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## The Clutter Music House.

114-116 South Palafox. Phone 15.

### R. P. REESE SAYS==

I ENDORSE THE POSITION TAKEN BY YOUR PAPER, AND THINK AS YOU DO THAT THERE ARE MANY REASONS AGAINST THE USE OF THE PLAZA OR PUBLIC SQUARE AS A SITE FOR THE PROPOSED NEW CITY HALL.

Editor Pensacola Journal: I endorse the position taken by your paper, and think as you do that there are many reasons against the use of the Plaza or Public Square as a site for the proposed new City Hall. I shall mention two. First—said it seems to me a sufficient reason—in that in the lower part of the city, or south of Belmont street in the area bounded by the two bayous, and the bay, there are but two public squares—Seville, and the Plaza, or Ferdinand VII, the one proposed to be used for the City Hall site. Second—This square has a great historic value. Pensacola and West Florida hold an important place in the early history of America, and later. No other part of our country is more rich in historic interest, and Pensacola in particular holds first place in our interests in Florida, for the stirring scenes enacted in her early history; and (Pensacola herself) contains no spot of greater interest perhaps than this same square, Ferdinand VII. After the cession of the Province by Spain to the United States in 1821, and the final ratification of the treaty by the respective parties in 1823, here it was, upon this square that the formal transfer was made by the Spanish Governor of the Province to

the Governor of the New American Territory, General Andrew Jackson. The great event was described, the day after, by an officer who took part in the proceedings as follows: (Life of Andrew Jackson, Parton, Vol. 2, Pages 691-4.

The Spanish transfer. "Yesterday, after a series of delays and disappointments, of a piece with the whole tenor of our twenty years' negotiations with Spain, the American authorities were finally and formally put in possession of this city, of the fortress of the Barrancas, and of the dominion of the Florida. Out of tenderness to the feelings of the Spaniards, deeply excited by the painful separation about to take place between those who go and those who remain—and who are allied not only by ties of intimacy and friendship contracted during a long period of a common residence in this pleasant and salubrious region, and confirmed by a community of habits and religion, as well as of lineage and language, but knitted together by the most sacred and endearing bands of consanguinity and alliance—the ceremony was conducted with very little ostentation. The Spanish guard, consisting of a full company of dismounted dragoons of the regiment of Tarragona, elegantly clad and equipped, was paraded at an early hour of the morning in front of the government house. About eight o'clock a battalion of the 4th regiment of the United States Infantry, and a company of the 4th regiment of the United States Artillery, the whole under the command of Colonel Brooke, of the 4th Infantry, were drawn up on the public square, opposite to the Spanish guard, having marched into town from the encampment at Galvez Spring. The usual military salute passed between them. Four companies of Infantry from the American line, under the command of Major Dinkins, of the 5th Infantry, were then detached to take possession of the Barrancas, which is nearly nine miles below this city. "At ten o'clock, the hour previously appointed, General Jackson, attended by his aids, secretary, interpreters, etc., crossed the green, passed between the double line formed by the troops of both nations, who simultaneously saluted him by presenting arms, and entered the government house, where the formality of the transfer was soon dispatched, and the Spanish sergeant's guard at the gate was immediately released by the American guard. After a few minutes, Governor Jackson, accompanied by Colonel Callava, the late commandant, and their respective suites, left the government house, and passed through the same double line of troops to the house which the governor has rented for the temporary accommodation of his family. The Spanish troops were then marched to the place of embarkation—the American flag was displayed upon the flag-staff, and grand salutes were fired by the artillery company and the United States ship Hornet, a gun being given to each State and Territory of the Federal Union, not forgetting Florida, and the regimental band, and that of the Hornet, playing the 'Star Spangled Banner' all the while. In the course of the day a number of the citizens waited on the new governor to pay their respects and offer their congratulations. "The delivery of the Barrancas was performed with a little more parade,



R. POPE REESE.

The Spanish flag was lowered to half-mast. The American flag was raised to a level with it. Both flags were, in this situation, saluted by the Spaniards. After which, the Spanish colours were hauled down and the American ensign hoisted. The Americans then saluted their national flag. The American troops made a fine and martial appearance, and the Hornet was gallily dressed. "We may now, at length, felicitate ourselves on our opening prospects. Pensacola is destined eventually to become the great emporium of the Gulf of Mexico, and to enjoy a large share of the trade of the west."

Mrs. Jackson's Letter. Mrs. Jackson, who had been living at Pensacola for two or three weeks before the exchange of flags, witnessed that interesting ceremonial from the galleries of her house, and was moved thereby to write to her friend in Nashville, perhaps the longest, and certainly one of the most interesting, of her letters. Her letter is worth a score of official despatches, at least for biographical purposes, and in part is as follows: "Mrs. Jackson to Mrs. Eliza Kingley. "Pensacola, 23d July, 1821.

"My Dear Friend—I have been in this place four weeks. The reason I have denied myself the pleasure of writing you is that I was waiting for the great events which have taken place in this our day. O that I had the pen of a ready writer that I might give you the correct detail of the great transaction, but it is as follows. We having a house prepared and furnished, the general advised me to move down and remain until he could with propriety march in with the fourth regiment. "Three weeks the transports were bringing the Spanish troops from St. Mark's in order that they should all sail to Cuba at the same time. At length they arrived, but during all this time the governor of this place and the general had daily communications, yet his lordship never waited on the general in person. After the vessels returned from St. Mark's, the general came within two miles of Pensacola. They were then one week finishing the preliminaries and ceremonies to be observed on the day of his entrance into the city. At length, last Tuesday was the day. At seven o'clock, at the precise moment they have in view under the American flag and a full band of music. The whole town was in motion. Never did I see so many pale faces. I am living on Main street, which gave me an opportunity of seeing a great deal from the upper galleries. They marched by to the government house, where the two generals met in the manner prescribed, then his Catholic majesty's flag was lowered, and the

American hoisted high in air, not less than one hundred feet. "O how they burst into tears to see the last ray of hope departed of their devoted city and country—delivering up the keys of the archives, the vessels lying at anchor, in full view, to wait them to their distant port. Next morning they set sail under convoy of the Hornet, sloop of war, Anne Marie and the Tom Shielah. How did the city sit solitary and mourn. Never did my heart feel more for any people. Being present, I entered immediately into their feelings. Their manners, laws, and customs, all changed, and really a change was necessary. My pen almost drops from my hand, the effort is so far short, so limited to what it might be. \* \* \* "While the general was in camp, fourteen miles from Pensacola, he was very sick. I went to see him, and to try and persuade him to come to his house. But, no. All his friends tried. He said that when he came in it should be under his own standard, and that would be the third time he had planted that flag on that wall. And he has done so. O how solemn was his pale countenance when he dismounted from his horse. Recollections of perils and scenes of war not to be disremembered presented themselves to view. "Signed RACHEL JACKSON." For its historic interest alone, it seems to me, this plot of ground should be dedicated and forever set apart by the city of Pensacola, and proper tablets commemorating the event above narrated, placed thereon. The state and the United States have an interest in its being preserved. Very truly yours, R. P. REESE.

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Coughing Spell Caused Death.

"Harry Duckwell, aged 25 years, choked to death early yesterday morning at his home, in the presence of his wife and child. He contracted a slight cold a few days ago and paid but little attention to it. Yesterday morning he was seized with a fit of coughing which continued for some time. His wife sent for physician but before he could arrive, another coughing spell came on and Duckwell died from suffocation.—St. Louis Globe Democrat, Dec. 1st, 1901." Ballard's Horehound Syrup would have saved him. 25c, 50c and \$1.00, sold by all druggists. TURKEYS 17c PER LB. AT J. F. RHODES', BAYLEN AND GOVERNMENT STREETS. LOCAL SKETCHES. Decorated China and Local Sketches for sale by MISS E. D. CHANDLER, Studio 114 West Chase St. 20dec44. PIANO AND ORGANS. Cash or easy terms. All piano tuning and repair work guaranteed. CLUTTER & RUSHING, 12 E. Government. Phone 478. SEE WILL MOYER IF YOU REALLY WANT NICE, FAT, YOUNG AND TENDER TURKEYS. HE HAS 'EM AND HIS PRICES ARE RIGHT. PHONE 327.

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