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WHOLE NO. 215.

THOS. W. ATKIN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS OF THE MESSENGER: Two Dollars and Fifty Cents per annum in advance...

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Elk Runners. Under this head the editor of the St. Louis Reveille relates the particulars of a wild, marvellous, and most singular chase...

The following extraordinary relation is literally true. It has been communicated to us by one of our oldest and most respectable citizens...

In the year 1818 the Missouri Fur Company had a post just below Council Bluffs, named Fort Linn...

One evening in July, the weather extremely warm, the grass high and almost unfurnished with meat...

On the 26th of the month, the weather was as usual, and the hunters were out...

John, or Sam, or Ben, or something that's plain and every day like, then you may send me to the work-house for thirty days or thirty years, if you like...

Had the race ended? No! For victory or death was the inward determination, and as yet neither had given way...

This feat brought upon D. an affection of the lungs, nor did he recover his strength for several years. He is still alive...

A plain, honest, and evidently a hard-working man, appeared before one of the Recorders for advice on a subject which was prying upon his mind...

Complainant—"Angelina Electricina Dewdropina, your honor, nothing more nor less. Don't you think that such a name is enough to kill the poor thing..."

Rec—"Well, it is impossible for me to inform you what effect the naming of children may have upon them, although I think that a more simple cognomen..."

Com—"I can't tell, sir. Sometimes I think the cheap novels she's been reading lately has set her head rambling and banished the cruel name, and then, again, perhaps the Coole niggers, who are death on these things, has put her up to it..."

Rec—"But she doesn't give all these names when addressing the child, does she?" Com—"Generally speaking she does, sir, but sometimes she calls it her dear little Dewdrop, for short..."

Great wealth and extreme poverty in one family. There lives, or rather subsists, in an old hovel on an obscure street in the metropolis, an infirm, destitute widow lady...

She encountered a succession of adversities; and finally, after a lapse of fifty years, was impelled, by dire necessity, to apply to the aged surviving brother of her first love...

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At a meeting of the Washington Temperance Society of the city of Raleigh, held at the City Hall, on the 9th of September, 1844, the following resolution was passed, viz:

Resolved, That we do earnestly invite our brethren and fellow-citizens throughout the state, to join us in a petition of the following tenor, viz:

Before the benevolent operations of our Temperance formations, it was well ascertained that thirty thousand premature deaths were annually the sad consequence of the free use of alcoholic drinks...

Under these considerations, we respectfully ask it of your wisdom and goodness to interpose your guardian authority in the premises, so far as to make it unlawful to retail spirituous liquors in our state...

WM. ASHLEY, President. PATRICK MCGOWAN, Sec. DAN TUCKER—This famous song has arrived in Scotland and is sung in the public streets after the following fashion:

From the Fayetteville Observer. Homestead Bill.

We publish this week a copy of this Bill as introduced into the Legislature. The copy we have was furnished by a friend from abroad. We commend it to the personal reflection of our fellow-citizens...

A BILL To secure a Homestead Freehold to the citizens of North Carolina.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That hereafter every citizen of this state, possessed of land in fee or for life...

Sec. II. Be it further enacted, That any person desiring the benefit of this act, shall file his or her petition to that effect in the County or Superior Court of the county where the land may lie...

Sec. III. Be it further enacted, That if any debtor shall be arrested, by virtue of a capias ad satisfaciendum, for any debt contracted as aforesaid, said debtor shall not be compelled to surrender or account for his homestead...

Sec. IV. Be it further enacted, That any conveyance by a husband, of his or his wife's homestead freehold, shall pass no interest or estate, unless the wife be a party thereto...

Sec. V. Be it further enacted, That all the crop made on said homestead shall likewise be exempt from execution.

Sec. VI. Be it further enacted, That all officers performing any duties under this act, shall be paid as for like services in other cases, and this act shall not be in force until the 1st January, 1840.

Population of the United States, according to the Census of 1840.

Table with 2 columns: State/Territory and Population. Includes Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, Michigan, Florida Territory, Wisconsin Territory, Iowa Territory, District of Columbia, and a Total of 17,062,500.

Political. The editor of the Portland Express has a post in his employ, a regular baphazard sort of a chap, who rattles off rhymes perfectly...

POLITICAL. Distribution Policy.

The subject extract from the speech of Mr. Goggin of Virginia, delivered during the last session of Congress contains fifteen unanswerable reasons for the adoption of the policy of distributing the proceeds of the public lands among the states...

1. It would improve thereby the agriculture of the country, and consequently benefit the planters and farmers, in opening to them many necessary facilities to market their produce...

2. This money received by the states, even if they owed no debt, would enable them to commence and complete various useful public works, such as roads, canals, bridges, &c., without any additional burdens on the people to construct them...

3. It would enable the states, also, to educate without cost or charge, if applied in that way, a number of the youth of the country, who may be unfortunately too poor to acquire otherwise the advantages of education or the benefits of common schools...

4. I am in favor of adhering to the disposition of the land fund among the states, because they alone have the right to apply it for such laudable objects as some of those I have enumerated...

5. Because, also, to raise at the present time a sufficient amount of money for these purposes, by direct taxation in the states, would be to impose too heavy a burden upon the people, when the states have this fund of their own, raised from the sales of their own lands...

6. The states having given up to the General Government the most productive and the least objectionable mode of taxation, that of laying duties on foreign goods, the United States can therefore command a larger revenue in proportion to their wants, and with less expense, than the several states in proportion to theirs...

7. The people will more cheerfully pay, more easily too, a duty on foreign goods, in order to raise revenue, than a high tax collected by the sheriff of each man in the community, at stated times, to supply the increased demands on the state treasury...

8. The distribution of this money among the states would remove one of the greatest, one of the most prominent, sources of political intrigue and management in the general elections for important offices in the Federal Government. Until it is made, the public lands will be a constant fund on which any candidate may attempt to draw for the purpose of influencing the votes of particular sections of the Union...

9. The distribution of the proceeds of the land among the states will lessen the chances of corruption in the Executive branch of the Government, as the interest of the states will cause the people at home narrowly to watch all its operations...

10. It will curtail the power and patronage of the Federal Executive, which has greatly increased within the last ten years, and ought to be diminished...

11. The money arising from the sale of these lands should be distributed, or the lands themselves may soon be taken by the states within which they lie, as has been already threatened, and the older states may then receive nothing...

12. The permanent adjustment of the plan of distribution, while it will curtail the power and patronage of the General Government, will increase the influence of the several states—an object we may well desire to see accomplished...

Another cogent reason which may be urged for the adoption of this policy is that the present tariff affords ample revenue for all the expenditures of the Government. The land money is so much surplus in the Treasury...

From the N. Y. Tribune. Silas Wright on Texas. Silas Wright recently made a speech at Seneca, of which the substance is given in the Columbus of that place. On the subject of Texas, he remarked—

is, but to go further was a very different thing. Still, in taking the ground he had, he did not oppose Annexation at a proper time and in a proper manner; and if Great Britain should attempt to take possession of Texas, he would forcibly resist her encroachments...

This Mr. Silas Wright is the gentleman whom the Polk and Texas Party nominated for Vice President—but who had too much sense to see himself to the desperate fortunes of James K. Polk...

PENNSYLVANIA.—A letter to the editors of the National Intelligencer from a distinguished citizen of Pennsylvania, in whose judgment they have entire confidence, says—

As to how Pennsylvania will cast her Presidential Electoral vote in the coming contest, I believe it is understood and ascertained by all well informed persons in politics, that she is as sure to give her suffrages for the Whig ticket as any state in the Union...

From the Whig Standard. Mr. Polk and the Revolutionary Pensioners. The friends of Mr. Polk have attempted, by an array of some of his votes on propositions connected with the pension laws, to prove that he was their supporter, and an advocate for thus doing justice to the veterans of the Revolution...

The first law which granted pensions to the revolutionary soldiers, passed in the year 1818. Upon its passage, the persons to whom it promised pensions became entitled to them as matter of right; and the Constitution, laws, and rules of both Houses required Congress to appropriate annually the money to pay them...

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The friends of Mr. Polk have attempted, by an array of some of his votes on propositions connected with the pension laws, to prove that he was their supporter, and an advocate for thus doing justice to the veterans of the Revolution. Newspapers, friends to his election, have even paraded the millions for which he voted in the form of appropriations to pay pensioners, during his long service in Congress, as proof of his friendship for these old soldiers, and his advocacy of the pension laws. This is but a part of the systematic misrepresentation and fraud, by which a bold and unscrupulous faction are attempting to impose him upon the confidence of the American people...

The first law which granted pensions to the revolutionary soldiers, passed in the year 1818. Upon its passage, the persons to whom it promised pensions became entitled to them as matter of right; and the Constitution, laws, and rules of both Houses required Congress to appropriate annually the money to pay them...

Members of Congress voted against the increase of the army and the navy, but after the laws making the increase had passed, as a matter of duty and of course, they voted the money to pay the persons who had enlisted under the authority of those laws. In like manner, those who had retained the pension laws, had no right after their passage to refuse the payment of the pensions under them, but in the discharge of a plain, common, and unquestioned duty, they always voted to appropriate the necessary sums. Mr. Polk, with many other gentlemen, voted for these annual appropriation bills, whilst they were hostile to the whole system of the pension laws. He never spoke or voted in favor of the passage of any pension law, and when he voted for an amendment, it was to render the bill odious to the House, and with the covert intent to defeat it. His career in Congress presents an unbroken force of evidence of his aversion to them all. This will be apparent from a short statement of his course upon the pension bills which were passed whilst he was in the House...

In 1823, a bill allowing pensions for life to the officers and such soldiers as had enlisted during the war of the Revolution, passed the Senate. It was thereupon reported to the House, and made its way through that body also by a vote of 115 to 85—Mr. Polk voting in the negative. [See Reg. Debates, vol. 4, part 2, p. 2670.]

The War Department had given a very stringent construction to the act of 1818. It had been decided to allow pensions only to such old soldiers as were unable to support themselves, and they were required not only to make oath to that fact, but also to prove it. This condition to the obtaining of pensions, was thought by many to be harsh and ignominious. General spirits revolted at the prospect of aged veterans, the conquerors of Burgundy and Cornwallis, who had come out of the long and bloody struggle with wasted property and constitutions, and worthless Continental money as their only pay, being required by the Government which they had founded, to law their manly spirits and establish their own pauperism before they were allowed to receive what was their right. To mitigate somewhat this injustice and shame, in 1830, a bill was introduced into the House, requiring pensions to be paid to those benefactors of their country and mankind, in all cases where their property, exclusive of their dwelling house, building and cartilage, household furniture, wearing apparel, tools of trade, and farming utensils, did not exceed the value of \$1,000, and dispensing with the proof in support of this point, &c. Mr. Polk spoke sometime against the passage of this bill; he also voted against it, but it passed the House notwithstanding by a vote of 122 to 66. [See Cong. Debates, vol. 6, part 3, p. 653.]

But the regulations of the War Department, which required the proof in support of this point, &c. Mr. Polk spoke sometime against the passage of this bill; he also voted against it, but it passed the House notwithstanding by a vote of 122 to 66. [See Cong. Debates, vol. 6, part 3, p. 653.]

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