

AMERICAN GEMS.

To our fair readers whose eyes sparkle with emulous lustre at the sight or description of the "bright jewels of the mine"...

From the fact that lapidaries give the name of oriental to all gems of peculiar beauty, we are led to the impression that no gems of value are found in this country.

If we may believe the legends of the hunters, New Hampshire has among her state-jewels a gem which surpasses those of the palaces of fairy tales...

But our gems do not exist only in fairy tales. The locality of the amethyst, one of the most beautiful of the gems, the ninth stone on the Jewish high priest's breastplate...

Of the other gems upon the pontifical breast-plate, the carbuncle, topaz, emerald, agate, beryl and jasper are found in this country.

The topaz is perhaps the most remarkable of the American precious stones, being found of a size unknown in any other part of the world.

The largest crystal known in Europe, weighs but seven ounces. Although crystals of this size have two many flaws to be valuable to lapidaries, smaller ones are found, which are much-estimated for jewellery.

The beryl and emerald are found in several localities, although the precious emerald is very rare. The most remarkable beryls in the world are those found in this country.

We cannot give any other interest to this catalogue of the American precious stones, than that which is associated with the date mention of the names.

It is only to the high claims of Mr. Clay, and to the supposed hold which he has in the affections of all parties, that such a concession is made.

The extensive catalogue of precious stones shows what is not always believed, that nature has bestowed upon this country, the minute and delicate, as well as the coarse and more massive treasures...

From the New York Advocate and Journal. THE NEXT PRESIDENCY.

We have always been among the number who thought the question of the next Presidency should be held in abeyance, and we think so still.

Our preferences, we have always clearly and unhesitatingly expressed, were for Mr. Clay, but, that entreating the highest esteem for Mr. Webster's abilities, and the utmost confidence in his patriotism and purity of intention...

Under this impression it may not be amiss for us to enquire, in anticipation, into some of the reasons which we suppose will affect the decision of the Convention, and determine its suffrages in favor of Mr. Clay.

In our own State, if the decision was left to party politics, Mr. Clay is decidedly the most popular; and we sincerely believe a majority of the Whigs prefer him to Mr. Webster—and with the Whigs ties all Mr. Webster's strength.

The Webster men, generally speaking, would hail Mr. Clay's elevation with pleasure, while it would be next to an impossibility to carry any portion of the Democratic party for Mr. Webster.

It is only to the high claims of Mr. Clay, and to the supposed hold which he has in the affections of all parties, that such a concession is made.

From the Commercial Transcript. Tremendous Conflagration. COOKE'S EQUESTRIAN ESTABLISHMENT DESTROYED BY FIRE!

Baltimore, February 2d, 1838. The Front Street Theatre is a heap of smouldering ruins. The whole of Cooke's stud of beautiful horses is destroyed.

FROM FLORIDA. SAVANNAH, February 8.

By the arrival of the steamer Camden, Captain Mills, from St. Augustine, we learn that a battle was fought on the 24th ult. on the Lache Hatchee, (Loche Hatchee) in which the Indians were defeated, though with the loss on the part of our troops, of nine killed, and thirty wounded.

Gen. Jesup is among the wounded, having received a severe flesh wound, said to have been in the face. Nothing is said of the loss of the enemy, though supposed to have been great.

A friend has furnished the following list of killed and wounded in this action. Of the artillery—killed—one corporal, company A, 3d artillery; one private, company H, do.

Wounded—one sergeant and one private, (severely,) company D, 3d artillery; one private, (severely,) company C, do; two privates, (one severely, and one slightly,) company H, do.

Of the 2d dragoons—wounded—one sergeant, (slightly,) company K. Of the battalion Tennessee Volunteers five were killed, 8 dangerously wounded, (2 since dead) and 15 slightly wounded.

Total killed—7; (died of wounds, 2)—9; wounded—30. Since writing the above we learn from Major M'Lean who is a passenger in the Camden, that on the evening of the 2d inst. an express arrived at Gary's Ferry, via Fort King, and it is reported there and believed that the express brought the information that runners had come in and informed the commanding officer that Alligator and Sam Jones had quarrelled, and had separated, and that Sam Jones with but 30 warriors, had left Alligator.

The runners stated that the Indians would be coming in at Fort Taylor, in large numbers, within three days. The impressions with many is that these accounts are founded in truth, as the Indians are generally scattered without leaders, some in small parties having very recently been in the vicinity of Volusia.

Major M'Lean further states that he learned from the commanding officer at Gary's Ferry, that Gen Jesup on the 26th ult. (subsequent to the action of the 24th) was at the head of the San Lucia river, on a large fresh trail, with well founded hopes of overtaking the enemy.

We have, subsequent to the receipt of the above information, had placed in our hands the following extracts of letters, which confirm the report of the battle above stated.

ST. AUGUSTINE, Feb. 3.

News received from Gen. Jesup's Army, by express this morning.—The substance of a letter received the 29th of January, 1838, says—"Jesup had a fight with the Indians. The Tennesseans generally behaved well." The number of the Indians considerably more than has been supposed. The Indians loss very trifling, as far as has been ascertained; their provisions, cattle and ammunition, ascertained to be plenty.

Another letter from an officer to a gentleman here dated at the place, 1st Feb., says:—"The southern express of this evening brings important news from the army. Gen. Jesup has had a hard battle with the Indians, he completely routed them. He was severely wounded in the action in the face, but still commands, and is in full pursuit of the enemy, who have fled south. He had 7 killed on the field and 32 wounded, 2 of whom are since dead. It is reported that Wild Cat is badly wounded. The battle was fought on the La-che-ha-be. This war must soon be ended now."

Nashville is fired upon by a vote of the Legislature as the seat of government for the State of Tennessee, till the year 1840. Nashville Paper.

WILMINGTON ADVERTISER.

Wilmington, N. C. Friday, Feb. 16th, 1838.

It will be seen by an article in to-day's paper, extracted from the Raleigh Register, that Gov. DUDLEY has acquiesced in the wishes of his friends that he would allow himself to be considered a candidate for reelection, in August next.

Professor Rogers, who has recently completed a geological survey of the State of Virginia, is now submitting to the people and Legislature of that State the results of his labors, in the form of lectures, at the city of Richmond.

The old "mansion-house," south of the Theatre, occupied by Mr. Murphy, as a tavern, caught from the flames, and was entirely destroyed. A stable adjacent to the Theatre occupied as the depository of the carriages, &c. of Mr. Cooke, was also destroyed.

The Tide turning.—By the schooner Olive, for New York, there was shipped, a few days ago, several bales of Cotton Yarn. This yarn was from a factory in this State, and we take it as an evidence that the article can be sent into the Northern markets in successful competition with their own manufacture.

Another Evidence of the Wealth of North Carolina.—It was stated in this paper a few months ago, that a lot of copper had been sent here from Guilford county, on its way to New York, to be tested in quality—the mine having been then recently discovered.

BELLS. There is now in the New York Custom House from 50 to 60 bells—the history of which is not a little singular. They were collected by Don Carlos from the churches and convents of Spain, and sold as old metal, for the purpose of replenishing his treasury; finding their way to Marseille, they were bought by an American gentleman, and shipped to New York.

By the following Circular, it will be perceived, that a most excellent and durably valuable work—suspended for a time for reasons below stated—is revived. We commend it to the regard of all, as well those whose interests it is especially devoted to, as to the general reader.

SIR. Circumstances, arising from the general depression of business, compelled us to suspend, in August last, the publication of the Railroad Journal, Mechanic's Magazine, and New York Farmer. After a much longer delay than was anticipated, when we suspended, we have again resumed the publication of the Journal—that of the New York Farmer will soon follow, and the volumes for each, for 1837, will be completed as early as possible.

The Railroad Journal for 1838, will be published in a form similar to the English periodicals, more convenient for preservation and reference, and will be more exclusively devoted to Internal Improvements, Science, and Mechanics, than heretofore. It will be published semi-monthly, and stitched in a cover, which will be used as an advertising sheet. We therefore desire to avail ourselves of Railroad and Manufacturers' advertising, and of your aid in extending its circulation.

Very respectfully yours, D. K. MINOR, G. C. SCHAEFFER. HENRY CLAY has been nominated for the Presidency by the General Assembly of Rhode Island.

From the Report of the President of the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad Company, made to the Stockholders, at their late annual meeting in Raleigh, we extract the following items, showing the progress of that work:

"The grading of 48 miles of the Road is now completed, with the exception of a few hundred yards, and the work executed in a manner highly creditable to the contractors and the Engineers entrusted with its supervision.

"The bridge at Gaston, which had just been commenced at the last meeting, is now completed within a span and a half, and would have been ready for the cars on the first of January, but from our disappointment in receiving timber which had been contracted for and procured on the lower Roanoke; but owing to the low water in the river, and the difficulty in obtaining transportation, it could not be brought up in time, notwithstanding every effort to do so.

"On the road between Roanoke and Tar River, there are five depots, viz. at Littleton, at Brown's, five miles north of Warrenton, at Lambkin's, opposite Warrenton; at Twitty's, and at Henderson's, about three miles south of the Chalk Level; all of which, with the water stations and wood houses, are nearly finished."

"The line from Tar River to Raleigh has been located. After crossing the River below Chavis's Ford, it runs by Persley Person's, near Winston & Kearney's store, crosses Cedar Creek and the two Brandies, runs through Wake Forest along the Baptist Institute and Alston's Store, crosses Neuse River, near Wm. B. Dunn's, thence by Robert Jeffrey's, crosses Crabtree, about 250 yards below Jones's Bridge, thence crossing the Stage road at the Pigeon House, it enters Raleigh in the rear of Thos. P. Devereux's, and terminates at Halifax Street, in the ravine between Mr. Devereux's and the Eagle Hotel."

James M. Giles, of this town, has been admitted to Superior Court practice.

Henry A. Muhlenburg has been nominated to the Senate as Envoy Extraordinary, and Minister Plenipotentiary to the court of Austria. This is, we believe, the first instance of diplomatic intercourse with the Austrian Government, since the adoption of the Federal Constitution. Our present, and fast growing trade with that country, and with those adjacent to it, renders it highly important that a diplomatic functionary should be sent there.

James Trotter has been elected U. S. Senator from the State of Mississippi, to fill the vacancy made by the resignation of Mr. Black.

The divers north of Baltimore, were at the last accounts, closed by ice.

From the Raleigh Register.

OUR NEXT GOVERNOR.

Public anxiety being much excited with regard to the question—"Who shall be our next Governor?"—the earliest occasion has been embraced since the return of Gov. DUDLEY from Wilmington, to ascertain his determination on the subject. We were confident we did not err in our estimate of the man, when, in reference to the proposed meeting at Greensborough, to nominate a successor, we stated our conviction that Governor DUDLEY would not refuse the use of his name to his political friends, if insisted on. And, it is with much gratification we now state, that our Governor has consented, notwithstanding the personal sacrifices which all his friends know that he makes, to defer to their wishes in this matter, and permit his name to be again put in nomination for the office. This announcement will quiet the public mind, and settle the question of the successorship; for we do not believe there is an individual in the State who can doubt as to the certainty of his reelection by a most triumphant majority. Our own opinion is, that Gov. DUDLEY has shown himself so independent of the trammels of mere party, in all his Executive acts, that the friends of the Administration will now unite with the Whigs in elevating him to the Chief Magistracy of the State. We hope this will be the case. But yet, it is due to the Whig party to say, that though they do not court opposition, neither do they FEAR it.

SUPERIOR COURTS.

The following is the arrangements of the Judges for the Spring and Fall Circuit.

Table with 3 columns: Spring, Fall, and names of judges (Edenton, Salisbury, Newbern, Hillsborough, Raleigh, Wilmington, Mountains, Settle, Baily, Saunders, Toomer, Pearson, Nash, Dick).