

THE BEE.

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MONDAY, (MORNING,) JANUARY 17, 1831.

No mail was received on Saturday, from any point beyond Mobile; the failure was doubtless occasioned by high waters.

The following letter written by the Hon. J. Johnston, one of our Senators in Congress, and copied from the Argus of Saturday, sufficiently explains itself. We hope its publication will have the effect of calling the attention of all persons interested, to the important subject referred to by the writer.

WASHINGTON, DEC. 28, 1830.

"Sir.—The pre-emption law of the 20th of May 1830, will expire on the 2d of the year, that is on the 28th of May 1831. This law will enable many persons to obtain their lands at the minimum price and with little trouble. It may be difficult to re-enact this law, and I recommend earnestly to the claimants to enter now, while the offices are open. I particularly request the Editors of the papers to call the attention of our citizens to the law.

It is said that notwithstanding the facilities that have been so long afforded by the Government, there are still numerous small tracts, parts of large tracts, along the whole coast of the Mississippi, which have not been confirmed. This has arisen in some cases, perhaps from neglect, but generally from other causes. These tracts have in many instances been cultivated forty and fifty years, and the length of time creates difficulty in tracing out titles and descent and partitions, &c. Those inhabitants who have the best titles, and they may be perfectly confidential, the Government will not permit them to be disturbed in their possession;—they will be exempt from sale.

In the mean time measures must be taken to obtain a confirmation of their titles.

Where the land is valuable from its connection with an estate, and where the tract is small, it is recommended to enter under the pre-emption law of the last session before alluded to. This will be a little expensive, but it will save trouble and secure the land.

Where the tract is large, or the claimant poor, or it is inconvenient to pay the money, it will be proper to address a petition to Congress, supporting the claim by respectable witnesses, and shewing it is within the principles of the claims heretofore confirmed. These petitions will be referred to the same committee, who will report a bill for the confirmation of all of them.

This will present the alternative of entering all under one hundred and sixty acres at the minimum price, or of petitioning Congress, I need not say that those who have titles and settlement rights, that are embraced by any of the laws, or fall within the general principles established by the several Boards of Commissars, may rely with perfect confidence upon the justice of the country, and that the representatives of the state will give the proper attention to them. In the mean time the sales of the public land will progress under exceptions of all that class of claims, that will be reserved from sale.

This is considered better than to open again the Land Offices, which greatly expose the Government to fraud and must sustain the sales.

Those who mean to avail themselves of the law, should lose no time in making their entry, furnishing the proof and paying the money.

We hope during the session to obtain the separation of our district from Mississippi, so as to have a surveyor General in our State, with all the surveys and archives that belong to the office. It is found extremely difficult to obtain a competent person for the office.

The sales of the public lands increase with the growth and prosperity of the country.—They produced in 1829 \$1,572,583, for 1,214,860 acres. It is estimated for 1831, at \$1,700,000. In a few years it will reach two millions a year.

I am with great respect, your ob't servt.

J. S. JOHNSTON.

A prospectus of the biography of Henry Clay, by Geo. D. Prentiss, Esq., which, it is understood, will shortly be issued from the press of Messrs. Hamner & Phelps of Cincinnati, Ohio, has been left at the Book Stores, in this city, and also at the offices of the Mercantile Advertiser and The Bee.

Mr. Prentiss is justly ranked among the best writers in the country; and from what we know of him personally, and the opportunity he has had to possess himself of the requisite materials, we believe he hazard nothing in saying that the work will be executed in a style satisfactory to the public, creditable to the author, and worthy its illustrious subject.

It will contain about 300 large duodecimo pages, and handsomely bound, will be furnished to subscribers at \$2 per copy.

The Agent of the publishers who is now in this City, informs us that the books will be delivered during the months of May and June next.

CONGRESSIONAL.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.

In the Senate yesterday a Report from the Secretary of the Navy was received, on the provision made to relieve the national ships at foreign ports prior to the expiration of the term for which the enlistment of the seamen had been made; and also the provision ordered to enable those whose term of enlistment had already expired to return to the United States. It was ordered to be printed.—Mr. Dickerson submitted his resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution, by limiting the period to which a person would be eligible to be elected President of the United States to two terms.—The trial of Judge Peck was continued. Three additional witnesses for the impeachment were examined, on which the Managers pronounced that they there rested their case. On the Court's rising, the further hearing of the trial was postponed till Monday next, in consequence of the unexpected absence of Mr. Wirt, leading counsel for Judge Peck, owing to the severe indisposition of a member of his family.

The House of Representatives were yesterday engaged in the presentation of petitions and reports, and in the further consideration of the resolution of Mr. Howard, relative to the printing of the old Reports of the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures. Some discussion again took place on the subject of this resolution, which was again interrupted by the message from the Senate, announcing that the Senate were sitting as a Court of impeachment. The House accordingly proceeded to the Senate.

Nashville, Jan. 3.

The City Hotel in this town is again open, under the superintendance of its old landlord, Capt. James Edmondson. This noble building has arisen from its ashes with increased splendor and convenience, and is certainly among the most spacious and commodious edifices of the kind in the Western country. To the enterprise and public spirit of a few of our citizens is the community indebted for the prompt and satisfactory completion of this important work, and we trust they will be amply rewarded for their zeal, by the gratification of witnessing the success of their efforts for the benefit of the town and the accommodation of strangers.

On Saturday last, being the first day of the new year, Capt. Edmondson took possession of

the premises and commenced operations by giving a handsome entertainment to his friends and acquaintances generally. The hospitable board was abundantly supplied with substantial viands and agreeable beverages, and a crowd of cheerful, gay-spirited visitors testified their entire satisfaction by smiling countenances and lively conversation, and by the unrestrained freedom with which they partook of the good cheer so liberally provided and so freely tendered.—*National Banner.*

THE SLAVE TRADE.

Admiralty Office, Nov. 29.

Captain Gordon, of his Majesty's ship Atholl, has transmitted to the Right Hon. John Wilson Croker, a letter, from Commander William Broughton, of his Majesty's ship Primrose, to Captain Gordon, dated at the island of Ascension, 5th October, 1830, of which the following is an extract:

Proceeding in execution of your orders of the 3d September, I had the good fortune to fall in at 11, 30, P. M. on the 6th of the month, with the Spanish ship *Velas Pasegros*, Jose Antonio de la Vega, master, from Wydah, bound to Havana, purposed for 20 guns, but having only 20 mounted; and from the officer whom I sent to board not being allowed to examine her below, as usual, I concluded she had slaves on board. Finding I had much the advantage of her in sailing, and wishing to avoid the effusion of blood by a night action with a vessel crowded with slaves, I remained by her until morning, when, being within hail, and still resolutely refusing permission to search her, we opened our fire, which she returned immediately, the ships nearly touched each other; after the second broadside we laid her on board, and in ten minutes carried her with a loss on our side of three killed and twenty wounded; the *Velas* had 40 killed and 20 wounded, out of a crew of as near as I could ascertain of 150 men of different nations, and having board 355 slaves, five of whom were killed. Being myself wounded in the act of boarding, my place was ably taken by Lieut. Foley, Mr. Fraser, Acting Master, and Mr. Bentham, Midshipman, to each of whom I feel decidedly indebted for their zealous exertions—so also to Mr. Williamson, acting purser, who rendered his services on deck during the action; and I feel myself called upon to notice in particular the conduct of the acting surgeon, Mr. Lanes, who, though dangerously ill, exerted himself in an extraordinary manner in his attention to the wounded, having no assistant on board. I cannot speak too highly in praise of the gallantry and good conduct of the warrant and petty officers and ship's company, who distinguished themselves not only for their skill in action, but for their great personal exertions in reducing the two ships afterwards. I enclose a list of the killed and wounded.

Killed.—James Graham, seaman; William Barker and Benjamin Allen, marines.

Wounded.—Commander Broughton, severely; Mr. Fraser, master, severely; Mr. Bentham, midshipman, slightly; Mr. Watts, boatswain, dangerously; Mark Dench, marine, dangerously; George Martin, seaman, slightly; Henry Amry, seaman, severely; Wm. Rust, seaman, slightly; John Compton, seaman, slightly; J. Owens, seaman, slightly; Thos. Walker, marine, severely; H. Stevens, marine, slightly.

N. B.—I am happy to add that commander Broughton, and the officers who were wounded, are quite recovered, with the exception of Mr. Watts, the boatswain, who is still in a dangerous state.

(Signed) A. GORDON, Captain.

NAPLES.

Death of the King of Naples.—An express which left Naples on the 8th Nov., brought the news of the death of the King of Naples which took place on the 8th, at three o'clock. The hereditary prince was immediately proclaimed King, by the name of Ferdinand II.

The Rentes de Naples, which were at 67 1/2, a few days before King's death rose on the 9th to 70.

The first act of the king is a proclamation, declaring the abdication of the young monarch

respecting the civil, military, financial, and ecclesiastical affairs of the kingdom. His Ma-

jesty says he will do his utmost to heal the wounds which have long afflicted the Kingdom, that he will protect the Catholic religion; that he will take the greatest care for the due and impartial administration of justice; that he will endeavor to improve the financial administration, and to alleviate the burthens of the people.

GERMANY.

Luxembourg., Oct. 27.—Two Commissioners, from Dietl at Frankfurt, will shortly arrive, and form in concert with the Governor of the Grand Duchy, Wilmers, a Committee of the German Confederation.—Prince Philip of Hesse Darmstadt, is named as the intended Commander-in-Chief of the troops of the Confederation destined to occupy the Grand Duchy.—Within the last few days immense convoys of corn, cattle, and other provisions have entered the fortress, together with a considerable quantity of stores for the army. On the 25th, a corps of Prussian soldiers made a sortie from Luxembourg, and gained success as far as Boferange in the Valley of Marsch. The country was at first alarmed, but they returned into the town without committing the least act of hostility. The Brabant flag is flying at Eich within sight of the Prussian garrison.

(Signed) A. GORDON, Captain.

Exported since the 30th September, consignee,

for the following ports, viz:

DESTINATION. SUGAR. MOLASSES.

Hdbs. Bbls. Hds. Bbls.

New-York, 7750 473 2273 366

Philadelphia, 2020 540 227 43

Charleston, 1203 481 600 368

Baltimore, 2742 316 501 306

Savannah, 658 137 195

Boston, 667 12 25 146

Norfolk, 200 0 1 26

Providence, 1 1 148

Potsmouth, 8 1

Pensacola, 90 15

Alexandria, 157 1 118 10

Total 1774 1894 3629 3345

Same time in 1829: 4057 244 1003 973

Same time in 1828: 26337 746 3355 845

Same time in 1827: 14763 282 7706 1216

Same time in 1826: 12925 231 1085 1037

TOBACCO.—We continue our former quotations of 2d, a 1/4 cents, for crossed, second and first, as regards the small amount in first hand, who are willing to sell. We have not any exchange to report this week, and are rather led to believe that the article is not in so good request as it was when freights were at full mount; and from the officer whom I sent to board not being allowed to examine her below, as usual, I concluded she had slaves on board. Finding I had much the advantage of her in sailing, and wishing to avoid the effusion of blood by a night action with a vessel crowded with slaves, I remained by her until morning, when, being within hail, and still resolutely refusing permission to search her, we opened our fire, which she returned immediately, the ships nearly touched each other; after the second broadside we laid her on board, and in ten minutes carried her with a loss on our side of three killed and twenty wounded; the *Velas* had 40 killed and 20 wounded, out of a crew of as near as I could ascertain of 150 men of different nations, and having board 355 slaves, five of whom were killed. Being myself wounded in the act of boarding, my place was ably taken by Lieut. Foley, Mr. Fraser, Acting Master, and Mr. Bentham, Midshipman, to each of whom I feel decidedly indebted for their zealous exertions—so also to Mr. Williamson, acting purser, who rendered his services on deck during the action; and I feel myself called upon to notice in particular the conduct of the acting surgeon, Mr. Lanes, who, though dangerously ill, exerted himself in an extraordinary manner in his attention to the wounded, having no assistant on board. I cannot speak too highly in praise of the gallantry and good conduct of the warrant and petty officers and ship's company, who distinguished themselves not only for their skill in action, but for their great personal exertions in reducing the two ships afterwards. I enclose a list of the killed and wounded.

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wounds which have long afflicted the Kingdom, that he will protect the Catholic religion; that he will take the greatest care for the due and impartial administration of justice; that he will endeavor to improve the financial administration, and to alleviate the burthens of the people.

ARRIVED.

Towboat Porpoise Stoddard, from S.W. Pass-

tow down ship Louisiana to Morrison's plant-

ation; and to sea ship Azura, brig Delta and

sea Mon; towed the ship Green over the bar;

brought no packet ship Russell, and sea Plough-

ton from Newburyport. Left the Passat 6 p.

m. 13th inst.—went to sea ship Warren, and

brig Corinthian and Avon ship Eugene on the

bar; ship Howard at anchor out side; one brig

and sea Soman inside. A schooner bound to Attagas, 10 days from Cape Horn.

Packet ship Russell, Fowke, New York,

26th December, to Barston & Adams cargo,

to H. Bow & co; Tyes & co; Yorke, Mac-

lester & co; M. Bush, Smith Hubbard & co;

Hyde & Gauntlett; N. M. Riker; C. Pyring; Lock-

ett; Dr. A. Bell; J. G. Guilford; W. Falconer; A. Fisk

Dr. H. & W. Bell; J. G. Washington; R. G. L.

Deyo; B. Levy; P. S. Newton & co; Har-