

THE EVANSVILLE JOURNAL.

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FOR PRESIDENT: ZACHARY TAYLOR.

CITY OF EVANSVILLE:

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1848.

WABASH AND ERIE CANAL.

In consequence of the numerous inquiries made as it regards the prospect of our canal, one of our citizens thought it would best relieve public anxiety by addressing a letter, and obtaining his answer, to Charles Butler, Esq., of the city of New York, who it is well known is the agent of the bond-holders, and for them negotiated the bill of last winter, from our legislature, which arranged our public debt, and secured the making of the canal to this place.

Mr. Butler is also one of the Trustees of the canal. We have understood there have been some who have felt an apprehension, that the Trustees did not intend to carry out their promises in good faith in finishing the canal to this place.

Such an idea appears to us absurd, for on failure to do it, the whole contract made by the bond-holders, is forfeited. Not only do they forfeit their canal bonds, in which is expressly inserted a condition that they complete the canal to this point, and all the advances they have made or shall make on account of it, but the State would be discharged from obligation to pay those, which in consequence of this arrangement, were thrown upon the State.

It will be remembered, that those of our public debtors who surrendered their bonds, had new bonds given them, one half to be paid by the proceeds of the canal, the other by the State.

We subjoin extracts from the letter above referred to, so far as relates to this subject.

In regard to the Canal, I assure you that I am gratified to have you write me so frankly, and your views and opinions will always command my sincere respect—and I hope you will never hesitate to address me with entire freedom. It seems to me that you overlook one very important view of the case.

The Trustees have decided on the plan of finishing the Canal to Evansville, and have published it to the world, not only in their report, but in the newspapers, and have stated the time, as nearly as they could, when the different divisions of the entire line will be put under contract. Now we conceive that intelligent men in examining into the plan of progress adopted, will come to the conclusion, that the Trustees have adopted the very best plan to secure the end, vizin the completion of the Canal, and the amount of money, in the first instance upon the southern end of the line, that they would inevitably break down—in other words, their funds would fail before they could possibly finish the work. I am sure that you misapprehended my letter to Judge Law, when I have spoken of the southern end of the Canal, I have always had the Canal from Terre Haute to Evansville in my mind, as constituting the southern end or portion of the main line, regarding the entire Canal from the State line to the Ohio river—I never have entertained or expressed any idea in conversation, or in letters, different from that which has been adopted viz: to finish as we go—and to go as fast as our means will justify, till we get to the end. In settling definitely upon the plan of completing the entire line from Terre Haute to Evansville, and advertising to place some 40 miles of that line under contract in May, will be followed up by other letters of the remaining portions at stated periods, as fast as circumstances would justify—I did feel that my friends at Evansville would see in this action the most satisfactory proofs of the wise action of the Trustees, insuring the certain completion of the Canal, in the shortest possible time. As I am obliged to keep my eye constantly on the only means or resources provided, and which can be relied on to finish the work, I am convinced that no greater or more fatal error could possibly be committed by the Trustees than to spend a dollar of money where it would not tell in the construction. We shall gain strength now as we proceed for we shall be extending the Canal rapidly down into the Vincennes Land District among our lands—making them valuable and insuring sales at fair prices. We have experienced great difficulty in obtaining labor, and unless we can get labor into the country, we shall be delayed very much. I have had a notice addressed to Emigrants, countrymen and laborers, extensively published in the German papers in this Country inviting them to come into the Vincennes District, and work on the Canal, and settle on the lands—I hope you will take pains to send all such as come to Evansville upon the line, or if they prefer to settle in back of Evansville, they can do so with the entire certainty that the Canal is coming down as fast as labor and means can bring it. Our friends at Evansville, should take pains to give a proper direction to this class of persons. In May, we have a large letting, and all who want work, can then get it. In order to judge of the best plan of progressing with the work, you should be placed in the office of Trustee with the responsibility resting upon you of having the work done. It would be as great a disappointment to the Bond-holders to have it fail, as it would be to the citizen of Evansville, and if my life is spared, I mean that neither shall be disappointed in that wished for consummation. I shall visit you when I go into Indiana again, (at least such is my determination,) and I have regretted not being able to do so last fall. Nothing but the most unintermitting and confining labor at Terre Haute for a month prevented me from doing so.

Truly, your friend, CHARLES BUTLER.

Letters have been received at Washington which confidently state that Maj. Van Buren, who reached Vera Cruz by the last train from the capital, will bear a project of a treaty of peace with Mexico and the United States.

MURDER OF A CHILD BY ITS MOTHER, AND SUICIDE OF THE MOTHER.—One of the most painful tragedies, says the Rochester Advertiser of the 8th inst., which has been our province to record, occurred in Irondequoit, about four miles from this city, on Sunday evening, being no less than the murder of an infant child by its mother, and the suicide of the mother by hanging! The circumstances, as far as we have been able to gather them, at this early hour, are as follows:—On the evening in question, between 6 and 7 o'clock, Mrs. Barnard, wife of Alanson Barnard, one of the constables of Irondequoit, requested her husband to go to a neighbor's and procure a pail of milk. Mr. B. was absent something like an hour, having stopped to talk, as is usual amongst neighboring families, and returned home between 7 and 8 o'clock. On reaching the door of his house, he was met by a little girl, some eleven years of age, who said to him that she "could not find her ma." Running hastily into the house, he examined the beds in the several rooms, the outhouse, &c., making a loud noise at the same time to attract the attention of the neighbors—one or two of whom came in a few minutes. By this time a light had been procured by the little girl, and the house thoroughly examined, and on proceeding to the cellar, Mrs. Barnard was found suspended by the neck with a handkerchief to a beam. On looking further they discovered her infant child, about eleven days old, lying dead in bed, who appeared to have been strangled. From the story of the little girl it seems that soon after Mr. Barnard left, the mother remarked that she was sleepy, and would lie down for a while and proceeded to the bed-room for that purpose when it is supposed she strangled the child. In a short time she came into the room occupied by the little girl, and told her to go and get into her place in the bed, and lie still—not to stir—when the mother undoubtedly proceeded to the cellar, and put an end to her own life as stated above. No possible cause can be assigned for the commission of this rash act.

The mother was an amiable, pleasant woman, agreeably situated, and highly regarded by her family, and her friends. For some time, however, she had occasionally exhibited a distaste for company, and went less frequently amongst her friends and neighbors, inclining rather to a melancholy state of mind. After the birth of her child, on the 26th ult., she was extremely cheerful, and recovered in health very rapidly, so much so that she had partaken of her meals with the family for two or three days. On the day on which the sad act was committed, she came to the table both at morning and noon, and nothing was discovered different from her usual habits of demerment produced by childbirth fever, she put an end to her own and the life of her offspring. She was about thirty-two years of age, and leaves a husband and four children. Coroner Frost held an inquest on the bodies yesterday, and the jury returned a verdict in the case of the mother of death from suicide, probably the result of insanity; and in the case of the child, death from some cause to the jury unknown. There were no marks of violence on the child; but at that age it could have been easily smothered without leaving any appearance of foul play.

The Matamoros Flag, says: The collection of internal taxes goes on swimmingly. We understand, says the Flag, that nearly \$10,000 have been received by Capt. Chapman within the last month, without including the tax formerly collected by the central government of Mexico. Assessment rolls are being made out for the latter, which, when added to the State, city and other taxes collected here, will swell the receipts to a handsome sum.

It was reported by Mexicans, recently arrived at Matamoros from the interior, that Vital Fernandez, Governor of the State of Tamaulipas Gen. Canales, and Col. Carrasco have concocted a scheme having for its object the independence of the Northern States of Mexico; and that they are now endeavoring to obtain converts to their views. Canales, we believe, has been outlawed by his government, and the colonel is in rather bad odor with all.

THE LOAN BILL.—It will be seen from the proceedings of Congress under the telegraph head that the bill for the negotiation of a new loan of \$16,000,000 has passed the House of Representatives, Mr. Kay's substitute proposing the issue of \$16,000,000 of Treasury notes instead of the negotiation of a loan having been defeated by a majority of one vote.

GEN TAYLOR.—MR. CLAY.—The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun writes in his letter of the 11th inst: "Things have happened here within the last week which will tend to render Gen. Taylor the nominee of the Whig national convention, and with Mr. Clay's approbation and aid. I will explain these circumstances hereafter."

A bill to abolish the death penalty, and substitute solitary confinement, has been defeated in Pennsylvania Senate.

The richest man in St. Thomas, one of the principal ports of the West Indies, is as black as ebony. He is said to be worth not less than \$3,000,000 and has acquired his wealth by trafficking in persons of his own color.

Despatches by the Magnetic Telegraph.

ADDITIONAL FOREIGN NEWS BY THE HIBERNIA.

LIVERPOOL, January 30.

Flour is scarce and held at last prices. Wheat has declined 2d per bushel, but at the last accounts symptoms of improvements began to be manifested. Corn meal is unchanged and the market dull.

Money is abundant. Consols are quoted at 89½ a 89½ and market unsettled. The influx of specie has been very large.

Business in the manufacturing districts is improving and but few failures of minor importance have taken place.

At London on the 21st, American flour was held firm with offers to buy at lower rates.—Grain had declined.

On the 24th, a further decline of 2s per quarter in wheat was experienced. Flour, with the exception of the finest brands, was still declining.

On the 26th, but little business was done and prices were steady.

On the 28th the market was inactive, but prices were fully maintained.

Iron was unaltered. Several furnaces had been compelled to stop.

The most reliable quotation for flour is 27s 6d to 29s for best American descriptions and market dull.

Wilmers European Times quotes fine leaf lard at 58s to 60s in kegs and bbls, and 48s a 50s for ordinary descriptions.

The principal failures that have transpired have induced the stoppage of several Indian houses.

The Wales Bank has resumed business.

The disturbances in the mining districts, caused by the striking of the workmen, continues.

Hope & Co., in a circular, invite the holders of Louisiana bonds to deliver them up with acquiescence, in the proportion agreed upon, at the Louisiana Citizen Bank.

Cardinal Massina died at Rome.

Abdel Kadar, in his imprisonment, is treated with great rigor, because he refuses to write a letter of thanks to the King for his hospitable reception.

The Indian news by this arrival is unimportant.

CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17, 9 P. M.

The Senate was called to order at the usual hour, and proceeded to the consideration of the regular morning business.

Mr. Dickinson's resolutions were taken up and Mr. Vinton spoke in favor of the ten-regiment bill. He was for prompt and energetic action on our part, and would not be satisfied with any boundary short of the Sierra Madre, with a total and unqualified relinquishment of the California by Mexico.

In the House of Representatives, the morning business was mostly of an unimportant character.

On motion, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole and proceeded to the consideration of the loan bill.

The question, after considerable debate, was taken on Mr. McKay's substitute, to Mr. Vinton's amendment, providing for the issue of \$16,000,000, of Treasury notes.

The yeas and nays being called thereon it was lost by one majority.

The previous question was then called and had, and the original bill was passed.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18, 9 P. M.

The President called the Senate to order, and it proceeded to the consideration of the morning business.

Mr. Ashley, from the Committee on the Judiciary reported a bill relating to the district courts of Michigan.

An amendment was offered, and, after much discussion it was rejected.

The bill was then passed.

A bill relative to the compensation of post-masters was reported from the same committee read a third time and passed.

Mr. Baldwin submitted a resolution, declining on the part of the United States the revenue collected in Mexico, and that all such moneys ought to be applied to the payment of the claims of our citizens against that country.

The Vice President laid before the Senate a report from the Secretary, of the Treasury, which was ordered to be printed.

A bill for the relief of the widow of Major McRea was passed.

On motion, all further business was aside laid in order to take up the special order of the day—the ten-regiment bill.

Mr. Green spoke at some length in opposition to the bill.

Mr. Mason then obtained the floor, and the Senate adjourned over until Monday.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Haralson, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill providing for the past services of volunteers.

The bill was debated at some length without any definite action, when on motion, it was laid over.

A bill was also reported appropriating some public land to aid in the construction of a railroad in Georgia.

Considerable debate ensued upon it. On motion, said bill was referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

COL. WM. POLK—COL. FREMONT.—The

Washington correspondent of the New York Courier and Enquirer writes in his letter of the 9th inst:

Since the rejection of Kit Carson as a captain of Rifles, because he had been appointed over the heads of meritorious fellow-soldiers, Col. William Polk, brother of the President, stands a first-rate chance of being rejected as a major of dragoons—though the principle which produced the rejection of the one, is scarce applicable to the case of the other.

Col. Fremont is sentenced, and pretty severely in the bargain. The President has had the case under advisement, but up to this moment no satisfactory conclusion has been come to. Meanwhile Major Polk is doing very well in Mexico, dreaming as little of the precariousness of his situation as the most modest clerk of your custom house. In the midst of life there is death, in the midst of success there is danger. It would be a hard case though, if a man were to resign a chieftainship for which he was confirmed, in order to accept a majority for which he is rejected.

THE GOVERNMENT'S ENORMOUS EXPENDITURES

—FRIGHTFUL INCREASE OF THE NATIONAL DEBT

—MODES OF PAYING IT.—"Independent," the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia North American, writes as follows in his letter of the 9th inst.:

We are now going on at a cost of fully seventy millions of dollars a year, against twenty-six millions of annual resources, which are diminishing daily, leaving a deficiency of forty-four millions. When it is proposed to augment the revenue by increasing the duties on imports and by extending a fair protection to iron, coal, and other large domestic interests that are now severely suffering, the Administration answers, "the tariff of '46 shall not be touched."

When it is proposed to raise three millions from tea and coffee, the demagogues who brought on this war, skulk from the responsibility of supporting it, and vote it down, for fear of losing their seats. When a direct tax of five millions is proposed, the President's organ denounces it furiously, fearing nothing but its dangerous effects upon the party. Now I ask honorable and honest men, is it right for us to saddle the vast debt of this Executive war on posterity? If it is popular and just, the people will pay for it as they did in the last contest with Great Britain. But it is evident the President and his party dare not submit to such a test. They will not provide a dollar of additional revenue, and now on the eve of going out of power, this Administration asks for scores of millions to carry it through its career regardless of cost or consequences. All they want is money to pursue their scheme of conquest, and in a shape through which their extravagance cannot be estimated until the concern is regularly wound up.

They resist any change in the tariff—they refuse to abandon the Sub-Treasury—they hold on to every party measure, and yet they have the audacity to demand treasury notes, to hide their iniquity and to carry them through the

THEIR CIRCULATION.—According to the statements as sworn to from their offices respectively, the city circulation of the New York Herald, is 9,031; that of the New York Tribune is 8,859. Excess of the Herald, 172.

"Bets" have been accepted between the two as regards their total circulation.

THE WOMEN OF TURKEY.—A writer in Blackwood says: "The lot of this portion of the Musselman population is much less unhappy than one would be led to expect. They certainly hold a secondary station to society; but, brought up as they are in the most complete ignorance, they are unconscious of their degraded position, and know not there is a better.—they are, in general, treated very kindly by their husbands and masters, and do not undergo, as it supposed, either capricious or brutal treatment. Although in Europe they still believe a Turk to be constantly surrounded by a multitude of odalisks, at Constantinople there are very few Osmanlees who have three or even two wives; and even these lodge in separate mansions, in general far distant from each other. Almost all the Turks, with the exception of the very few above mentioned individuals, possess, in general, but one wife, to whom they are most faithful."

THE CHOLERA.—All accounts from the Old World show that America must inevitably be visited, and that shortly, by the terrible scourge of Cholera; and, as yet, nothing is done either by national, State, or municipal authorities, to prepare for it. Most of our readers will remember that the Cholera of 1832 and 1833 was preceded by a remarkably mild and humid winter like the one now passing. If this be not proof of what may be expected, it certainly is a remarkable coincidence, as in both instances accounts of Cholera in Europe reached this country at the same season. We look for some slight attacks before the dawn of another year, and its prevalence, as a pestilence, during the spring and summer of 1848. Bicknell's Reporter suggests that a commission be appointed to visit the scenes of the pestilence, to inquire minutely into its history, and ascertain the best prevential and remedial measures. We heartily endorse the proposition. While, however, we perform every possible preparatory duty, let the dread enemy be met without fear.—Mr. Dawson says, in relation to the Cholera of 1832, that it was generally remarked that the most perfect immunity was amongst those who combined habits of cleanliness, temperance and industry, with a happy and tranquil mind—fear being reckoned among the most active causes of the disease; a proposition borne out by the medical men who visited the sick, and who generally escaped all attacks.—N. Y. Sun.

SOBER CONSIDERATION.—We have in our

war arrived at a point for sober reflection. Looking back to the beginning, hardly a man in the nation, we think, will not regret that our troops ever crossed the Rio Grande, or even passed beyond the Nueces. We can look at the present. Mexico is subdued, and lies physically at our feet, and yet does not sue for peace; and hardly has she the ability remaining to possess a Government which would be worth our recognition. Any treaty which her present so called Government might make would rather be an occasion than a cause for terminating the war. A great portion of her people sit quietly in their houses still. They have been so used to uproar and the din of war that this war has but a little increased the interest of their feelings. They are not subdued in feeling nor aroused perhaps to any great effort at resistance. The war so far has cost them much less money than it has cost us, by more lives, though generally of less individual value. We have gained great military glory and Mexico has lost everything in comparison though in the abstract she has shown more courage, skill, and resources of all sorts, than the world supposed she possessed. Upon the whole the damage and the danger have been greater on our side than hers. We put into the wager a great, prosperous and happy nation with institutions the freest and choicest ever possessed by any nation, and she put in nationality and institutions hardly worth the keeping. If we look to the future we see that the strength is all on our side, and of course the action must be ours. There are certain things which we can do, but others we cannot do. We cannot control the wills of the Mexicans. We cannot compel them to remain bound by the treaty stipulations of their present Government. We can fall back; we can go forward. But we cannot compel the Mexican to love us.—Jour. of Com.

The Scientific Mechanic has the following notice of a very wonderful lock: "The most perfectly secure and efficient, unpickable, unbreakable and unburstable lock ever introduced has recently been invented and perfected by Mr. S. L. Chase, of Lockport, New York. It is susceptible of 734,000,000,000,000 changes of adjustment, has no accessible aperture into which gunpowder can be introduced, and could not be picked or unlocked in seven years, even by the manufacturer thereof with the key in his possession, unless he had locked it himself, and as to the thieves, the more they should examine and investigate this lock, by indents, impressions or otherwise, the more they would not know how to open it!"

GEN. PIERCE AND THE WEST POINTERS.—In

the course of Gen. Pierce's late speech at Concord, N. H., he remarked that he had to retract opinions he had formerly entertained and expressed in relation to the Military Academy at West Point. He was of opinion that the City of Mexico could not have been entered in the way it was, but for the science and intelligence in the military affairs of the officers of the army, mostly from West Point.

J. P. W. says.—The...

recently at New Orleans, some time since effected, through some merchants of that city, an insurance of \$30,000 upon his life—which handsome sum will now revert to his widow.

ROME CRUMBLING TO DECAY.—This famed

and proud city is not now what it once was.—Its ancient grandeur and glory has long since departed. For ages the spirit of decay has been creeping over it. Many of her once thronged streets are now desolate, and her once gorgeous palaces lie in scattered and crumbling ruins. For years the population has been steadily declining. The malaria of the marshes is steadily poisoning the atmosphere and palying the energies of the whole region. Causes seem, in the providence of God, silently yet powerfully at work, which will in lapse of years render Rome like Babylon and Nineveh, an uninhabitable desolation.

Rev. Dr. Adams, Pastor of the Broome st. church, is delivering a course of lectures on the present condition of Rome, to crowded audiences. In the last lecture which he delivered after dwelling on the ecclesiastical aspect of affairs at Rome, he said:

"But over this vast metropolis has an air of change and decay passed. The seven hills are distinctly visible, but strewn and almost covered with broken fragments, the ruins and dust of her once proud monuments and greatness.—The Tiber still flows, an insignificant and sluggish stream, between its banks, forgetful of the time when the arms and luxuries of the world floated on its side, when it was crowded with the barges of princes, whose gorgeous banners and silken sails bore testimony to her magnificence. As you look forth upon the sunny plains of the Campagna, far stretching to the sea, you see a region of sterility and death, where the peasant who would cultivate the soil drop into the grave almost as fast as the rain drops, and where the country has been mostly abandoned to Buffaloes and wild Boars. The whole population of the Papal States is only one-half the number which once inhabited Rome itself. Rome has not changed in her claim to ecclesiastical power. She regards her claim as the highest in power, her superiority, of divine appointment.

"So of its moral aspects. Preaching is hardly known. One sermon only I heard in the Sistine Chapel, in Latin, and only six minutes long. Dispensations for reading the Sacred Scriptures are often granted, but the Bibles are of such size and shape that the common people with difficulty can obtain them. The spirit of Rome is still seen in a picture in which a victorious angel is represented as treading in triumph on the prostrate forms of Luther and Calvin.

"But great change has passed over the Roman Pontiff. The wealth of Rome is exhausted. She is poor, hopelessly poor. With a debt of \$40,000,000, the interest is a tax of more than 30 per cent. upon her whole income.—Leo X. raised immense sums for the rearing of churches and the encouragement of the arts and artists, by the sale of indulgences, but the Council of Trent forbade the sale of indulgences for money. Kings were once impoverished by this, and wealth flowed into Rome like rivers of water, and Augustan elegance was united with Augustan luxury. But no Tezel could now be sent into Germany to sell forgiveness for sins and raise treasures in return. Rome wears the aspect of proud poverty. That government is fallen which relies upon borrowed funds."—N. Y. Evangelist.