

RATES OF RED RIVER.

Boston, March 12.—Captain Birth and East Lee, with a detachment of men from Contonous Jeap, who, by order of government, have been up Red River examining the great Raft returned a few days ago, after an absence, on the duty, of about two months. We have conversed with these sensible and very intelligent gentlemen, on the subject of their excursion; the object of which we understood to have been, to ascertain the practicability of opening a steamboat navigation through the Raft; and we understand from them, that they found, in one hundred miles in the serpentine bed of Old River, about one hundred and eighty distinct rafts or logs of timber, from a foot to three or four hundred yards in length. To break or remove these, so that steam boats could pass, would be a work of very great labor, and expense; and, if effected, the timber lot boats would form new obstructions below. They found the banks of the river exceeding, but covered with such quantities of cane, vines, and briars, that it is impossible for a man to get through it without cutting a passage; of which a man could cut but a few yards in a day. After examining the old bed of the river as well as they could, they crossed over an island, hauling their light skiffs to the Bayou Pierre, or western branch or division of the river, which they found very different; from which a canal of less than half a mile, through a level alluvial soil, would open a communication into lake Scioto. They entered the lake with their skiffs, and spent several days in examining it. This lake is about 100 miles long, and five or six broad; it has a channel in it, in which, they found ten feet water, and the high water mark at least fifteen feet above the then surface. The lake stretches along with an indented shore nearly parallel with the river; there is a communication between the lake and the river already, about twenty-five miles above the head of the raft; and one might easily be opened many miles higher up. They found in descending the Bayou Pierre Branch, which unites with the old bed again, about six miles above Natchitoches, very little obstruction; the principle of which is a few cypress stumps standing in the passage, which can easily be removed at low water; which, being done, and a passage cut into lake Scioto, there would nothing at high water to prevent steam boats from descending Red river, more than one thousand miles above Natchitoches, or even into new Mexico, through an extraordinary rich fertile country, and a mild and sub-tropical climate. It is believed that the Bayou Pierre passage is more than one hundred miles shorter than by the other branch of the river.—*Courier.*

Baltimore, April 17.—The amateurs at the head of the basin were this morning suddenly called to witness a scene of great novelty. A well-fed, fat and merry visaged man was found floating in the water, apparently alive, but making no exertions to get out. Some said they saw him, a few minutes before, run down the street and plunge off the wharf. Others supposed that he had fallen off accidentally; but it appeared impossible to ascertain correctly whether accident or design had placed him in that situation. The persons collected went to work to get him out, and after laying him on the wharf and applying the usual scenes for the resuscitation of drowned person, he exhibited pretty clear symptoms of life, by rolling and thrashing about lustily, and by calling on the bystanders, "to beat him on the head," for he "must die" and he "would die." None of the crowd saw fit to accommodate him with a blow; and after heaving to be despatched for some time, and after the cold bath had had time to produce its effects, he got up and went off, apparently reconciled to his fate of being compelled to live a little longer. A wag, who was probably a miller, observed at the time, "If that fellow had opened his knife he'd have been dead."—*Patriot.*

How Printers live.—The editor of a paper in Warren county, Pa. say he has not received two dollars in five months. Many may doubt this, but those who do so, give evidence that they know but little of "the trade."

Soon after the above notice, it is reported, the subscribers to the paper, as if stung with a diligent conscience, by an almost simultaneous movement, went forward, payed up their arrears, come in advance, upon which the printer got new types, better paper, and went on with his business as gaily as a lark.]

FROM THE NEW-YORK NATIONAL ADVOCATE.

ORIENTAL HARP.
Mr. Editor.—I wish, through the medium of the National Advocate, to inform my friends, that it is my intention to publish, as soon as practicable, a select and revised volume of my best poems, under the title of the "Oriental Harp," to be embellished with a new vignette of the Boston Bard, taken from a painting executed in Philadelphia, in the year 1821, at the age of twenty-three years. A private subscription paper will be handed to my friends in due season, bearing the following conditions, &c. of the work, viz:

"It shall contain, at least, two hundred and fifty duodecimo pages, printed with new type, on good and white paper, worth, at least, \$4 per ream, to be both neatly and substantially bound, and delivered to subscribers at one dollar and twenty-five cents per copy. Gentlemen who shall subscribe to this volume of my poems, may rest assured, that every thing herein promised, shall be strictly fulfilled. The expenses of this edition will be great; but I never waked my song upon a foreign shore—east an American, what have I to fear?"

BOSTON BARD.

New York, April 10, 1820.
P. S. I wish it to be understood, that the book called "The Life of the Boston Bard," has been so wretchedly printed, that the sales have never been, nor will they ever be of any sort of benefit to me whatever. Publishers of newspapers are requested to extract this communication, and give the same one insertion in their respective journals.

Horrid Crime—Awful Verdict!—Mr. Hunter, the celebrated Equestrian and performer on the rope, well known to our readers, for his extraordinary feats at the Baltimore Circus, has been tried in Hartford, Connecticut—the land of blue laws, under a law of that state which prohibits certain feats performed in the Circos. It summing up the judge informed the jury that it was "for me to find a verdict for the plaintiff"—and of course against Hunter. The jury returned into Court twice, stating that they could not agree. On the third time they found a special verdict, finding Mr. Hunter "guilty of rope dancing, and of extraordinary feats of agility and dexterity of body." The fine for these crimes—rope dancing and extraordinary feats of agility and dexterity of body, in Connecticut—is fifty dollars. There is also a law in Connecticut prohibiting certain feats of acrobatics in the legislature; that no one has performed an extraordinary feat of agility and good sense, by blighting the entire state.

books of a state situated in the midst of enlightened and liberal republics, such a relic of the darker ages!

Literary Shepherds.—The fraternity of shepherds have unquestionably given rise to some character of worth and genius. The late Mr. Holcroft was originally an indigent shepherd.—Robert Bloomfield wrote his poem of the Farmer's Boy, while employed at his business; and Dr. Wm. Carew, professor of Semitic and Bengali at the College of Fort William, Calcutta, and the able and indefatigable translator of the Scriptures into many of the Eastern languages, was, in early life, a shepherd in Northamptonshire. The present Mr. Gilford, the translator of Juvenal, and the editor of the Quarterly Review, spent some of his early days in learning the "craft and mystery" of shoemaking, as he tells us in one of the most interesting pieces of autobiography ever penned, and prefixed to his nervous and elegant version of the great Roman satirist.

New Orleans, March 10, 1820.—Yesterday, a case of rather a novel nature, was brought before the Criminal Court. During the trial of a criminal, on Wednesday last, or, more properly, in passing sentence upon him, the Judge had occasion to make some severe observations on the conduct of two members of the bar, in regard to the prisoner before his trial. The same afternoon, one of them, (Mr. Liddy,) met the Judge in the upper Faubourg, and accused him in abusive and menacing language. On Thursday, the Judge issued his warrant against him, and he was lodged in prison during that night. Yesterday he was brought before the Court, and, after hearing a variety of testimony in relation to the conversation between him and the Judge, he was ordered to find security to keep the peace during one year, in two securities for one thousand dollars each, and to be committed until he find such securities. He was accordingly committed to prison.

[Advertiser.]

Lower Canada.—The Legislature of Lower Canada closed a long and busy session on the 29th inst. The jealousy and collision which have existed for some time between the Legislative Body and the Royal Governor General, and which appeared to be increasing, made the proceedings interesting to their neighbors. The Legislature claims the right, when making grants of money, &c. to regulate its appropriation; and the Governor General denies they have such a right. When the grants are for the support of the Civil Government, and the administration of Justice. Addresses were voted by decided majorities to the King, and the Governor, on the subject, couched in respectful but firm language. In the Speech made by the Governor, when he prorogued the two Houses, he says:

"When I met you at the opening of this session, I stated to you in general terms the prosperous circumstances of the Province, and the evident necessity that existed for measures to encourage the disposition of the people to industry and public improvements, to secure and to increase the value of property, and to facilitate the administration of Justice in this fast increasing population.

"I received the most pleasing assurances that I should have your support and co-operation on all matters, tending to those desirable ends; it is therefore with the deepest regret that I now find my hopes disappointed upon the most important subjects which I pressed upon your consideration."

He informs them that he was instructed from England not to sanction the acts objected to, and adds, that he shall adhere to those instructions unless they are recalled. He therefore refuses his assent to a bill of appropriations, until the Governor also, with his assent to a bill to continue and amend certain acts for regulating intercourse with the United States, upon a basis of greater freedom than established by the late imperial acts.

France.—A Paris Journal of March 11, says it is affirmed that M. de Chateaubriand has sold the property of his complete works to a company of publishers for 700,000 francs, (\$28,000.) Without examining whether this sum is exaggerated, we will merely say, that these works will form 20 volumes, of which above the half are unpublished, and besides six or the pictures of the history of France. The celebrated Essay on Revolutions will also be included. It is said that this work will be enriched with notes, to amend certain passages which betray the youth of the author.

In the French Chamber of Deputies on the 11th the question of St. Domingo was again discussed.

A Mons. Ricard opened the debate by a speech in favor of the law, and was followed by Schmitzini. The first sentence of the Senator's speech will shew the nature of his discourse. "Politics, like every thing else in human affairs, have their imperious and inevitable necessities. They must be confessed, nay proclaimed. Struggling against facts accomplished, and become irrevocable, has in it something so puerile and ridiculous, that even success cannot always efface it." &c &c.—In this strain he continued until towards the end, when he pronounced a panegyric on the Greeks.

The Minister of the Interior, in replying, justly said, that the question before them had nothing to do with the Greeks, but with the affairs of St. Domingo. "This colony, said the minister, has been lost to us for thirty years—it has cost us to belong to France, in consequence of great tribulations produced by crimes and disorders." He declared Count Berthier's ideas of the reconquest of the island quite impracticable. After he had concluded, a scene of the kind we believe peculiar to the French chambers occurred.

M. de Bourdonnay, and M. de Berthier rising at the same time: "I demand the right of speaking."

The President.—The right of speaking is with M. Sautet Baguenault (whose name was inscribed.)

M. de la Bourdonnay.—I wish to speak to fact.

The President.—I cannot allow you to speak to a fact; the regulation forbids it—(Amotion in the Chamber.)

M. de Berthier.—If the Minister utters a false fact, it is necessary that he should be corrected. (Great agitation.)

Members of the Ministerial.—Close the debate—divide.

The President.—If the Minister has uttered an inexact fact, you can contradict it, when you come to speak on the discussion of the articles.

M. de Berthier.—(In the tribune.) I wish to speak to a personal fact.

The President.—Is it certainly a personal fact?

—No other fact can be now admitted.

M. de la Bourdonnay.—(Running also to the Tribune.) It is to contradict a lie.—(Noise.)—Cest pour un dément.

This would have appeared rather strong language among us, but they manage these things differently in France, and it did not make any particular sensation in the Chamber. The report goes on without taking any further notice of the circumstances.

M. de Berthier turns towards the Assembly, while M. de la Bourdonnay, turning towards the bureaux, continues to confer with the President. M. de Berthier then began to speak to contradict the Minister, who, he declared, had proved his absurdity.

M. de Bourdonnay. I did not make use of the word absurdity.

M. de Berthier.—It may be however an absurdity but the Minister has said something which respects me personally to the same effect.

The President soon interrupted the Council's speech by calling him "a noisy person" in the remarks of the Minister; and M. de Bourdonnay concluded the tribute, to make some complimentary epithets. When he was closed, M. de Berthier, who had actually the right of speaking, was called on, but proved to be absent; and M. Chenevix rose to read a speech among loud cries of "Question." Not a word, unfortunately, of his own was heard. After this M. Lamy, in Navarre spoke, among many interruptions, on the question of order, as to closing the debate; and when he finished, the demand for the writer was overwhelming. The Representative M. Pichot, answered the objection, and the discussion of the amendment was postponed until Saturday. The principle was carried.

The Telegraph of New Orleans.—The telegraph of the news of an accident which has befallen the Archbishop of that city, who is above 80 years of age. The curtains of his bed caught fire, and he was severely burnt, chiefly in the stomach. His situation was very alarming, but however, not considered desperate when the dispatch was sent off.

Paris, March 6.—The young Iroquois Chief, whose name is Teorakros, visited the Archdiocese of Paris this morning, accompanied by the respectable missionary who acts as his interpreter. He delivered in a few words, which his companion interpreted, his sentiments of respect and veneration for the character and virtues of our illustrious prelate. The Archbishop then inquired, with great interest, respecting the progress which the Catholic faith had made among the savages. "The young chief replied, through his interpreter, that the number of Neophytes were about 2,000, one thousand of which belonged to the tribe of La Grand Fortune, of which he was Prince. The Archbishop then presented him with a prayer book, for which he expressed the greatest gratitude, and promised to preserve it as a precious memento of his visit to the first "Pector of the great village." He was then conducted to his Excellency the Pope's Nuncio—M. March, who received him with the strongest demonstrations of interest and kindness, and presented him with a rich chaplet in the name of the Common Father of the Faithful; he also encouraged the young traveller in his intention of proceeding to Rome, assuring him that the Almighty would assuredly bless his pious undertaking.

The following conclusions are drawn from the report of the Board of Engineers, upon the subject of the three routes explored for the purpose of laying out a road from Washington, to New Orleans:

Materials.—The middle route and the western route about equally provided with materials in this respect they have the advantage over the Eastern route.

Soil.—The soil along the western route is generally better than that along the middle route. On the eastern route it is inferior to the other two.

Bridges.—The western route will require less bridging than the eastern and middle routes these two latter are about the same.

Cavalcade.—The western will require a less length of carriage than the others—the eastern a less length than the middle.

Transportation.—It will be obtained with less expense for the eastern route than for the two others, but it will become more expensive for the western than for the other routes.

Population.—The eastern and middle routes have nearly the same amount of population per square mile, but on the eastern route the white population is that of color as one to one; and for the middle route the white population is that of color as three to two. As to the total population of the country, districts and parishes; on the western route, is about three quarters of that of the other routes; but the white population is nearly to that of color as two to one.

Distance.—The length of the road will be less in the direction of the middle than in that of the eastern or western route. With respect to time and with the same gradation, we are inclined to give the preference to the middle route.

Expense.—The expense of material for a solid and durable construction will be about the same for the middle and western routes, but much greater for the eastern.

In bridging, the expense will be much less upon the western than upon the other two routes.

It can be seen, much less upon the western than upon the other two routes, and less upon the eastern than upon the middle.

To obtain the same gradation in both routes, the expense will be less upon the eastern than upon the middle route, and less upon the middle than upon the western route.

The price of labor will generally be the same along the middle and western direction, though less for some sections along the latter; but it will be higher along the eastern.

The board then go on to submit at large their views of the commercial considerations, accommodation of the population, political considerations, military considerations, and transportation of the mail, and sum up their views of these considerations, as follows:

Commerce.—The eastern route will enjoy the exclusive advantages of facilitating the commercial correspondence between our inland importing and exporting ports. The middle and western will contribute more than the eastern to the development of internal commerce and industry.

Accommodation of population.—The eastern route is more suited to the western; but, taking into view, and by anticipation, the increase of population, perhaps the routes ought to be placed on the same footing.

Political considerations.—The eastern route has the advantage to pass by the seat of government of the southern states—the western to cross the chain of mountains which separates the western from the southern states.

War.—Through the western route, greater and more efficient assistance will be afforded in times of emergency to the states, and naval establishments upon the gulf, than through the other routes.

Transportation of the mails.—As to time, we are inclined to believe that the middle route has the advantage over the others. As to expense, they will be less upon the middle, and especially upon the western, than upon the eastern. As to horses, the service of the mail will be better, and more cheaply secured upon the middle route, and especially upon the western, than upon the eastern.

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COMMUNICATIONS.

TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 2, 1820.

The great press of advertisements has compelled us to defer till next week some interesting articles prepared for to-day's paper.

Mr. Mitchell's Speech.—The almost immensity of most specimens delivered in Congress, absolutely precludes the possibility of publishing them in a weekly paper. To publish them, would exhaust all miscellaneous matter, without which a newspaper would be an ill-arranged-up and tasteless dish. This has prevented us from giving the debate on the Judiciary Bill, the Panama Mission, and McDuffie's Resolutions, of the present Session. It is, however, our intention to prepare an abstract of them, so we may hereafter find time.

We, however, to-day publish Mr. Mitchell's speech, because it possesses the rare merit of being comparatively short, and because it is a plain, practical, straight-forward one, coming right up to the mark, and containing "matter in prose,"—great strength in a small body.

Though we do not coincide with all Mr. Mitchell's views, we cannot forbear recommending his speech to the attention of our readers.

Creek Treaty.—The last Washington papers announce the ratification by the Senate, of the New Treaty of Section with the Creek Indians, by which the State of Georgia is gratified in her wishes. There were but seven votes in the Senate, and that is put, at last, to a controversy between the Government of Georgia and the United States, productive of so much excitement of feeling, personal and political.

Panama Mission.—The discussion of this measure is, at length, closed in the house of representatives. The bill, making an appropriation to defray the expenses of the Mission being taken up motion was made to strike out the enacting clause, which was negatived 183 votes to 61, and the bill ordered to a third reading.

We have always regarded this as a question of policy about which there might be an honest difference of opinion; and have consequently thought, that its supporters ought not to be denounced as a servile race, who have sold their honor, independence, and integrity to man in office; nor its opposers stigmatized as a factious band who have only wished to embarrass the administration.

The documents are now all before the public, and every man may form his opinion understandingly on the subject. In order, however, to do so, it is important to divest the mind of the influence of these circumstances that appear to have created some excitement at Washington. Whether the President and Mr. Clay were guilty of management in the manner of bringing this measure before Congress, is one question; and the policy of the measure itself, is another and more important one.

In common we believe with a large majority of the American people, we thought at first, that the acceptance of the invitation of Colombia and Mexico to send ministers to Panama, was rash and unadvised; that it would compromise our best interests, by involving us in entangling relations with foreign nations, and change that policy under which we have prospered in a manner exemplified in the annals of the world. Since the subject has come fully before the public, we have changed our opinions; and believe, that we are called on by our true interests to have representatives in that Congress