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The Oregon Question.

The discoveries of the British, by which a claim is set up to the Oregon territory, grew out of the passages made from the Atlantic to the Pacific, for the purpose of testing an opinion then prevalent, that a more direct route might be found to India, than by Cape Horn or Good Hope. Captain Cooke has the merit of the discovery. In 1776 he sailed, which was a year or more after the discovery of the coast by the Spaniards. Cooke's instructions were, to take possession of such situations as he visited, which had not before been discovered or visited by any European power. He was not to land upon any part of the Spanish dominions, nor to explore any rivers or inlets until he got into the latitude of 65. It was not until March 1778, that Cooke discovered Nootka Sound, and the same point had been reached by Juan Perez four years before, and which he called Port San Lorenzo. This, however, is claimed as an English discovery. There was evidence enough of this in the European utensils found here, but Cooke had the pride of the discovery too much at heart to tell the truth. It is held of course by the United States, that the Spaniards were the prior discoverers, and of course that the prior right rests with them.

The discovery of Vancouver is another upon which some stress has been laid. This was subsequent to the discovery made by Captain Gray, and before referred to. Vancouver admits that he did not know of the Columbia river until informed of it by Mr. Gray. The discovery was in May, '92. The expedition of Lewis and Clark was in 1805. This was planned by Jefferson, and money was provided by Congress. They crossed the Rocky mountains in October of 1805, descended the Lewis river in their canoes to its junction with the Columbia, and descended the Columbia to its mouth, where they arrived on the 11th of November. They built there accommodations for the winter, took abundant evidence of their visit, left on the 22d of March, 1706, and returned by the route they had pursued in going to the Columbia, the two Captains separating into two parties; Capt. Lewis exploring Clark's river and its principal branches, and Capt. Clark crossing over to Yellow Stone, which he descended to its junction with the Missouri, where the two again united. The next occupancy was on the head waters of the Lewis by the Missouri Fur Company, and this was the first post ever formed by white men in the country drained by the Columbia. This post was abandoned in 1810, when John Jacob Astor originated the Pacific Fur Company. Two parties were sent out, one by sea, round Cape Horn, in the ship Tonquid, which sailed from New York in 1810, and arrived at the Columbia in March, 1811, and the other from St. Louis. The mouth of the Columbia was occupied from March, 1811, until October, 1813, when information having been received that a British force was approaching forcibly to dispossess them, the managers sold all the establishments, furs, and property to the North west Company. In December, a British sloop of war arrived at Astoria, and the captain took possession, changing the American to the English flag, and naming the Fort there the Fort George. Up to this time, from '92, the actual possession as well as the prior discovery was with the Americans. This of itself is enough to establish the claim of the United States. Great Britain, however, is not now willing to admit the priority of the discovery by Capt. Gray. Alexander McKenzie, a British subject, it is said, discovered the northern branch of the Columbia at the time that Gray made his discovery. This the British make the strong ground of their claim. The testimony of McKenzie himself is the best authority to the claim of his government. He admits that he did not see the Columbia river until June, 1793, one month later than Gray. The river on which he spent the winter of '92 and '93, was east of the Rocky Mountains and in a different latitude. The river he visited was Peace river. He reached it, he says, in about 56 degrees north, and none of the sources of the Columbia are north of about 51.

There is one other point of claim by the British Government, and it is that Mr. Frazer and Mr. Thompson, the Astronomer of the North Western Trading Company, established forts on the head waters or main branch of the Columbia in the same year that Lewis and Clark made their exploration. Such is not the fact. In the spring of 1806, Frazer crossed the Rocky Mountains through the great gap near the forty-sixth degree of latitude, and the British trading post was established west of that chain, about two leagues far her south. Thompson did not visit the Columbia until 1811, and there is no evidence submitted that any British subject visited any of the waters drained by the Columbia prior to 1811.

There are a thousand facts in detail to strengthen these leading facts as to the justice of our claim and the pretensions set up by Great Britain.

THE HISTORY OF THE TERRITORY.—The bill before Congress is based upon this history. Though the British Government has hardly the shadow of a claim to the territory in dispute, it has exercised, and yet exercises, jurisdiction over the whole of it, and laws have been passed by the British parliament for this purpose. Its possessions already vast, are becoming more and more extended. The effect of this possession has been to overawe the new American settlements in the territory, to the influence the Indians against the Americans, and to monopolize almost the entire trade—the American Fur Company itself having at last been broken down by the Government monopolies of Great Britain, in a territory of right belonging exclusively to us. The Hudson's Bay Company, at this time, has an undisputed monopoly of all the fur trade north of the United States, from Hudson's Bay to the Pacific and Russian settlements. The same company have taken possession also of the most eligible spots on the Oregon. They have secured vast water privileges—erected factories and saw mills, and intend to make the trade in furs but a branch of their great business. They have made the Sandwich Islands and North Russia their market, and are leaving no stone unturned to drive us entirely out of the Pacific trade. And more than this, they send their trappers to California, through the acknowledged territory of the United States. In these marches through our borders, hundreds of defenceless Indians have been murdered, and in many instances, it is believed, without the least provocation. These are some of the grievances, now daily becoming worse, which have induced the proposed occupancy and settlement of the Oregon territory

OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED LAW.—The bill before Congress is opposed upon the ground that its provisions are against the convention of 1818. By the negotiation then entered into, it was stipulated that any country west of the Rocky Mountains should be free to both nations, and that the respective claims should rest for ten years on the ground on which the treaty of Nootka Sound placed Britain and Spain with regard to the same treaty.

The argument was renewed as a temporary arrangement in 1827, and remains on the bond of agreement now, each party being at liberty to renounce the arrangement after a year's notice. By the bill it is argued we violate the agreement, and take exclusive possession of the territory. The grants of lands proposed are considered as claiming the right of exclusive possession. Great Britain, it is said by Mr. Calhoun, is excluded from the whole territory in debate. Again it is argued that the legislation of Great Britain has looked only to the territory as hunting grounds for her subjects, and that licenses have been granted only for that purpose.

The answer to this are the grievances already referred to. Neither in the spirit nor the letter have the subjects of Great Britain observed this treaty. If it was intended as a hunting ground, it is a hunting ground no longer. The chase has ceased, and the settlements are permanent. Great Britain has done for years what the bill before Congress now proposes to do. So far, then, from violating the terms of the convention, the bill proposes only that the United States hereafter shall move *pari passu* with Great Britain in the occupation of a territory—ours by discovery—ours by exploration—by surrender—by title—and by treaty.—*N. Y. Express.*

We derive from a long letter in the National Intelligencer, the following attractive sketch of the territory beyond the Rocky Mountains, which has recently been the theme of debate in the United States Senate:

Within a few years, several Americans, of whom the writer of this notice is one, have crossed the Rocky Mountains to the north of the Columbia, with objects entirely unconnected with trade or commerce. Mine was the desire to see a new country, a love of adventure for its own sake, and an enthusiastic fondness for natural history.

The party with which I travelled, left Independence, Missouri, about the latter part of April, 1834, and arrived at the British Fort Vancouver in September, having performed the whole journey on horseback. From this time until October, 1836, with the exception of the first winter, which I passed at the Sandwich Islands, my residence was in the Territory of Oregon. Dr. McLaughlin, the chief factor, treated me with uniform and singular kindness, supplying all my wants, and furnishing me with every facility in the prosecution of my plans. This is, I believe, the uniform character of the superintendents of British forts in that country. Travellers, naturalists, and all who are not traders, are kindly and most hospitably treated; but the moment a visiter is known to trade a beaver skin from an Indian, that moment he is ejected from the community. The Company has a sum of money, amounting to several hundred thousand pounds sterling, laid aside at Vancouver, for the sole purpose of opposing all who may come to interfere with its monopoly, by purchasing at exhorbitant prices all the furs in possession of the Indians, and thus forcing the settler to come to terms, or driving him from the country. If it be an individual who is thus starved into submission, he then usually clears a piece of land on the Wallammet river, takes an Indian wife, and purchases furs of the natives, which, by previous contract, he is bound to sell to the Company, at an advance which is fixed by the Governor.

Fort Vancouver, the principal trading post of the Oregon, stands on the north bank of the river, about ninety miles from its mouth. The fort consists of several dwellings, store-houses, work-shops, &c.; all of frame, arranged together in a quadrangular form, and surrounded by a stockade of pine logs, about twenty feet in height. The fort has no bastions, and contains no armament. There are, to be sure, four great guns frowning in front of the Governor's mansion, two long eighteens, and two nine-pounders, but two of these have long been spiked, and the others are unfit for service.

The rainy season commences here about the middle of October, and continues until the first of April. During this period, the weather is almost uniformly dull, foggy, or rainy. Sometimes rain falls incessantly for the space of two or three weeks. Occasionally, during the winter months, there will be a slight fall of snow, and in the winter of 1835 and '36, the river was frozen over. This intensity of cold, however, continued but a few days, and was said to be very unusual. The general range of the thermometer (Fahrenheit's) during the season was from 36 deg. to 48 deg., but for three or four days the mercury was as low as 25 deg.

In the vicinity of Fort Vancouver, the cattle graze during the whole winter; no stabling or stall-feeding is ever requisite, as the extensive plains produce the finest and most abundant crop of excellent prairie grass.

In chosing a site for settlement on the main river, it is always necessary to bear in mind the periodical inundations. Fort Vancouver itself, although built upon a high piece of land, at the distance of six hundred yards from the common rise of the tides, is sometimes almost reached by the freshets in early spring. The soil here, on both sides of the river, is a rich black loam, the base being basaltic rock.

The face of the country from Fort George (Astoria) to Vancouver, a distance of eighty miles, is very much of a uniform character, consisting of alluvial medows along the river banks, alternating with forests of pine, oak, &c.; while behind are extensive plains, some of which receive estuaries of the river, while others are wattered by lakes or ponds. The pine forests are very extensive, the trees being of great size, and the timber extraordinarily beautiful. All the timber of the genus *pinus,* of which there are a great number of species, is gigantic. I measured, with Dr. Gardner, surgeon of the fort, a pine of the species Douglass, which had been prostrated by the wind. Its height was above two hundred feet, and its circumference forty five feet! Large as was this specimen, its dimensions are much exceeded by one measured by the late David Douglass. The height of this tree was nearly three hundred feet, and its circumference fifty-six feet! The cones of this pine, according to Mr. Douglas, were from twelve to fifteen inches in length, resembling in size and form sugar loaves. Oak timber of various kinds, is abundant along the river, as well as the buttonwood, balsam poplar, ash, sweet gum, beech, and many other useful kinds, but no hickory or walnut.

The Governor of Fort Vancouver, who is an active agriculturist, has exerted himself for several years, in raising whatever appears adapted to the soil. Wheat, rye, barley, peas, culinary vegetables of all kinds are raised in ample quantity.

Fruits of various kinds, apples, peaches, plums, &c., do remarkably well. I remember being particularly struck, upon my arrival at Vancouver, in the autumn, with the display of apples in the garden of the fort. The trees were crowded with fruit so that every limb required to be sustained by a prop. The apples were literally *packed* along the branches, and so closely, that I could compare them to nothing more aptly than to ropes of onions.

In the vicinity of Walla-Walla, or Ney Perces Fort, the country, in every condition, for many miles, exhibits an arid and cheerless prospect. The soil is deep sand, and the plain upon which the fort stands, produces nothing but bushes of dry aromatic wormwood. Along the borders of the small streams, however, the soil is exceedingly rich and productive and on these strips of land, the superintendent raises his corn, and the vegetables necessary for the consumption of his people.

The prong-horned antelope occasionally ranges these plains; the black tailed or mule deer is found in the vicinity; grouse of several species are very abundant, and the large prairie hare is very common. In the autumn and winter, in the vicinity of Fort Vancouver, ducks, geese, and swans swarm in immense numbers. These are killed by the Indians and taken to the fort as articles of trade. For a single duck, one load of powder and shot is given; for a goose, two; and for a swan, four loads. For a deer, ten loads of amunition, or a bottle of rum is the usual price.

Early in May, the salmon are first seen entering the river, and the Columbia and all its tributaries teem with these delicious fish. The Indians take great numbers by various modes—subsisting almost wholly upon them during their stay, and drying and packing them away in thatched huts, to be used for winter store. The salmon also form a chief article of food for the inmates of the fort and hundreds of casks are salted down every season.

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About twenty miles above this, in the Wallammet valley, is the spot chosen by the Methodist missionaries for their settlement, and here also a considerable number of the retired servants of the company have established themselves. The soil of this delightful valley is rich beyond comparison, and the climate considerably milder than that of Vancouver. Rain rarely falls, even in the winter season, but the dews are sufficiently heavy to compensate for its absence. The epidemic of the country, ague and fever, is rarely known here. In short, the Wallammet valley is a terrestial paradise, to which I have known some exhibit so strong an attachment as to declare that, notwithstanding the few privations which must necessarily be experienced by the settlers of a new country, no consideration could ever induce them to return to their former homes.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26, 1843. J. K. T.

Address to my Nose.

What leads me on, where e'er I go,
In sun and shade, in joy and woe,
Through fog and tempests, rain and snow?
My nose.

In youth's most ardent, reckless day,
And when arose disputes at play,
What would be foremost in the fray?
My nose.

And should my tongue rude blows provoke,
What would protrude and brave each stroke,
'Till coral streams its pain bespoke?
My nose.

And falling in an airy bound,
In chase of some new charm or sound,
To save me, what came first to ground?
My nose.

When some dark pass I would explore,
With neither shut nor open door,
What off for me, hard usage bore?
My nose.

And when in want I yearned to eat,
And hunger might my judgment cheat,
What prompted me to food most sweet?
My nose.

'Mid violet banks and woodbine bowers,
And woods where bloomed the fairest flowers,
What feeds me with their fragrant powers?
My nose.

Each eye may need, in age, a guide,
And when young helpmates I provide,
Thy back thou'lt lend for me to stride,
My nose.

And can I e'er, in care or glee,
Refuse my aid or love to thee,
Who thus has felt and bled for me?
My nose.

No; when cold winter's winds blow high,
And bite thee hard, and thou shalt cry,
Thy tears with sympathy I'll dry,
My nose.

And if for snuff thy love shall come,
Thy slaves, my finger and my thumb,
Shall faithful be, and bear thee some—
My nose.

Still, as I follow thee along,
Oh! may'st thou never lead me wrong;
But thou must hush our sleeping song—
My nose.

GEN. MARCO.

GERMAN ETIQUETTE.—The Germans are the original inventors and introducers of the Waltz; the Waltz is the national dance. It is the everlasting and never wearying dance of high and low life. Where there is a meetting of any merriment, there they are spinning round in this eternal whirl. Begin whatever dance they may, it is as sure to turn into a waltz as that night follows day. They must spin about together as if every twirl took them a degree further to felicity, and like the lark or the eagle, the highest point of the heaven of existence could only be reached by a gyration. Yet this dance has shocked all nations, and has not been anywhere introduced without a strong opposition from the more decorous and serious portion of the population, on account of the freedom, and even license of its action. Young men taking young women round the waist, and twirling them round the room like so many whirligigs, were regarded by decorous mammas and chaperones as very shocking fellows. Yet, would it be believed that these same German damsels, who waltz and spin away whole nights together with young men whom they never saw before, would be dreadfully shocked if one of these same young men, the day after, on setting out to take a public walk, in company with the father and mother and the whole family, or two or three families together, were to offer his arm! Young people, unless they are formally betrothed to each other, never think of such a thing as walking arm-in arm. This is so established and well known a fact, that in one of their plays, where a young lady, in order to make a young man in a fit of jealous anger commit himself irrecoverably with his affianced love, proposed that he should take a walk along the city street with herself, who is known also to be one of his friends, exclaims in horror—"What! walk arm-in-arm with a lady in public! Heavens! It were madness and destruction!"—*Howitt's Life in Germany.*

SINGULAR SCENE IN VIENNA.—In point of dress as well as manners, the Viennese depart much from the standard of other Germans. As in gayety so in fashion, Vienna disdains to borrow from Paris, but sets up a style and mode of its own. The ladies wear much lower dresses, greatly to the scandal of their fair sisters of more primitive states, who often blessed with very little neck by nature, seem to take pride in having none at all, setting up their shawls and pulling down their bonnets behind, till their heads seem literally to stand on their shoulders. The freedom which fashion can introduce, was curiously demonstrated while we were there. It was the rage for young ladies to learn to swim; and nothing was more common than in the baths near the Prater to see numbers of them coolly leaning over the handrails, and watching the young gentlemen swimming, who, except a pair of very short drawers, called *bad hosen,* were as unincumbered with dress as their father Adam when he first discovered himself after his creation. Yet in all else that relates to public decorum, what other great capital can compare to it! Like all the German cities, whatever be the actual state of morals, the most complete public propriety is observed. Go when and where you will through the streets of cities, all is orderly, and free from any object which can shock your humanity, or offend your senses of delicacy and moral purity.

APPOINTING POST MISTRESSES.—It has been the practice in the Post Office Department to appoint the WIVES of deceased postmasters as their successors in those cases in which it is agreeable to the people. This practice has been in operation a great many years, and the number of females who have thus held office is quite large. During all this time there has not occurred a single instance of defalcation among them. Though it is no compliment to a person to be honest and faithful, for this is a matter of duty, yet it is especially honorable to be so amid those times and temptations in which money fall.

From the New York Union.

Reminisences of the Am. Parliament.

THE HON. MR. BOULDIN, OF VIRGINIA.—This gentleman was the successor of John Randolph of Roanoke. He was a well educated Virginia gentleman of the old echool—had had some experience in the Legislature of his native State—and, on entering the halls of the American Congress, evidently anticipated a brilliant career and the attainment of a lasting fame. As he made his debut as the successor of a man who, in his day and generation, had filled a large space in the public eye, much was expected of him; and all eyes were eagerly turned towards him, when for the first time in his life he rose, and bowing to the woolsack, pronounced those words which have such an effect on the young aspirant, when they echo through the vestibule and reach the ear of "Mr. Speaker."

The Hon. Mr. Bouldin was not a great man, but he nevertheless aspired to the highest honors and distinctinctions of his country—and as he fancied that the world expected much of him, he was at all times in a state of excitement, lest he should not come up to the full measure of the public expectation.

Many days and weeks elapsed after he entered Congress—and to the surprise of every one, he omitted to offer the usual resolution of respect for the memory of his predecessor, John Randolph of Roanoke, to whose death he was indebted for the seat he held in the House of Representatives. Why he delayed an act which parliamentary courtesy and custom demanded, no one could conjecture—but the neglect he manifested, was a subject of remark, if not of reproach, on the part of every one.

The Hon. Henry A. Wise, who was an enthusiastic admirer of Mr. Randolph, had then been in Congress but a brief period; and as Mr. Bouldin appeared to be neglectful of his duty, and gave no evidence of his intention to present a resolution of respect and condolence, Mr. Wise made up his mind to do that act of common duty.*

One morning in the month of January or February, 1832, immediately after the journal had been read, and the chaplain had performed his service, Mr. Wise rose and stated, in substance, that he had waited several weeks in expectation that the immediate successor of Mr. Randolph would present the usual resolution of respect for the memory of his predecessor, but, finding that the gentleman was not disposed to do so, he held in his hand a series of resolutions becoming the occasion, and the fame of the revered dead, which he would send to the Speaker's table, for the action and decision of the House.

The instant Mr. Wise resumed his seat, Mr. Bouldin leaped to the floor, and proceeded to state the reasons that had governed him in omitting to offer resolutions of respect for the memory of his predecessor. After the lapse of a moment, it was noticed that he began to wander—his language was wild and incoherent, and he appeared to be under the influence of strong and uncontrollable excitement. At last he began to reel—he tottered—his countenance was suffused with an unnatural flush—he pitched forward, and fell upon the desk before him!

It was at first supposed that he had fainted; but, on raising him from his prostrate condition, it was discovered that the vital spark had fled—the unhappy sufferer was a dead man! A thrill of horror ran through the house, and an adjournment immediately took place.

Mr. Bouldin was thrown into apoplexy, by the excitement the incident of the morning created, and by the consciousness that he had inadvertently perhaps, neglected to do that justice to one of the most eminent of the sons of Virginia—a man, who, no matter what were his eccentricities, follies, absurdities and peculiar course of public life, was the pride and boast of the Old Dominion.

And, although the young and gifted Mr. Wise was unwittingly the moving cause of the melancholy incident related, he of course was not censurable—and assuredly no one could have more sincerely deplored the affair than he did.

An incident somewhat similar, although it was not attended with death, occurred in the House of Representatives in the year 1838. The Hon. Richard Haws, of the Kentucky delegation, was the hero of it.

Mr. Haws, who was a man of very handsome talents, made his first appearance in the House of Representatives, at the opening of the extra session of 1837, and remained a silent member until the month of June, 1838. As the session was rapidly drawing to a close, Mr. Haws, who possessed all the modesty that belongs to genius, raised much embarrassment in reference to a speech that he wished to deliver, for the purpose of having something to send to his constituents.

Day after day, and week after week, he delayed speaking out of sheer diffidence. At last, however, he made up his mind to speak, and a day, by the courtesy of members, was set apart for him.

By agreement, the Hon. Hugh S. Legare, of South Carolina, who is one of the most eloquent men of the times, by the way, had the floor for an hour or two, and Mr. Haws followed him.

Mr. Haws's seat was close to Mr. Legare's, and whilst that gentleman was speaking, a crowd, including the entire delegation from Kentucky, was gathered around him. He closed his speech, and Mr. Haws took the floor. At that moment the crowd began to disperse, and the Kentucky delegation, moving off, left Mr. Haws to speak to vacated seats. He went on but a moment before he began to falter and reel, and ere another moment had elapsed, fell lifeless on his desk. He was instantly removed; medical aid was called, and by timely interposition, he was restored. He remained in Congress till its close; but never attempted to speak again, and declined a re-election. He was a man of very decided talent.

*It has been said that Mr. Wise is the imitator of John Randolph of Roanoke! He is as unlike that men as any person can be. The manner and eloquence of Mr. Wise are purely original, and are as refined as they are rich and beautiful. At the time Mr. Randolph died, he spoke of him as a man he had never seen.

NEWSPAPERS.—Those who speak the most disparagingly of newspapers, are often among those who do not profit the least by them, and would not perhaps ungratefully deny the fact, if the same information were communicated, not in the form of a loose sheet, but in that of an octavo volume, hot pressed, and published by the Harpers. The most important class in society, the class which gives the tone to public opinion, the middle class, is not composed of literary students or classical scholars, but, to a great extent, of mere newspaper readers. Go into the house of a merchant or tradesman of wealth and influence, you will find a library of books, but evidently intended more for show than use, and rarely perused by the head of the family, who will not be slow to confess that nine-tenths of the time which he spends in reading are devoted to the newspaper, which affords him on the whole as much information upon general subjects as he has leisure to acquire.

A LONG COURTSHIP FINALLY CONCLUDED.—In Locke, Cayuga county, N. Y., on the 22d of November, by Levi Henry, Esq., Seth Stevens, Esq. of Hartford, Cortland county, to Miss Sylvia Heath, daughter of Benjamin Heath, Esq. of the former place. This interesting marriage took place after a 19 years' courtship! Mr. Stevens is a man of 61 years of age, and the fair bride 51. The young bridegroom has visited his bride once a month during the above mentioned time, which amounts to 232 visits, a distance of 20 miles, which will make 9,820 miles travel, occupying 464 days. The strip ling and his "ladye love," probably had ample time to become acquainted.

THE PUBLIC AND THE PIG.—All the people of a large city were assembled in the public square, to see a pantomime. Among the actors, there was one who was constantly applauded. This buffoon wanted to end the performance with a novel exhibition. He appeared alone upon the stage, stopped, covered his head with his cloak, and began to imitate the cries of a sucking pig. He acquitted himself so well, that it almost seemed as if he had a real pig under his garment. He was told to shake his cloak and his robe, which he did, and as nothing was found concealed, the plaudits were renewed with additional fervor. A peasant who was among the spectators felt disgusted at these tokens of admiration. Gentlemen, he cried, you ought not to be charmed with this buffoon. He is not so good an actor as you imagine. I can play pig better than he can; and if you doubt it, you have only to come here to-morrow at the same hour. The people prejudiced in favor of the mimic, assembled the next day in greater number, but rather to hiss the peasant, than to see what he could do. The two rivals made their appearance upon the stage. The buffoon commenced, and was even more applauded than the day before. Then the countryman having stooped in his turn, and being enveloped in his cloak, pinched the ear of the veritable pig which he had under his arm, and made him squeal right lustily. Nevertheless, the audience awarded the prize to the mimic, and covered with hisses the countryman, who suddenly exhibited a pig to the spectators. "See gentlemen," he exclaimed, "it is not me you are hissing, it is the pig himself. See what excellent judges you are!"

A MOTHERLY WOMAN.—We learn from the Amesbury Mass., Transcript, that at a Justice Court in that village on Tuesday, a young man was arraigned on a charge of malicious trespass, in *unhanging a gate.* His parents were present, and seemed deeply interested in his behalf, until the magistrate pronounced the sentence, a fine of two dollars and cost of court, or upon refusal to pay the fine, a few months imprisonment. Then the mother rose and informed the court, that she would not pay any money for him; and turning to her son, addressed him as follows: "Now Bill go to jail, and get fatted up; then come out and go to sea." He assured her that he was not afraid to go to jail; the mother, highly delighted, exclaimed, "that's right, Bill, you are fat and stout; it won't hurt you. Get along as well as you can till next March." Her husband, the father-in-law of the boy, inquired the amount it would cost to settle the affair, she seemed highly offended, and assured him that he was not master of the boy, and that she had too many young ones to take care of, to pay so much for him. He then consented to let him go to prison, telling him to keep up good courage, and he would come down and see him next week, and bring him down a fish. The mother then thanked the officers of the court and left apparently highly pleased with the proceedings.

TAXES IN CHINA.—The greater part of the taxes in China are paid in commodities. Those who breed silk worms pay their taxes in silke, the husbandman in grain, and the gardener in fruits. This mode of imposing taxes is far from detrimental to the Government or the people, as in every province there are in its service numbers of mandarins, officers, soldiers, and pensioners of different kinds, who are furnished with every necessary of food and clothing, so that the articles levied as taxes are nearly all consumed in those provinces in which they are levied. If anything remains, it is sold on account of the Emperor, and the amount paid in to the imperial treasury. The taxes paid in money arise principally from the sale of salt, which belongs exclusively to the Emporer—from the duties paid by vessels on entering any of the ports—from the customs and other imports on various branches of manufacture. These excepted, the trader pays little to the exigencies of the State, and the mechanic still less. The weight of the permanent and personal taxes, therefore, falls on the husbandman.

Gen PAEZ the President of Venezuela, is perhaps the most remarkable man now living in South America. The revolution found him a simple Llanero, or herdsman on the vast plains in the south of Venezuela, ignorant of the very alphabet, and as simple and superstitious as any around him. He was a grown man when he entered a corps of irregular cavalry, as a private lancer. He soon distinguished himself by his address and reckless bravery, attracted the attention of Bolivar, was rapidly promoted, and in a few years found himself commander of the horse. As such, by an authorised charge at the battle of Carabobo, he gained the day, and set the seal of his military reputation. He is now the Executive chief of the most hopeful of South American republics, with the highest reputation for wisdom as a statesman, and moderation as a politician, with manners and address that would grace any court in Europe. He has remedied all the defects of early education, or rather the want of education. He has not only read much, but is one of the best writers of his country.

THEATRICALS IN CONNECTICUT.—The case of the State vs. Joseph Morris, came up before the Supreme Court at Hartford, in the beginning of the week. "This was an information in two counts, charging in the first count that Joseph Morris, a transient person, and other persons unknown, with force and arms at Manchester, did exhibit in the sight of sundry persons, certain comedies, farces &c., with a view of gain; and charged in the second count, that the aforesaid persons, being mountebanks, publicly exhibited divers feats of uncommon dexterity, and did then and there place their hands on the floor and throw up their feet, and did cause certain females to exhibit themselves clad in women's apparel, whirling around swiftly on one foot, while the other extended at right angles, and in a horizontal position—at which immodesty the State of Connecticut is shocked, and through her attorney informs against said females for having violated the modesty of an acute angle."

The defendant, on motion, was permitted to plead by attorney: and accordingly entered a plea of guilty to the second count, and the attorney entered a nolle to the first. Fine $60.

CURIOUS INCIDENT.—A friend informs us of a curious incident that recently occurred in relation to some pigeons. A gentlemen in a country town had a number of pigeons, all of which died except one. Soon after the loss of his associates, the solitary bird was observed to rise to a considerable height in the air, and then direct his course to a place where there were a great number of pigeons, about twenty miles distant. He soon returned, bringing with him the whole flock that he met at the place, to which he had paid his visit. It is said, that prior to this flight, he was never known to have gone any distance from home. The owner of the pigeons that had been induced to quit their ancient residence, on a visit to the town to which they had eloped, having discovered them, had them captured and taken back, clipping their wings, to arrest their further straying. Yet, no sooner had they regained the use of their wings, than they forthwith returned to their new abode, where they still continue.—*Philadelphia American Sentinel.*

☞The Turkish Sultan will certainly be a father to a great many of his subjects if he lives and has his health. A late London Morning Post announces the following:—

"One of the young ladies of the Sultan of Turkey gave birth to a daughter on the 16th of October—'an event now of weekly occurrence!' The Sultan, who will be twenty years of age next April, has now eight children—two sultans and six sultanas—the oldest, a son, being but two years old, and the youngest, a daughter, not a month."

STATISTICS OF PULMONARY CONSUMPTION.—The Boston Courier has favored us with an article from a medical source, exhibiting the deaths by Consumption in the cities of Boston, New York and Philadelphia, which is interesting to our readers, and from which we extract the following facts: "The whole number of deaths in Boston for thirty years, from 1811 to 1840, inclusive, was 38,616; by consumption, 6,243. In New York, during the same time, the whole number of deaths was 152,485; by consumption, 27,486. In Philadelphia, during the same time, the whole number of deaths was 113,596; by consumption, 16,221. Average number of deaths by consumption in Boston, 1 to 6.185; in New York, 1 to 4,547; in Philadelphia, 1 to 7,003. The difference being in favor of Philadelphia. These statistics prove the fact mentioned by Dr Terry, of the U. States Army, and also stated in the reports of the British Army, that Pulmonary Consumption is not so often fatal at the North as at the South, and also prove, that consumptive parents are in general quite as well off at home, as when sent into the debilitating climate of the West India Islands.

THE EARTHQUAKE.—The shock of the earthquake of the 4th ult. was experienced over a very extensive range of country. On the Ohio river it was felt as high as Marietta; on the Mississippi as high up as Burlington, Iowa Territory; through the middle and southern parts of Indiana and Illinois; also, throughout Kentucky and Tennessee, and indeed on the other side of the Cumberland Mountains, at various places in Georgia and South Carolina quite to the seaboard. Down the Mississippi we hear of it to Vicksburgh. The centre of the greatest violence was probably near New Madrid, somewhat noted for being the seat of this sort of action in the bowels of the earth, more frequently than any other tract in North America beyond the volcanic regions of Mexico. A hunter from the St. Francis, Arkansas, reports at Memphis that a deep lake, had been formed by the earth's sinking on that river; he, with some companions, had been hunting on the very ground; and, as his companions had not been heard of since, it was believed they had perished.

BANKRUPT.—An old gentleman, who kept a ferry somewhere in Scotland, had a large number of sons, among whom was one named Wullie, whom the old gentleman considered a genius. It was determined that "Wullie suld hae a braw education, and be set up in some respectable business," even if the rest of the family should have to starve for it. Accordingly, "Wullie" was sent to the academy, and subsequently he engaged in mercantile business. Some years afterwards, an acquaintance of the family, who had been absent a long time, arrived at the ferry, and as he was crossing, inquired of the father about his children. After having satisfied his curiosity about some others, he continued—"And where is Wullie? He was a cleaver chiel, and ye always said ye wad put him in some guid business." "Yes, and sae I did. He is now in an unco profitable business; he is a bankrupt." "A bankrupt! Ye won't say a banker." "No, I would say a bankrupt. Wullie has ta'en the benefit of the bankrupt laws twice, and if he suld do sae the third time, he will be the richest man in a' the kingdom."

TO WRITERS FOR NEWSPAPERS.—The N. Y. Evening Post addresses the following suggestions to writers for newspapers, which we should be glad to have our correspondents attend to:—

1st. Never write a communication on a holiday, for you may be certain that if you then have more time than usual, the journal for which you write has less room.

2nd. Observe the length of the articles written by the editor of that journal, and make yours at least as short as his. It is uncivil to ask more room in his columns than he can allow himself.

3d. Never write unless you have time to make your communication both as accurate and as short as possible. The editor of paper has no time to correct your bad English, or prune away your superfluities.

There are several other admonitions which might be suggested, but, for the present, we will content ourselves with waiting to see what may be the effect of these.

ADVERTISING.—We have seen two stores, side by side, one crowded with customers, the other vacant and deserted. What made the difference? One advertised and the other did not. We have seen two artists, equally skilful, one going on the flood-tide of fortune, the other lying neglected on the flats, forlorn and discouraged. The reason is obvious. One had enterprise and liberality enough to make himself known; the other did not. We know not less than a dozen examples of persons who have increased their business a hundred and fifty per cent. within a few weeks by advertising. Hence we are not only prosperous ourselves, but are the means of conferring prosperity on others. Strange that any one will neglect such a glorious opportunity.

☞The wisdom of man, in my humble opinion, cannot devise a plan by which the credit of paper issues would be long supported; consequently depreciation keeps pace with the quantity of emission; articles for which it is exchanged rise in greater ratio than the sinking value of money. Wherein, then, is the farmer or the artizan benefitted? Great is the door it immediately opens for speculation, by which the least designing and perhaps the most valuable part of the community are preyed upon by the more knowing and crafty speculator.—*Gen. Washington.*

It is impossible for government to circumscribe or fix the extent of paper credit, which must of course fluctuate. Government may as well pretend to lay down rules for the operations, or the confidence of every individual in the course of his trade. Any seeming temporary evil arising must naturally work its own cure.—*Franklin.*

☞ANOTHER SPECIMEN OF ARKANSAS ELOQUENCE.—"Shades of Washington, Hancock, and Ethan Allen! If I have offended, remember the frailty of mortals and be propitious! What! abolish that day of days!—that day when the concentrated wisdom of ages was blazoned forth in that 'immortal sheet'—that epoch, not only of American history, but in the history of the world—that day for the celebration of which I, in the days of my boyhood, expended the last sixpence to buy fire-crackers! Forbid it, departed shades! Pacific Ocean, thou infatuated creation! and you, ye tall pines of Norway, crow quite for such an occasion, and in *expunging* that resolution! Let the Lethean floods roll over it for ever."

THE BANKING SYSTEM.—The States are prohibited from issuing bills of credit. That a bank note issued by any government, is a bill of credit, may be taken for granted, in speaking to a man of sound intellect. It cannot, therefore, be issued by a State government. Now, it is a received axiom in Legislation, jurisprudence, and morals, that what an individual community cannot do by itself, it cannot do by others. If the State governments cannot lawfully, on their own account, and by their own direct authority, issue bank notes for circulation as money, they cannot do it indirectly, by chartering companies for that purpose.

PAPER MONEY.—The Washington Spectator gives two instances of the variableness of property under the whig paper money system, and under an administration which promised the "immediate rise of property," and "two dollars a day and roast beef" to the working man in the event of its success. One case is that of a gentleman of Maryland, who sold in 1839 his crop of 1839, (tobacco, corn and wheat,) for over $20,000; the next crop, sold in 1841, brought $13,000, and that sold this year brought $9,000! Another instance is that of a house which four years ago sold for $15,000, was shortly sold for $12,000; was mortgaged for $12,000, and was again sold for $9,500.

ALABAMA.—A bill to wind up the Montgomery branch of the State Bank of Alabama, has passed the lower branch of the State Legislature. Another is before that body to wind up the Huntsville branch, which will doubtless pass. The Decatur and Mobile branches have already been ordered into liquidation. The bank at Tuscaloosa will be the only one remaining that belonged to the State banking system. The expenses of the State government have heretofore been paid by the banks as well as the interest on the State debt. These demands are now to be provided for from other sources.

THE CITY OF CHANGHAI, CHINA.—In the London papers it is stated that this city and its dependent villages contains 250,000 weavers of cotton cloth. This it must be remembered, is only one of the manufacturing towns. The number of silk weavers is more numerous than those of cotton.