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POLITICAL.

From the Federal Republican.

To the People of the United States.

Having in my two last communications to you, called your attention to the conduct of our executive rulers relative to the illegal contract made with Col. James Johnston, of Kentucky, for the transportation of troops and provisions up the Missouri river; to the exorbitant and unconstitutional advances of the public money to that individual; & to some of the consequences which have already flowed from these iniquitous proceedings, I now take the liberty of bringing to your view some other facts relating to the War department, from which you may be enabled to form an opinion for yourselves of the "wise system" [I quote the words of the Court paper—the National Intelligencer, as used the other day] of responsibility, of competition and economy, so happily introduced by the present Secretary" into that department.

By the statement which I shall now make and exhibit to you, it will be perceived, that the public functionaries have without right or authority seized upon the public property and public money of the nation entrusted to their care, and loaned or given the same to individuals—but for what consideration? as yet, a profound secret: No one can know that except the parties directly, or indirectly, concerned.

1. To George W. Murray, of New York, there was loaned of lead belonging to the United States the quantity of 23 tons, 2 qrs. and 10 lbs.

2. To the same G. W. Murray, there was subsequently loaned of lead belonging to the U. States the quantity of 28 tons, 4 cwt. 3 qrs. and 4 lbs. This property thus illegally loaned has not been returned; and although the loan was made several years ago, no steps appear to have been taken by the government to recover back the property or the value of it—and Murray is now understood to be insolvent.

3. There were loaned at the city of Washington, to Messrs. Stull & Williams, 600 barrels of musket powder, containing sixty thousand pounds—value 21,600 dollars. Out of the 600 barrels of powder loaned 200 barrels only appear to have been returned by Stull & Williams: They became insolvent.

4. To one Daniel Bussard, of Georgetown, D. C. there was loaned or advanced by the present Secretary of War, the sum of ten thousand dollars "to enable him to erect works on Point Creek, suitable for manufacturing powder." This loan of the public money to Bussard, for three years, and "without interest," was to enable him to make good the deficiency of Stull & Williams, with whom he was originally concerned. He had, however, in February last, delivered but 187 barrels of powder on account of Stull & Williams. For the 10,000 dollars loaned to him, without interest, he has promised, within three years from the date of the loan to deliver, on his own account, 40,000 pounds of powder.

5. To Messrs. Dupont, de Nemours & Co. of Wilmington, Del. there were loaned in June, July and August, 1817, the enormous quantity of three thousand five hundred and twenty eight barrels of powder, containing 352,902 lbs. This unlawful loan appears to have been made by Lieut. Col. Bumford, with the consent or by the direction of George Graham, then acting secretary of war, now President of the U. States Branch Bank at Washington city—and doubtless, with the privity and consent of his particular friend James Monroe, President of the United States, whose constitutional duty it is, to "take care that the laws are faithfully executed." The considerations which induced this loan of the public property are not generally known. Certain, however, it is, that the government, or the country, has received no pecu-

niary advantage from it—for there remained unpaid or outstanding, of this loan, in February last, a quantity exceeding two hundred and seventy thousand pounds of powder! No compulsory steps appear to have been taken to recover back the property, or the value of it.

6. On the 21st December, 1817, Colonel Bumford and Mr. Graham, as above, loaned 50,000 pounds of powder belonging to the public, to one Peter Bauduy, and took his bond with security. No part of this property appears to have been returned. The principal has absconded, and the sureties are insolvent. No legal proceedings were ever instituted to recover back the property or its value. It does not appear at what time, or whether there was even ever a demand made of Bauduy to return the property loaned.

7. To Israel Whelan, of Philadelphia, there appears to have been loaned in 1817, 400 barrels of powder belonging to the United States. I cannot say whether this property has been returned or not.

8. To John R. Miffin, there appears to have been loaned four hundred barrels of public powder. No part of it returned—and the whole supposed to be lost.

Taking these facts (which no respectable or responsible man will care to deny) in connection with the secret contract made between a branch of the war department and Colonel James Johnston, of Kentucky, what think ye now, Messrs. Editors of the National Intelligencer? Will ye still tell us of the "wise system of responsibility—of competition & economy, so happily introduced" into the war department?

Can it be possible that the people will, after so many proofs and exhibitions of facts like these, continue to be lured and gulled by mere empty words—to every one of which the facts in the case, flatly contradict or give the lie? If they do—then, indeed, may it be said—and said truly—"They are their own worst enemies."

A Native of Virginia.

AGRICULTURAL.



In the cultivation and improvement of a farm there is no labour more necessary than that which is spent in skilful ploughing. Frequent ploughing was the favourite doctrine of the Roman farmers—they practised it to a great extent, and considered their crops in a great measure dependant upon it. In England at the present time, ploughing is considered of vast importance to their farmers: indeed, one of their agricultural writers, Jethro Tull, goes so far as to contend that frequent ploughing will of itself so much enrich the soil as to ensure plentiful crops. Though in that he was mistaken, and attributed too much to a useful operation without combining it with other causes, yet we may, with strict propriety, adopt the language of a Massachusetts writer, "That the plough is the great source of agricultural riches, and the natural instrument of the farmer's prosperity." By the frequent use of the plough you may restore an old field, and with the aid of manure render it fertile; but if you neglect the plough, the best land will soon become hard and sterile, and not yield a crop that will pay for gathering.

The immediate consequences of frequent ploughing, says a writer in the Encyclopedia, "is to expose different quantities of the soil to the action of the air and sun, which will not fail to exert their solvent powers upon it. In consequence of this action, the earth is partly reduced to powder; many of the roots of vegetables, with which it always abounds, are dissolved and putrified; and the earth produced from them mixes with the rest, as well as the effluvia they emit during their dissolution. The earth soon begins again to exert its solent powers, and a crop of vegetables is produced. By a repetition of the ploughing, these are turned with their roots upward, are exposed to the solvent powers of the air and light; in consequence of which, they die, are putrified, and more of the native soil is reduced to powder, and

mixed with them." By a frequent repetition of this process, the soil becomes vastly more tender, and approached to the nature of garden mould, and its fertility is considerably increased." N. H. Patriot.

METHOD OF CURING HAMS.

By William Cox, of Burlington.

To 12 hams common size take 8 lbs of brown sugar, 1 1-2 of well crystallized salt petre, and 5 of fine salt. Rub the hams with this mixture, and let them be one week in the cask, with the skins downward—then make a pickle of the strongest coarse salt of sufficient strength to bear an egg; and about two or three quarts of ley from hickory ashes refined by boiling and scumming, when cold cover the hams with it and keep them down by a weight; let them lie 3 or 4 weeks, according to their size, then hang them up in the smoke house, after 24 hours commence smoking them with sound hickory wood, and repeat this every evening until sufficiently smoked.

There is some difference in the subsequent practice of the best managers. Those prepared by the dealer first mentioned, have been wrapped up in the finest, dryest and sweetest clover hay, and then tightly sewed up in strong canvas bags, they are then kept hanging up in the smoke house, or pickled for shipping; this mode is not always successful in preserving them from the fly. Burying them in very dry hickory ashes, and packing them in boxes kept in the smoke house, and occasionally changed, and dried through the summer, has been found in my practice the most effectual mode of preserving them.—When wanted for use they should be put in water the preceding evening, to dissolve the ashes adhering to them. If dipped in ashes when first taken from the pickle, it forms a coat which is useful in preserving them from the fly.

There is a great variety in the minute details of even good managers—but the use of sugar and salt petre are the material points, common to them all. In my opinion, a great deal depends on the nature of the flesh of the several breeds of hogs. There is in our country a prevailing attachment to large animals: I have, like my neighbours, been deluded by this false taste. After a fair trial of the large breed of hogs, I have abandoned them as coarse in flesh and deficient in flavor, and at the same time unprofitable in keeping; requiring to be kept long with a larger portion of food, according to their size.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GREAT OSAGE MISSION.

Arrival of the Family.
From the Rev. Mr. Dodge, dated Osage River, Aug. 6, 1821.

Dear Sir,
In the midst of surrounding cares and pressing calls, I break away for a few moments to announce to you the safe arrival of the Great Osage Mission, in the land of their destination. We arrived here on the 2d of August inst. after a long and perilous journey by land and by water. Excepting in the instances of sister Newton and her babe, our lives have been spared; and as it respects health, it has been far better enjoyed, than might reasonably have been anticipated, when we consider that about sixty persons have been packed into two keel-boats, for the space of nearly five months. A number of the family have had a kind of seasoning to the climate; and some of them, as well as a number of our hired men, have been violently attacked with a bilious affection; but the Lord has helped our young Physician inasmuch that he has been remarkably successful in baffling the disease. Our family now appear to enjoy a comfortable state of health. May the Lord confirm and preserve our health, and give us grace to improve it.

The family appear to be greatly animated with the prospects before them. As respects temporal concerns, no district of country, I ever saw, ever promised more to its first inhabitants. Land as much as any one could wish, and that of the first quality, is completely open for cultivation. In regard to spiritual concerns, it is, as we expected to

find it, a land of darkness. Gross darkness hath covered the people; there is therefore, business enough to be done. Whatever our hands find to do, may God enable us to do it with our might.

The family are in very good spirits; and harmony has very generally prevailed in all our deliberations and decisions. We have not decided upon a site for our establishment, not having opportunity yet to see the chiefs of the nation. They are now absent on a summer hunt; but we have sent for them, and are hourly expecting their return. We have had several places recommended to us, some of which we have received, but where we shall finally fix is yet uncertain. May the Lord direct us to the right spot.

I would have sent the journal up to this time, had I had leisure to copy it. Let this suffice for the present. Give our kindest respects to the members of the Board, and other Christian friends. Request them to continue their prayers for us, that we may be humble and faithful. We dwell where Satan's seat is, and where he has long reigned. It cannot be expected, that he will give up his dominion without a struggle. Against the sword of the Gospel, however, he cannot stand. O then, pray for us, that we may wield this sword to the best advantage.

Description of the Osage Village, and some account of its Inhabitants.

The village is situated about 28 miles west of Union, near the Verdigris, on an extensive plain skirted with trees and natural mounds. These mounds lie chiefly to the north of the village, from one to four miles distant.

They rise in regular forms, to the height of about 200 feet, with a table top. The plain below continues on a level, till you arrive at the foot. The tops of these several mounds are level with one another, and lead the imagination at once to conceive of these as some ancient fortifications or towers of safety, reared by some vast army. The place where the village stands, is what is usually called prairie, which is open land without trees or shrubs, and many of the prairies in this country are immensely extensive, and have a strong rich soil, producing grass, flowers, &c. The village contains about 250 lodges, and probably 3000 souls. Their lodges are generally from 50 to 100 feet in length, irregularly situated within half a mile square. They are constructed of poles, matting, barks and skins. The poles are set in the ground with a crotch at the top, and cross poles to support the roof. The side poles or posts are about 5 feet in height, the middle or ridge posts are about 20 feet. Some have barks set up against the cross poles. Most however have plank which they have split out, fastened in the ground one beside the other. The roofs are covered with skins and matting. These lodges being made of very light materials, can be taken down and removed or rebuilt in a short time. When a lodge need to be rebuilt, their wives meet in the morning, remove the covering, take up the posts; and each woman digs a hole in the ground with a knife, removing the dirt with her hands. Thus 20 or 30 holes are dug at once, the posts are set over again, the covering replaced with the intended improvements, and the whole is accomplished in a few hours. In the middle of their lodges they make their fires on the ground, without any chimney, leaving the smoke to pass out through a hole in the top of the roof. In some lodges they have two, in others, three fires.—They have neither floors nor seats: but spread their skins or matting for strangers to recline upon. They sit in circles round their fires, part of the family round one fire, and part around another. Their clothing consists of leggins of deer skins, with a blanket or buffalo robe over their shoulders. The females, in addition, have short skirts and covering for the breasts. They are remarkable for hospitality. No sooner does a stranger, who comes on friendly designs arrive among them, than he is welcomed to their lodges. His horse is immediately taken care of by the wives. The house which he enters is thronged with spectators. Presently he is invited from lodge to lodge to partake of their

simple fare. The numerous invitations cannot be dispensed with, without giving offence. The consequence is, that you are often called to eat as often as 15 or 20 times the same morning and evening.—They are irregular in their meals.—They have a number of cooks, whose business it is to wait on visitors, and conduct them from one lodge to another. When you have entered a lodge, and spoken to the man, you immediately take your seat. They are not accustomed to compliments; and they deem it very strange if you attempt to shake hands with the women and children. When the food is ready, it is presented in a wooden dish, with as many ladles as visitors.

The more freely you eat, the more you please them. The cook if he chooses takes the residue, and then leads you to another lodge. The females perform the hard labour. The men do the hunting, go to war, and much of the time have nothing to do but smoke, whilst the laborious wife or daughter is backing wood across the plain, bringing water, or planting corn. In their hunting parties, the women take care of the horses, and prepare their encampments, and do all the drudgery, while the men spend their leisure time in smoking and diversions. The men are generally speaking of a fine stature, have a frank open countenance, are robust, active and healthy. The women though strong and active, are much disproportioned in height. The young men present a noble appearance. Their children are remarkably submissive to parental government. They live in the practice of polygamy. When a young man marries into a family, he removes to the lodge to assist in supporting the wife's parents, and upon performing certain exploits, in hunting, stealing horses, and the like, he is entitled to all the remaining sisters. In councils they appear with dignity, and in speeches they are eloquent. A council held among them excites great attention. If any thing new is communicated they listen eagerly. In their government, having no natural confederacy, they have little energy. The influence of their chiefs is limited to their respective parties. They are constant in their devotions. They black their faces with mud and cry to the Great Spirit. At the dawning of the day, in different directions round about their lodges, you may hear hundreds crying aloud. In this they are indeed a reproof to thousands who profess to worship God in spirit and in truth, who at the same time are too indolent or too negligent, to leave their couches of repose to pay their morning homage to Him whom they profess to love.

The Conscientious Judge.

Sir Matthew Hall, while chief justice of the Exchequer, was presented a buck for his table by a gentleman that had a trial at the Assizes; so when he heard his name he asked, "if he was not the person that had sent him venison?" And finding he was the same, he told him, "He could not suffer the trial to go on, till he had paid him for his buck." To which the gentleman answered, "That he never sold his venison, and that he had done nothing to him, which he did not do to every Judge that had gone that circuit," which was confirmed by several gentlemen then present; but all would not do, for the lord Chief Baron has learned from Solomon, that "a gift perverteth the ways of judgment;" and therefore he would not suffer the trial to go on till he had paid for the present; upon which the gentleman withdrew the record. And at Salisbury, the Dean and Chapter, having according to custom presented him with six sugar loaves in his circuit, he made his servants pay for the sugar before he would try their cause.

The House of Assembly of the state of New Jersey, have unanimously adopted resolutions approving the resolutions of the legislature of Maryland relative to the appropriation of the public lands of the U. S. to "purposes of education."

To moderate your love of glory, reflect first on the understandings of those whose praises you seek; or how fluctuating are the heaps of sand in the desert.

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