

The Athens Post.

ATHENS, TENN., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1857.

VOL. IX.—NO. 439.

BY SAM. P. IVINS.

TERMS:
THE POST is published every Friday at \$2 per year in advance, or \$3, if payment is delayed until the expiration of the year.
Advertisements will be charged \$1 per square for the first insertion, and 50 cents for each subsequent insertion. A liberal deduction from the above rates will be made for those who advertise by the year.
Persons sending advertisements must state the number of times they desire them inserted, or they will be continued until forbid and charged accordingly.
For announcing the names of candidates for office, \$5, Cash.
Obituary notices over 15 lines, charged at the regular advertising rates.
All communications intended to promote the private ends or interests of Corporations, Societies, Schools or Individuals, will be charged as advertisements.
Job Work, such as Pamphlets, Minutes, Circulars, Cards, Blanks, Handbills, &c., will be executed in good style, and on reasonable terms.
All letters addressed to the Proprietor, postpaid, will be promptly attended to.
Persons at a distance sending us the names of four or five subscribers, will be entitled to a fifth copy gratis. No communication inserted unless accompanied by the name of the author.
Office on Main street, next door to the old Jackson Hotel.

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NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—Mrs. Cunningham has been committed to the Tombs, on the charge of being engaged in the murder of Dr. Burdell.

MOBILE, Feb. 10.—Several cotton presses have been destroyed by fire here, involving a loss of 15,000 bales of cotton.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—The two Houses met in Convention to-day to count the votes for President and Vice President. Buchanan and Breckinridge were declared elected.—The vote of Wisconsin was received.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—The evidence yesterday in the Burdell murder case, shows almost a certainty that Eckel and not Burdell was the husband of Mrs. Cunningham. Eckel has refused to answer interrogatories, on the ground of his being one of the parties implicated.

BOSTON, Feb. 12.—The telegraphic reports of the thermometer down East, show a range from zero to 32 degrees below.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 12.—A Westport correspondent of the Republican says the outward Santa Fe mail left the 2d. A letter from Bent's Fort, Nov. 23d, says the Fort is safe, but the Keowas have declared war. Bent's Fort has 25 whites and 40 friendly Cheyennes to protect it.

The convention to frame a Constitution for Kansas will meet at Leocompton on the first Monday in September.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 12.—The Black Warrior is coming up, with California dates to the 20th. Mr. Broderick has been elected Senator for the long term, and Mr. Gwin for the short term. Both go to New York by Geo. Law.

A severe earthquake was felt in the southern part of California. Prudell at San Francisco was dull. Hitting accounts are favorable. There is nothing later definite from Nicaragua.

ROTATION.—The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia North American says:

"It is understood that Mr. Buchanan has written a letter in reply to special inquiries, signifying very distinctly that he intends to rotate all the principal diplomatic incumbents out of office. And the friends of Mr. Dallas are not only quite prepared for such a contingency, but are willing the President elect should exercise all his power. Whether this policy will be extended to inferior places in the same category, or include others in different branches of the civil service, is not known. When Presidents begin to turn out, they do not often stop at trifles."

A correspondent of the Western Recorder, writing from Greenville, S. C., says: "I am within a few miles of the place where the experiment was made of raising tea. It has proved a failure. The plant will grow well enough, but wages are too high in this country. We cannot afford to pick, roll up and dry any sort of leaves here for half a dollar a pound. In China, where a man is hired for one dollar a month and board himself, it may be done."

DEATH OF A PHYSICIAN.—The Petersburg, Virginia, papers announce the death on Saturday last of Doctor Benj. H. May, of that city, in the 69th year of his age. For the last forty years of his life he had been afflicted with total blindness which, however, did not prevent the practice of his profession, in which he was eminently successful. He was a brother of the late Judge May, and was much esteemed by all who knew him.

The citizens of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan last week petitioned the Michigan Legislature for the erection of a separate State, to be called Ontonagon.

THE NEW CABINET.—The Washington correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce says:

There is an increasing probability, or chance, that the Hon. Wm. L. Marcy will be retained at the head of the State Department, the affairs of which, for the last four years, he has conducted with so much credit to himself and the nation.

The Washington Star says no one will know anything about the new cabinet until Mr. Buchanan returns to Washington, which will be about the 25th inst.

BASE OF WEST TENNESSEE.—The Trenton, Tennessee, Standard says that there is a report abroad that this bank has broken or suspended. This is not correct. The Bank of West Tennessee redeems its notes in specie whenever presented. They are received here as readily as other notes.—Mem. Evg. & Enq.

In a town in Orange county, New York, is living a man and his wife who have not spoken together for eight years.—They sleep in one bed, take their meals at the same table, and show not the slightest anger towards each other. The only reason for their obstinate silence is that each is too proud to speak first.

The next United States Senate, as near as can be ascertained, after filling the vacancies, will contain twenty Republican members, which is a gain of five over their present vote and is nearly one-third of the Senate.

BLUE RIDGE RAIL ROAD.

We have been informed, from a reliable source, that a good deal of excitement prevails in Anderson and Pickens district, in relation to this important enterprise, and that active exertions are being made to raise the amount required by the State as the condition of its second subscription on \$500,000. Anderson, it is said, subscribe \$12,000; Pendleton and its neighborhood \$12,000; and Wallaha \$20,000.—Clayton is also aroused to the necessity of doing something, and will, we learn, subscribe \$10,000; and most of the contractors will add to the amount of stock taken by them in payment for work.

We have been permitted to make the following extract from a letter dated Anderson, the 8th of February:

"Since we returned from Charleston, we have held railroad meetings, at Pendleton and Wallaha. Our proposition to raise \$70,000 in the upper country has met with the most flattering reception. A considerable amount was subscribed promptly at both places, and committees appointed to canvass the country for aid. There is an appointment for a mass meeting at Wallaha on Saturday next, at which time we hope to raise the subscription at that place to \$20,000. We feel certain that we shall be able to redeem our pledge to the Board of Directors at an early day."

With these encouraging tidings in relation to the subscription, we also learn that satisfactory progress is making in the tunnels.—The work is going on at both extremities in the main tunnel, and the first shaft is so nearly sunk to the grade line that the heading has been commenced in both directions, and several gangs can now be worked at the same time, and there is every motive, certainly, under circumstances so encouraging, to persevere in this great work; and if this Road will do for Charleston what its friends claim, we hope that the sum necessary to be raised to secure the second State subscription will not be withheld.—Ch. Cov.

MINNESOTA TERRITORY.—The annual message of Gov. Goman, of Minnesota, shows the population of the Territory to be 130,000. The taxable property amounts to between thirty and thirty five millions of dollars. In view of these facts, and of the large increase in agricultural products, cash capital, &c., the Governor favors a change from territorial to a State Government, and recommends that the speediest action, consistent with other interests, should be taken to accomplish the result. To this end he suggests that a convention be called to form a constitution; that an act be passed providing for the taking of a census in March or April, and for such other preliminary steps as are necessary; and that, if the constitution be ratified by the people at the next October election, it shall be presented to Congress in the December following.

STATE BANK OF N. C.—The Legislature of North Carolina has passed a bill incorporating the Bank of the State of North Carolina.—It increases the capital stock, now \$1,500,000, to \$3,000,000.—The State to take a half million, to be paid in annual installments of \$125,000, in State bonds; and individuals may, within twelve months, take \$1,000,000; and whatever amount of the latter sum remains unsubscribed at the end of twelve months, may be taken by the State.

DELAWARE LEGISLATURE.—Application is to be made to the present Legislature of Delaware to incorporate one or two more lotteries, to run for a period of seven years. Each proposes to the State \$10,000 per year for the time the charter may extend. A bill has been introduced to prohibit the banks issuing notes under a less denomination than five dollars.

"AS ILL WIND," &c.—The Boston Herald mentions as one of the incidents of the late snow storm that a milk man got blinded with the blowing snow, and failing to find the village pump, drove into town with several cans of pure milk.

TRUTH IS STRANGER THAN FICTION!—From a letter received by our countryman, Mr. Robert G. Tomlin, we take the following extract. It is from a gentleman whose veracity for truth cannot be doubted:

BURKE CO., Jan. 31st, 1857.
MR. R. G. TOMLIN:—I have the most surprising thing that has happened to me. I have a million-dollar lot of potatoes, and I have a hole an inch in diameter through the heel of my boot, and opened a vent in the crown of my hat considerably larger than a pig's eye. They have been great, but afterwards discovered to be simply lemon juice.

IN IT TRU!—An old play, entitled, "My Son got Money," occurs a reply from Sir Humphry Staple, a solid man, to Mr. Beaufo, a fine gentleman, wherein Sir H. says: "You may be dishonest while you are getting an estate, but when you have once got it, I will answer for you, you shall be honest again." A piece with this is the following definition of money: "A composition to take stains out of a character."

MAKING A CONQUEST.—Fred, said a wag to a conceited fool, "I know a beautiful creature who desires to make your acquaintance." "God to bless it—fine girl—good taste—struck with my fine appearance, I suppose!" "Yes, very much so. She thinks you would make a capital playmate for her people dog."

RATHER TODAY.—The Bangor (Maine) Journal tells a story of a loafer who was furnished with lodging in the water house in that city, one night recently, whose slumbers were disturbed by a porcupine rat, who gnawed a hole an inch in diameter through the heel of his boot, and opened a vent in the crown of his hat considerably larger than a pig's eye. They have been great, but afterwards discovered to be simply lemon juice.

THE LAFAYETTE (Va.) Journal says:—On the Friday night down town, on the Wash Valley road, the conductor, in passing around for tickets, asked a passenger, who was sitting near the stove, for his fare, who instead of a ticket, the passenger thrust a red hot poker into his hand, burning it terribly. The train was stopped and the head put off. We understand that one of the brakemen avenged the indignity by soundly thrashing the scoundrel!

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"Gen. Foster, and the remainder of the eight men, could neither be bought, bribed, nor whipped into submission to the dictatorial mandates of the President elect. * * * Let the Eastern Democracy have a care.—Westmoreland will sustain her representatives. Like them, she can neither be bought by the attempted bribery of place and position, nor be silenced by the threatenings of authority."

"On the very day of the assembling of the Democratic caucus, a letter was brought to Harrisburg from Mr. Buchanan, proclaiming that Col. Jno. W. Forney was his choice for Senator, with the assurance that he (the President) would be under personal obligations to every man, both in and out of the Legislature, who would aid in his nomination. That was a direct bribe to members of the Legislature. It was dropping open the whole patronage of the incoming administration to effect Col. Forney's nomination. There is scarcely a member of the Assembly who does not, either directly or indirectly, for himself or his friend, desire from Mr. Buchanan's administration some post or position, and each felt that anything which he might do to put him and his obligations would surely result in profit to himself. I was too much to stand, and it was too much for General Foster's friends to submit tamely. * * * They know the power of the administration, and felt that it would be folly to go into caucus to vote against the man whose pockets were filled with the commissions for every office in the gift of the coming National Administration."

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CHANGES IN TEMPERATURE.—It is the opinion entertained by both professional men and people generally that great and sudden changes in temperature are unhealthy, but it is the opinion of Captain Hartstein that it is not so. In his account of the Polar Sea Expedition, he says:

"Nature has qualified man to breathe an atmosphere of one hundred and twenty degrees above zero, or sixty below it, without injury to health; and the doctrine of physicians that great and sudden changes of temperature are injurious to health, is disproved by recorded facts. There are very few navigators who die in the Arctic zone; it is the most healthy climate on the globe to those who breathe the open air. We have among our associate observers one who observes and records the changes of temperature in Australia, where the temperature rose to one hundred and fifteen degrees at two o'clock, P. M., and next morning it was down to forty degrees—a change of seventy five degrees in the twelve hours; there the people are healthy; and another at Franconia, N. H., where the changes are the most sudden, the most frequent, and of the greatest extent of any place with which I am in correspondence on the American continent; and yet there is no town of its size that so great a portion of its inhabitants pass the age of three score years and ten. It is the quality of the changed air that constitutes the difference that physicians notice, and not the temperature."

The Mississippi Legislature has just passed a bill prohibiting any owner of slaves from punishing them with more than "nine and thirty lashes" at any one time or for any offence, under penalty of fine and imprisonment. All other unnecessary cruelty to slaves is also made indictable and punishable by fine and imprisonment.

VALUE OF SCIENCE.—Orange or lemon juice left upon a knife or other piece of iron will, in a few days, produce a stain so nearly resembling that caused by blood as to deceive the most careful observer, and in many years ago, in Paris, a man was nearly convicted of murder, owing to a knife being found in his possession stained with what was pronounced by several witnesses to be blood, but afterwards discovered to be simply lemon juice.

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GREAT FRESHET.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 9.—The flood has considerably damaged the Milwaukee Railroad bridge. No trains are running. The Galena Railroad bridge at Elgin, was also swept away, and a number of culverts were destroyed. The Fox Dulac Railroad track was carried away in several places. The Aux Plains bridge and the Burlington Railroad bridge over Bureau river are gone. The Rock Island Railroad bridge at Dupugi river was moved by the ice on Friday night, and an engine, tender and six cars were precipitated into the river. A number of Railroad bridges were carried away on the Illinois river. At LaSalle it rose 25 feet.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Feb. 9.—Several piers of the Cumberland Valley Railroad bridge were injured by the flood, and are in danger of being destroyed; the cars have stopped running. The scene along the Susquehanna is awful, and great destruction of property is threatened.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 9.—The ice in the Schuylkill broke up last night. The water carried away coal, wood and lumber, and then subsiding, left coal boats on the wharves. The damages are not so serious as it was anticipated they would be. We have similar accounts from Oswego, Trenton and Easton, Pa. At Albany, N. Y., the water is three feet higher than it was ever known before.—Wrecked houses are coming down streams; cattle and horses have been drowned; cellars are filled with water, and fires breaking out in the lower part of the city from slackening time. There is great confusion and alarm.—The Hudson River and New York Central Railroads are engaged. The city of Troy, N. Y., is nearly overflowed.

The freight depot at Grand Island has been burned, it was set on fire by slackening time.

CHICAGO, Feb. 9.—Almost all the Railroad river bridges in northern Illinois and Michigan are impaired or destroyed by the freshet, with a vast amount of other property.

THE SUFFERING MORMONS.—A letter from Salt Lake under date of October 31st says: "We have dreadful accounts of the sufferings among the Mormon emigrants by the hand of cart train, which is now in the mountains.—The train contained 350 souls. One-seventh are already dead and they are dying at the rate of fifteen per day. There are some 600 more behind, of which we have heard nothing. We hope they have stopped at Laramie. It is impossible for them to get through this fall. The Mormons estimated that there are not less than 1500 of their brethren yet to come in, and the snow is reported to be not less than a foot deep in the mountains."

Judge James R. Doonittle, the republican, who was elected to the United States Senate from Wisconsin on Friday last, is a native of New York, where he was at one time a zealous democratic politician. In 1848, however, he supported Van Buren for the Presidency, and in 1850 emigrated to Wisconsin, and was soon after called to the Bench of that State. He is a large man, of powerful voice and an orator of much popularity.

RIGHTS OF MARRIED WOMEN.—The House of Representatives of Indiana has passed a bill securing to married women whose husbands have deserted them, either voluntarily or by the compulsion of a judicial sentence in cases of felony, all their own property, real and personal, all they may make during such desertion, and all the proceeds of debts due their husbands, for the support of themselves and families.

A RICH PUFF.—A manufacturer and vendor of quack medicines, recently wrote to a friend of his living out west, for a "good strong" recommendation of his manufacture, "Balsam." In a few days he received the following which we call pretty "strong."

DEAR SIR.—The land composing my farm has hitherto been poor, that a Scotchman could not get his living off of it; and so stony that we had to slice our potatoes and plant them edge-ways, but hearing of your balsam, I put some on the corner of a ten acre lot surrounded by a rail fence, and in the morning I found the rock had entirely disappeared, a neat stone well encircled the field and piled symmetrically in my back yard.

Put half an ounce into the middle of a huckleberry swamp—in two days it was cleared off planted with corn and pumpkins, and a row of peach trees in full blossom through the middle.

As an evidence of its tremendous strength I would say that it drew a striking likeness of my eldest daughter, drew my eldest son of a million-dollar lot, drew a blister all over his stomach—drew a load of potatoes four miles to market and eventually drew a prize of 97 dollars in the Lottery.

A prisoner in the Michigan penitentiary, sentenced to solitary confinement, was found dead in his cell on the morning of the 11th. A steampipe passing through the cell to warm it, had burst, and as no cry for help could be heard by the keeper, to save himself from being cooked to death, the poor man cut his throat.

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VALUE OF SCIENCE.—Orange or lemon juice left upon a knife or other piece of iron will, in a few days, produce a stain so nearly resembling that caused by blood as to deceive the most careful observer, and in many years ago, in Paris, a man was nearly convicted of murder, owing to a knife being found in his possession stained with what was pronounced by several witnesses to be blood, but afterwards discovered to be simply lemon juice.

IS IT TRU!—An old play, entitled, "My Son got Money," occurs a reply from Sir Humphry Staple, a solid man, to Mr. Beaufo, a fine gentleman, wherein Sir H. says: "You may be dishonest while you are getting an estate, but when you have once got it, I will answer for you, you shall be honest again." A piece with this is the following definition of money: "A composition to take stains out of a character."

MAKING A CONQUEST.—Fred, said a wag to a conceited fool, "I know a beautiful creature who desires to make your acquaintance." "God to bless it—fine girl—good taste—struck with my fine appearance, I suppose!" "Yes, very much so. She thinks you would make a capital playmate for her people dog."

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

This history of the self-styled Democratic party of this country forms the greatest reproach to human nature to be found in the annals of this age. It has never, in its whole career, possessed any principles, save those of the five leaves and two fishes; never exhibited any consistency, save in a persistent pursuit of the spoils of office.

Professing to be preciously democratic, it has subjected its members to a despotism worse than that of Louis Napoleon—a serfdom more degrading than that of Russia—an aristocracy more arbitrary and absolute than that of ancient Venice. Professing to be par excellence the friend and advocate of the doctrine of economy in the administration of the government, it notoriously squanders the public money amongst its partisans, and allows its minions to plunder the public Treasury and the public domain ad libitum and with perfect impunity. Professing to be the peculiar friend of the South, it has by the passage of the insidious, iniquitous Nebraska act, destroyed the last hope of the South in the Territories. Professing the doctrine of Non Intervention in foreign affairs, it yet, during a Presidential canvass, promises the acquisition of Cuba, "by hook or by crook"—a promise it takes care never to fulfill when the time for fruition comes.—Professing to be against all Banks, it has, nevertheless, wherever it had the power, chartered thousands of State Banks, and is responsible for every monetary revulsion that ever afflicted and desolated the country.

In different sections it carries entirely different colors and sets its sails to catch every popular breeze that blows. At the North, it is for "Free Kansas," at the South, it is for "Slave Kansas." At the North, it is for Squatter Sovereignty; at the South it denounces the doctrine as most infamous. At the North, it is for a Protective Tariff; at the South, it is for resistance—revolution—rather than submit to it. At the North, it is for the improvement of Rivers and Harbors; at the South, against it. At the North, it frowns upon Walker's operations in Central America; at the South, it lavishes upon the young hero its blandest smiles. At the North it is enthusiastically in favor of preserving the Union; at the South a majority of its leaders are continually plotting its downfall!

In short, the whole history of the Democratic party proves conclusively and beyond the possibility of contradiction, the truth of Mr. Calhoun's celebrated remark, that it was "held together alone by the cohesive power of the public plunder." For this, and this alone, its leaders struggle; for this, and this alone, they flatter the foreigners, corrupt the ballot-box, bribe Congressmen and other legislators; and but for this the party would die as dead as Hector in less than a hundred days.—Memphis Eagle.

THE PROFITS OF THE SLAVE TRADE.—It is estimated that about forty vessels are engaged in this country in the slave trade. These, it is calculated, ship 600 negroes each from the African coast, of whom 500 are landed at the port of destination. Allowing \$3,000 for each vessel for brokerage and commission from the port whence she sails, \$4,000 on each vessel for wages for officers and men, \$15 a head for the purchase of negroes on the African coast, and \$42 to secure the landing of each negro at the port of delivery, the whole cost would come up to \$1,467,000. Twenty thousand negroes, at \$500 a head, would produce \$10,000,000, a clear profit of \$8,533,000, or upon two voyages a year, more than \$17,000,000.

DAMAGES.—A lady named Parnell has recovered from the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad Company \$4,158 damages for injuries sustained by herself on the road; \$2,400 for injuries to her son, and \$900 for the loss of a servant who was killed.

A funny story is told of a man who stole a five dollar bill out in Indiana. His counsel tried to prove that the note was not worth five dollars, it being at a discount, in order to lessen the crime. The prosecutor said he knew the prisoner was the meanest man in the State, but he did not think he was so all-fired mean as