer sense. Thus he is almost invariably a Democrat; for Democracy is the logical sequitur of all just political reasoning. Thus, too, the hard-fisted are no lovers of "isms"; no followers of new prophets; no stinklers for small distinctions. They stand upon broad ground. Their Democracy is national; it is American; it embraces the continent; it ignores imaginary geographical lines; it is universal and catholic. As such, it is the first, the last, and every part of real greatness, and the people always discover it in the end, its counterfeits never long impose upon them. So it happens that the great men of the people—their idols—such, for instance, as Andrew Jackson, are in their lifetime commonly hated by you, rich and busy traffickers. You have not time to stop and see into the character of such a man as the people have. You are in too great haste to be rich at the expense of the people, and he, or such as he, put stumbling blocks in your way, by removing the impediments from your "United States Banks," or setting up "Sub-Treasuries" wherein the people's money may be kept for the people's uses, instead of Mr. Biddle's and the "financiers'." But, lo! you! when he is dead, when he has had "quiet consumption," and "malice domestic" how you renounce his grave! It becomes one of your Meccas. You make pilgrimages to it. Applaud his virtues to the echo. You would even give five dollars to raise a monument to him, so liberal is your late learned admiration. What! have you forgotten, Dive, that he was a Democrat, a very Titan of Democracy, sealing the heaven of your exclusive privileges and pulling the Jews from their marble Olympus in Chestnut street? Have you forgotten "Perish credit perish commerce," but let the Republic live pure and undefiled; the great principles of man's eternal rights live on immortal? Come, those times are worth thinking of. It is worth your while, too, to inquire curiously how you came to miss the light which was in them, and never see it till its aureole hung above the quiet grave of the Hermitage! You missed it by being poor politicians.

To be a good one, it needs that you should love your fellow man, and have a little respect for the golden rule of Him who gave the charge, "Little children, love one another." To be a good one, it needs that you should be interested in the political movements of the day for some great object, some purpose sanctified by principle, and not "to be stirred in without great argument."

The time we live in, the country we inhabit, the duties we owe her, the complications, foreign and domestic, in which the turn of the die may involve her, call for activity of thought and action. He who sits down by the wayside to-day to enjoy life as a pleasure, and drink his wine and gossip with the tramp and noise of the great crowd, surging past him on the march, under new leaders, and rushing to possess the world in the intoxication of new ideas of victories to be achieved over all established principle of human association. Who knows? Do you, great man? Do you, dabbler by the wayside? Do you, whose desire is to be let alone in the enjoyment of your pleasant things who knows how far the Mine has penetrated beneath the soil whereon ye walk? Have you more energy of liberty itself put in extreme jeopardy. We should not be worthy sons of our fathers, were we so to regard great questions affecting the general freedom. Does not that teach the lesson, that in every thing which affects any, all should be interested? that for the rights of all, all should watch, and work, and pray?

The price of liberty is not only eternal vigil-

ance; it is eternal activity also. It is not enough to know truth, or foresee danger. It is necessary to act the one, and to confront the other.

It is our province to support a party, and discuss political issues; but we do so because it is the solemn conviction of our reason and our hearts that the Democratic party is worthy of all good men's support, and the issue which it makes with all other parties such as will bear the nearest scrutiny, and come out the more strongly fortified and built up in their integrity by the widest latitude of discussion.

The question of the administration of Federal Government is already before the country. Not many months, and it will be decided upon what principles that Government shall be conducted for the next four years.—Already Know Nothingism, Abolitionism, Black Republicanism, and all their intermediate shades and types of dangerous heresies, are beginning to stir the passions, and attempt to warp the judgment of the people. Should either succeed to power, farewell to the greatness—farewell to the happiness of America.

Shall these poisonous shoots be grafted upon the old American tree? Or are you better satisfied with the flavor of the good fruit is bore our fathers, and upon which we have thriven and grown fat as a nation? You must look at these things. You cannot escape them. Be wise, therefore, in time. Until this fatal proclivity towards mediæval errors—this crab like movement backward—is arrested let every American citizen be a politician.

S. W. C.

A Romantic Incident.

A SOLDIER who was present at the capture of Sebastopol, related in a letter to his friends, the following romantic story:

A party of men, belonging to different regiments, were paroling from house to house in search of plunder. In one of the houses they came across a beautiful young female, about seventeen or eighteen years of age. Of course, some ignorance was shown amongst the party, who commenced to drag her about, and would have used violence to her, had not a young man threatened to blow the first man's brains out that laid a finger on her, whereupon the young woman flew to this man, and clung to him for protection. She followed him all the way back to the camp, when, coming in sight of his camp he beckoned her to return—but no, she would not leave him. Whether she had fallen in love with him at first sight I don't know, but she came to camp with him. As soon as he got there he was instantly confined for being absent when the regiment was under arms.—She followed him to the guard tent, and cried after him. The colonel of his regiment, seeing the affection she bore him, released him, and sent them both to Gen. Harris, where an interpreter was got, and she related the whole affair to them. It turned out that she was a general's daughter with some thousands. She was beautifully attired and carried a gold watch, and wore a set of bracelets of immense value. The young man is about to be married to her. She will not leave him upon any account whatever, and if he is not a lucky dog, I don't know who is."

Hope.

The anchor of the soul is Hope. Were it not for hope the heart would oftentimes break under the heavy weight of woe it is doomed to bear. It is the sun and moon of this world, the day star of existence. Ever are we living in hope. When tossed on beds of sickness we hope to recover; when sad and weary of life we hope to be again happy when in trouble, we hope the cause will be removed—when separated from friends, we hope soon to meet them. The weary soldier, worn with incessant toil and privations, is cheered by the hope of being soon restored to home and friends—the hope of a plentiful harvest encourages the husbandmen to till the soil—the hope of finding "the buried spoil" its wealthy furrows yield, sustains the scholar as he ploughs the field of "classic lore"—the hope of acquittal, pardon, or escape sustains the prisoner in the gloomy cell, as he tosses restlessly on his pallet of straw, or pines in agony the cold damp floor. But the Christian's hope! It is the hope of hopes! Every other hope fades before that as the stars before the sun in his rising from the ocean.—That is the only hope which extends beyond the gloomy portals of the grave. All other hopes are earthly, and soon alas! they fade away. This hope enables us to bear the bitter disappointments, cares and sorrows of this dark world with fortitude, and low truly blessed is he who possesses that glorious hope which fadeth not away but brightens through eternity.

Evening.

There are two periods in the life of man in which the evening hour is peculiarly interesting; youth and old age. In youth we love its mellow moonlight, its million of stars, its soothing shades and sweet serenity.—Amid these scenes, we commune with those we love, and twine the wreath of friendship, while there are none to bear witness but the gorgeous heayens, and spirits that hold their endless Sabbath there. We look abroad upon creation, spread in the slumber moonlight scene around; and wrapped in contemplation, we see and hear "the waving wings of purer and better worlds." It accords with the light flow of youthful spirits, the fervency of fancy and the feelings of the heart. Evening is also delightful to virtuous old age. It affords food for undisturbed thought. It seems an emblem of the calm and tranquil close of a busy life, serene and mild, with the impress of the creator stamped upon it. It spreads its quiet wings above the grave and seems to say that all shall be peace beyond it.

Life is made up, not of great sacrifices or duties, but of little things, in which smiles and kindness and small obligations given habitually, are what win and preserve the heart, and secure comfort.

The price of liberty is not only eternal vigi-