

STRENGTHEN THE WEAK POINTS. RAIL ROAD MEETING.

At a large and respectable meeting of the citizens of Franklin, Morris & West, to-wit, on Wednesday, the 27th February, in pursuance of notice.

Mr. Robert Moore, (Ironmaster) was called to the chair; John McPherron, V. President; Alexander Stewart, Secretary.

On motion of S. Miles Green Esq; a committee of eight was appointed by the Chair, to draft a preamble and resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting.

Whereupon, S. Miles Green Esq, Mr. John Isett, James Wilson, Hugh Sudds, Jno Davis, Samuel McPherron, Adam Keith, and J. B. Mathias, were appointed said committee—Who after a short interval, reported as follows.

Whereas, we have looked on with deep and anxious solicitude, for years past, at the precarious navigation that has existed from westward of the mouth of the Little Juniata; westward, as far as Hollidaysburg, along the line of the Pennsylvania canal.

And Whereas, we know from personal inspection, and have often regretted the scarcity of water, for many miles east of Hollidaysburg, rendering navigation almost useless, even to empty boats; for weeks together, in the months of September, October and November.

And Whereas, the extensive breach, and almost total annihilation of the entire canal, of dams, bridges, locks, aqueducts tow-paths, &c., in June last; loudly and fearfully warn us, to prepare for similar occurrences;

And Whereas, Had not the said catastrophe, occurred, last season, to interrupt the navigation—experience has informed us, that the draught would have closed the navigation from the Water Street dam to Hollidaysburg, beyond all doubts, a distance of nearly thirty miles.

And Whereas, after the repairs had been completed, from Hollidaysburg east, as far as Peter Good's, a distance of eight or ten miles, some weeks before the winter season set in, and although a large amount of merchandise had been deposited there by waggons from Huntingdon, below the breach. Yet, not one pound of it could move west, towards its destination; because the canal thence to Hollidaysburg was almost a 'dry ditch.'

And whereas, the extensive improvements in the West, to wit, the Ohio canal, connected with the Mahoning, the Sandy and Beaver canal, and the Erie extension are fast hastening to a completion. The various and immense amount of produce for transportation on these several canals will necessarily seek the Atlantic board for a market—we as citizens of Pennsylvania, imbued, we hope, with a proper spirit—"ambitious and proud to see" our Keystone State take the van in the march of internal improvements—should greatly regret, and feel deeply chagrined, to see the products of the West, and the vast amount of Merchandise from the East, pass through any other channels, than those of our own canals and rail ways.

And whereas, we have read with much interest a communication published in the U. S. Gazette of the 12th inst., over the signature of "Publius,"—the ideas therein advanced, fully corresponding with our own, as to the mode and manner of "strengthening the weak point" along our canals, believing that a Reservoir at Johns town, and a Rail way from Hollidaysburg via the Tuckahoe Valley to Tyrone Forge, thence down the little Juniata River to Huntingdon, are the most feasible and permanent way to accomplish this much desired and all important improvement.

And whereas, we believe the Commonwealth to be greatly interested in the construction of this contemplated Rail Road. Not only on account of its making a direct permanent improvement from Philadelphia to Pittsburg—but because, it will be the means of almost uniting the West Branch Canal, by the Spring Creek and Bald Eagle Canal (or Burnside's Canal) the intervening distance, from the Borough of Milesburg, in Centre County, via the Bald Eagle Valley being only about twenty miles, and along an almost perfect plane.

And whereas, should the said Rail way be constructed, there will be an immense amount of tonnage thrown upon it—to wit, from a pretty accurate estimate, of the Manufactories alone, immediately on its line, in Huntingdon County—there will be 23275 Ton of Bloom Iron, pig metal, Ore, &c. annually—all of which are now conveyed by waggon to the canal and Portage Rail Road. Therefore

Resolved, That petitions be prepared to be presented to the Legislature, and circulated for signatures, setting forth the desire of the citizens of this commonwealth on this subject of repairing the "weak point along the canal," and that our said

petitions as soon as they are filled, be forwarded to our respective representatives in both houses of the Legislature—who are hereby earnestly requested to urge the same, and use every exertion to obtain a law, authorising an appropriation of money, for the location and construction of the said Rail Road, as far as possible the ensuing session.

Resolved, That copies of the proceedings of this meeting be forwarded to our representatives at Harrisburg—That the same be published in the respective papers of this county, and all others friendly to the desired improvement—and that the chairman and secretary be a committee for that purpose.

ROBERT MOORE Pres't. JOHN McPHERRON, V. P. ALEX. STEWART, Secretary.

FROM THE BOSTON ATLAS. HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM MAINE.

THE STATE IN ARMS! [Correspondence of the Atlas.] SENATE CHAMBER, AUGUSTA, February 18, 1839.

The crisis has at length arrived and Maine is in arms to sustain her honor and the integrity of her soil. An express has arrived this morning bringing an official communication from Sir John Harvey in which he says he shall repel invasion—he says that he "claims EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION."

Eight Thousand Troops have been ordered out to carry into execution the Resolve passed by the Legislature of Maine, which was to seize the trespassers and the lumber cut on the disputed territory. McLaughlin, the land Agent of the Province has been arrested, and is now at Bangor. The greatest excitement prevails, and a fixed determination to sustain our rights at all hazards.

[Correspondence of the Atlas.] State House, Augusta, Monday, Feb. 18, 1839.

A special Messenger arrived here last night from Sir John Harvey, Lt. Governor of the Province of New Brunswick. He has been sent to demand of our Governor that the forces of this State, that have been sent to arrest the trespassers on the Aroostook, &c. shall be immediately returned from HER MAJESTY'S DOMINIONS. The Messenger from Sir John Harvey informs our Governor that Mr. McIntire, our Land Agent, is at Frederickton, and that he will be retained there by order of the Provincial Government.

From the Aroostook I learn that Mr. McLaughlin, the Warden of the disputed territory, appointed by Sir John Harvey, came to No. 10 on the Aroostook, where our forces are stationed, and commanded them to leave the territory forthwith.—Capt. Rines, who was in command, arrested him and sent him to Bangor, where he arrived yesterday. Gov. Fairfield has directed Gen. Hodgdon to order out one thousand of his division to proceed forthwith to the support of our forces on the Aroostook—two hundred men are now there, and Sheriff Strickland has enlisted five hundred men by order of the Governor, who are on their way there—sixty of them left town yesterday, making in all a force of seventeen hundred men now at, and ordered to, the vicinity of the Aroostook.

Our Governor has this morning issued orders to each of the Commanding Officers of the eight Divisions of the Militia of this State, to order one thousand men to be drafted from each of their respective divisions, to hold themselves in readiness to be called into actual service.

From the Augusta Journal. IMPORTANT.

One thing seems clear, however, that he claims to exercise exclusive jurisdiction over the territory where these trespasses were committed. Now as the territory is in the counties of Penobscot and Washington, on townships located fourteen years ago, in the vicinity of the Aroostook river, where Maine and Massachusetts has exercised jurisdiction for half a century, we think this question of jurisdiction should be met on one, and if after Mr. Rogers has had an interview with Gov. Harvey, he shall not immediately release the Land Agent, or if he shall attempt to repel the American force by British troops, let us have the issue at once. Let the sword be drawn and the scabbard be thrown away, and if the General Government at Washington will not sustain us, let us call Massachusetts to our aid, and beat up for volunteers in all the other States.

We have suffered indignities and insults enough. If our Land Agent cannot be sent to protect the property of the State from thieves, without being seized as a culprit, and put into the Frederickton jail, it is time that we showed a little of the spirit of '76, and not only rallied to defend our territory, but peradventure demolish the prison at Frederickton, which has for years been a standing monument of our disgrace.

Governor Fairfield, on Sunday sent a special message to Washington, and issued orders calling out one thousand men from the Eastern Division of the Militia of this State.

A volunteer corps of 50 men left this town on Sunday forenoon, under the command of Capt. John Ford, an energetic and efficient man.

If we must come to blows, let there be no child's play—no backing out. Let officers have the command who are brave and discreet; who will not waste human blood needlessly, but above all, who will not bring dishonor on the State.

The first news we had of the capture of the Land agent by the trespassers, and their offer to exchange prisoners by swapping him, or his Aid, Cushman, for a yoke of steers, was well calculated to throw an air of ridicule over the expedition; but subsequent intelligence makes the matter far more serious for levity; and we hope our State authorities will take care to make a serious business of it at all events, and not permit it to be settled in a manner derogatory to our interest and honor.

FROM FREDERICKTON.

An express arrived here this morning, from Frederickton, bringing a letter to Gov. Fairfield, from Sir John Harvey, in which he informs the Governor, that he is instructed by his Government, to exercise exclusive jurisdiction over the disputed Territory, and that he shall do it! He requests Gov. Fairfield to withdraw the force sent to drive off the trespassers, and says, should the request not be complied with, he has a strong force in readiness to march to the ground and accomplish the object.

Gov. Harvey expresses a strong desire for Gov. Fairfield to withdraw his force, and we suppose, thus spare him the necessity of causing the "star spangled banner," to droop before the "cross of St. George." The insolent position assumed by Gov. Harvey in his letter, if backed up by the Government at home, will add another to the already numerous titles of the Queen, viz.—P. O. P. (Protector of Poachers,) which will range very well along side of D. F. (defender of the faith.)

Thus has the cloven foot at length showed itself, and John Bull has slipped his muzzle. The astounding determination of the British Government to maintain EXCLUSIVE jurisdiction over the disputed territory, has at length peeped out.

We understand that the Governor has communicated the information received to the Legislature, and that they will take such a course as will vindicate the insulted honor of the State, and secure to Maine her just rights, and we have no doubt, from the feeling here, that they will be nobly sustained, however energetic may be the measures adopted, by an outraged and indignant people.

BANGOR, Sunday, 12 o'clock, M.

Maj. Gen. ISAC HOODGON, of the 3d Division of the Militia of Maine, has been ordered by the Commander in Chief, to detach one thousand men from the Division under his command, and proceed at the earliest possible moment to the place occupied by the force under command of the Land Agent, to aid him in carrying into effect the resolve of the 24th of January, in relation to the trespassers on the public lands.

Gen. Hodgdon, with a promptness that deserves all praise, has issued his orders for the troops to be at Bangor, the place of rendezvous, in readiness to march on Wednesday morning at 8 o'clock.

Each man detached has by law, 24 hours in which to obey the summons or supply his place with a substitute. The Independent Companies of this city are ordered out entire.

Gen. Hodgdon has also given notice to the Selectmen of the several towns in this county, that the Officers, non-Commissioned Officers and Privates, have been ordered into actual service by the Commander in Chief, they will cause said detachments to be attended on their march with suitable rations, camp utensils and equipage for their use, until they shall be notified by the Commanding Officer of the detachment to desist.

From the Globe.

The troubles in Maine.

The message of the President, which we publish below, was received by both branches of Congress without the utterance of a dissenting opinion from the views it contains. In the Senate, (whose session we attended,) Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Webster, Mr. Davis, Mr. Clay, Mr. Walker, Mr. Norvell, and Mr. Williams, successively commented upon the message and documents. There was great unanimity of feeling, and scarce a shade of difference in opinion as it regards the policy indicated, on either side of the House Mr. Clay threw out the idea that the President ought to have taken the matter directly in hand, as the national authority without addressing himself to the local authorities of Maine. It seems to us that the mode adopted was the only one practicable, for the head of the National Government. He could only interpose by appealing to the State Government, or that of Great Britain; and the latter is too far off to be reached in time.

Some regrets were expressed by several Senators, on both sides of the Chamber, that the Governor of Maine had not notified his intention to remove the trespassers to the Governor of New Brunswick. Mr. Walker threw out a suggestion, which seems to us a sufficient answer to the objection. Mr. Walker said, that a right to exclusive jurisdiction had never been set up before by the British Government. The order to assert it, he said, was a secret in Maine. The exercise of a concurrent jurisdiction, by a party entitled to it, required no notice.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT.

To the Senate of the United States:

I lay before Congress several despatches from his Excellency the Governor of Maine, with enclosures, communicating certain proceedings of the Legislature of that State, and a copy of the reply of the Secretary of State, made by my direction, together with a note from H. S. Fox, Esq. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Great Britain, with the answer of the Secretary of State to the same.

It will appear from those documents that a numerous band of lawless and desperate men, chiefly from the adjoining British Provinces, but without the authority or sanction of the Provincial Government, has trespassed upon that portion of the territory in dispute between the United States and Great Britain which is watered by the river Aroostook, and claimed to belong to the State of Maine; and that they had committed extensive depredations there by cutting and destroying a very large quantity of timber. It will further appear that the Governor of Maine, having been officially apprized of the circumstances, had communicated it to the Legislature, with a recommendation of such provisions, in addition to those already existing by law, as would enable him to arrest the course of said depredations, disperse the trespassers, and secure the timber which they were about carrying away; that in compliance with a resolve of the Legislature, passed in pursuance of his recommendation, his Excellency had despatched the land agent of the State, with a force deemed adequate to that purpose to the scene of the alleged depredations, who, after accomplishing a part of his duty, was seized by a band of the trespassers, at a house claimed to be within the jurisdiction of Maine, whither he had repaired for the purpose of meeting and consulting with the land agent of the Province of New Brunswick, and conveyed as a prisoner to Frederickton, in the province, together with two other citizens of the State, who were assisting him in the discharge of his duty.

It will also appear that the Governor and Legislature of Maine, satisfied that the trespassers had acted in defiance of the laws of both countries, learning that they were in possession of arms, and anticipating (correctly as the result has proved) that persons of their reckless and desperate character would set at naught the authority of the magistrates, without the aid of a strong force, had authorized the sheriff, and the officer appointed in the place of the land agent, to employ at the expense of the State, an armed posse, who had proceeded to the scene of these depredations, with a view to the entire dispersion or arrest of trespassers and the protection of the public property.

In the correspondence between the Governor of Maine and Sir John Harvey, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of New Brunswick, which has grown out of these occurrences, and is likewise herewith communicated, the former is requested to recall the armed party advanced into the disputed territory for the arrest of trespassers, and is informed that a strong body of British troops is to be held in readiness to support and protect the authority and subjects of Great Britain in said territory. In answer to that request the Provincial Government is informed of the determination of the State of Maine to support the land agent and his party, in the performance of their duty, and the same determination, for the execution of which provision is made by a resolution of the State Legislature, is communicated by the Governor to the General Government.

The Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick, in calling on the Governor of Maine for the recall of the land agent and his party from the disputed territory, and the British Minister in making a similar demand upon the government of the United States, proceed upon the assumption that an agreement exists between the two nations conceding to Great Britain, until the final settlement of the boundary question, exclusive possession of, and jurisdiction over, the territory in dispute. The important bearing which such an agreement, if it existed, would have upon the condition and interests of the parties, and the influence it might have upon the adjustment of the dispute, are too obvious to allow the error upon which this assumption seems to rest to pass for a moment without correction. The answer of Secretary of State to Mr. Fox's note, will show the ground taken by the Government of the United States upon this point. It is believed that all the correspondence which has passed between the two governments upon this subject has already been communicated to Congress, and is now on their files. An abstract of it, however, hastily prepared, accompanies this communication. It is possible that in thus abridging a voluminous correspondence, commencing in 1825 and continuing to a very recent period, a portion might have been accidentally overlooked; but it is believed that nothing has taken place which would materially change the aspect of the question as therein presented.

Instead of sustaining the assumption of the British functionaries that correspondence disproves the existence of any such agreement. It shows that the two Governments have differed not only in regard to the main question of title to the territory in dispute, but with reference also to the right of jurisdiction, and the fact of the actual exercise of it in different portions thereof. Always aiming at an amicable adjustment of the dispute, both parties have entertained and repeatedly urged upon each other a desire, that each should exercise its rights, whatever it considered to be, in such a manner as to avoid collision, and ally, to the greatest practicable extent, the excitement likely to grow out of the controversy. It was in pursuance of such an understanding that Maine and Massachusetts, upon the remonstrance of Great Britain, desisted from making sales of lands, and the General Government from the construction of a projected military road in a portion of the territory of which they claimed to have enjoyed the exclusive possession; and that Great Britain, on her part, in deference to a similar remonstrance from the United States, suspended the issue of licenses to cut timber in the territory in controversy, and also the survey and location of a rail road through a section of country over which she also claimed to have exercised exclusive jurisdiction.

The state of Maine had a right to arrest the depredations complained of; it belonged to her to judge of the exigency of the occasion calling for her interference; and it presumed that had the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick been correctly advised of the nature of the proceeding of the State of Maine, he would not have regarded the transaction as requiring, on his part, any resort to force. Each party claiming a right to the territory and hence to the exclusive jurisdiction over it, it is manifest that, to prevent the destruction of the timber by trespassers, acting against the authority of both, and at the same time avoid forcible collision between the contiguous Governments during the pendency of negotiations concerning the title, resort must be had to the mutual exercise of jurisdiction to such extreme cases, or to an amicable and temporary arrangement as to the limits within which it should be exercised by each party. The understanding supposed to exist between the United States and Great Britain has been found heretofore sufficient for that purpose, and I believe will prove so hereafter, if the parties on the frontier, directly interested in the question, are respectively governed by a just spirit of conciliation and forbearance. If it shall be found, as there is now reason to apprehend, that there is, in the modes of constructing that understanding by the two Governments, a difference not to be reconciled, I shall not hesitate to propose to her Britannic Majesty's Government a distinct arrangement for the temporary and mutual exercise of jurisdiction, by means of which similar difficulties may in future be prevented.

But between an effort on the part of Maine to preserve the property in dispute from destruction by intruders, and a military occupation by that State of the territory, with a view to hold it by force, while the settlement is a subject of negotiation between the two Governments, there is an essential difference, as well in respect to the position of the State, as to the duties of the General Government. In a letter addressed by the Secretary of State to the Governor of Maine, on the first of March last, giving a detailed statement of the steps which had been taken by the Federal Government, to bring the controversy to a termination, and designed to apprise the Governor of that State of the views of the Federal Executive in respect to the future, it was stated, that while the obligations of the Federal Government to do all in its power to effect the settlement of the boundary question were fully recognized, it had, in the event of being unable to do so specifically, by mutual consent, no other means to accomplish that object amicably, than by another arbitration, or by a commission with an empire in the nature of an arbitration; and that in the event of all other measures failing, the President would feel it his duty to submit another proposition to the Government of Great Britain, to refer the decision of the question to a third power. These are still my views upon the subject, and until this step shall have been taken, I cannot think it proper to invoke the attention of Congress to other than amicable means for the settlement of the controversy, or to cause the military power of the Federal Government to be brought in aid of the State of Maine, in any attempt to effect that object by a resort to force.

On the other hand, if the authorities of New Brunswick should attempt to enforce the claim of exclusive jurisdiction set up by them, by means of a military occupation on their part of the disputed territory, I should feel myself bound to consider the contingency provided by the Constitution as having occurred, on the happening of which a State has the right to call for the aid of the Federal Government to repel invasion.

I have expressed to the British Minister near this Government a confident expectation that the agents of the State of Maine, who have been arrested under an obvious misapprehension of the object of their mission, will be promptly released; and to the Governor of Maine that a similar course will be pursued in regard to the agents of the Province of New Brunswick: I have also recommended that any militia that may have been brought together by the State of Maine, from an apprehension of a collision with the Government or the people of the British Province, will be voluntarily and peaceably disbanded. I cannot allow myself to doubt that the results anticipated from these representations will be seasonably realized. The parties more immediately interested cannot but perceive that an appeal to arms, under existing circumstances, will not

only prove fatal to their present interests but would postpone, if not defeat, the attainment of the main object which they have in view. The very incidents which have recently occurred will necessarily awake the Governments to the importance of promptly adjusting a dispute, by which it is now made manifest that the peace of the two nations is daily and eminently endangered. This expectation is further warranted by the general forbearance which has hitherto characterized the conduct of the Government and people on both sides of the line. In the uniform patriotism of Maine, her attachment to the Union, her respect for the wishes of the people of her sister States, of whose interest in her welfare she cannot be unconscious, and, in the solicitude felt by the country at large for the preservation of peace with our neighbors, we have a strong guaranty that she will not disregard the request that has been made of her.

As, however, the session of Congress is about to terminate, and the agency of the Executive may become necessary during the recess, it is important that the attention of the Legislature should be drawn to the consideration of such measures as may be calculated to obviate the necessity of a call for an extra session. With that view, I have thought it my duty to lay the whole matter before you, & to invite such action thereon as you may think the occasion requires.

M. VAN BUREN Washington, 25th Feb. 1839.

SUPERSTITION AND FOLLY. The following paragraph appears in a French paper, called the *Publicateur des Cotes du Nord*. On the 29th of October, about seven or 25 or 26 years, passed through Guingamp on her way to Bulat, upon a pilgrimage. She was walking on her knees, and was accompanied by two other women, who were provided with every thing which was necessary for her on her journey. She intended to make the passage to Bulat on her knees, and return barefooted to the Church of Notre Dame at Guingamp. The cause of this devotion is said to be as follows. The pilgrim belongs to the city of Lanvallon, and had served during six years as a domestic in the house of a lady of that country. About a year since the girl quitted this station, and her former mistress about a month since died. This lady, during her lifetime had the most entire confidence in her domestic, had recourse to her after death, and appearing to her day and night unceasingly, wrought her to make a pilgrimage for her, on her knees to Bulat. The girl went to the children of the deceased, and related to them these details, and at last obtained from them the necessary funds for the journey.

NEW STORE.



B. B. & W. MUMFRIE,

Would respectfully inform the citizens of this county, that they intend opening complete

Store of Entire New Goods.

In the borough of Huntingdon, in the building formerly occupied by the Huntingdon Bank, and lately by L. Gotta, opposite the store of Swoope and Son.

As soon as the navigation will permit, their supply of goods will be here, of which public notice will be given.

Their friends and the public in general are invited to call and examine for themselves. They may rest assured, that they will be enabled to sell on terms as moderate, as any other establishment.

Huntingdon, March 6, 1839.

PUBLIC SALE

WILL be sold at the residence of the subscriber, in Shirley township, Huntingdon county, on Thursday, and Friday, the 21st and 22nd of March next, the following property viz:—All his farming implements, consisting of

WAGGONS, PLOUGHS, HARROWS A CULTIVATOR, ONE WIND-MILL, A QUANTITY OF HORSE GEARS, AND SUNDRY OTHER ARTICLES.

ALSO—a cooking stove, and two ten plate stoves. ALSO

A Quantity of Potatoes by the bushel.

ALSO—A large variety of household, and kitchen furniture.

Sale will commence at ten o'clock on Saturday—a reasonable credit will be given.

JAMES LYON. March, 6th, 1839-31-p.

HORSE & BILLS,

With New & Beautiful Cuts, NEATLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY PRINTED At the Journal Office.