

BANK OF THE U. STATES.

From Poulson's Philadelphia Advertiser.

A circumstance has recently occurred in this city, which reflects credit on the administration of the Bank of the United States, and which, in justice to that Institution, ought to be generally known.

Three or four weeks since, in consequence of a great failure in New York, to the amount of about \$500,000, of which about \$400,000 were said to be in bills on England, exchange on that country rose to 12 1/2 per cent, and would probably very soon have risen to 15 or 16. The results would have been, large shipments of specie; the excitement of alarm; a pressure on the Banks; curtailment of discounts; great mercantile sacrifices; and probably bankruptcies to a large amount, as took place in Boston, in May, June, and July, 1823, in consequence of the great exportation of specie.

This calamitous train of affairs was happily arrested by the wise policy of the Bank of the United States. The directors immediately commenced drawing Bills on England, which they sold at 11 per cent. This measure not only prevented any further rise, but of course reduced the market price to that rate. It is remarkable, that the whole amount sold by the Bank, at the reduced price, was only 16,000 here and in New York, so very small was the demand, that caused the rise. The price of Bills has since fallen to 9 or 9 1/2 per cent.

While I am on the subject of this Institution, I think it proper to state some of the features of the system adopted by the present administration. The Bank had formerly been in the habit of refusing to receive on deposit not only the notes of State Banks, located out of the city, but even those of its different branches. The latter were usually purchased by the Bankers, at half per cent. discount, and sold at a quarter to those merchants who had bonds to pay at the Custom House. They were then sent to the mother Bank, which was obliged to receive them from the collector of the customs, and pass them to the credit of the government.

Thus, while the operation of the refusal was oppressive to our citizens, it did not relieve the Bank from the receipt of the Branch notes. On full consideration, the Board determined several months since, to receive these notes from its customers in the first instance.

Fortunately, this liberal measure has not only not produced the least inconvenience to the institution, but greatly increased its deposits. A determination formed at the same time to receive the notes of solvent State Banks was attended with similar results, and produced great accommodation to our merchants and traders.

A measure much more hazardous, and of doubtful issue, was adopted about the same period. Formerly, when the trade to the East Indies was about to commence, Spanish Dollars were always in great demand, and frequently sold as high as three and four per cent. advance, and even some particular kinds at five per cent. In consequence, they were rarely deposited in Bank, being either sold to the Brokers, or hoarded by the individuals who imported them, till the season of demand arrived.

The Bank of the United States having made provision of a full supply of specie, determined, in the early part of last year, to furnish all who wanted it for exportation, at 1 1/2 or 2 per cent. advance. This terminated the hoarding of specie, and pressure on the Banks; furnished Commerce with the necessary supply of specie on easy terms; and added one proof to hundreds furnished by long experience, that liberality is the best policy.

Nov. 2, 1824. NECKAR.

From the Missouri Intelligencer.

THE BEAVER HUNTER.

There appears in the characters of the inhabitants who reside immediately on the frontier, certain doubtful features that render it difficult to determine to which side of the boundary they belong. Thus it is with our borders of Missouri, who have taken up their residence in the neighbourhood of the Indian lands, and in many instances have adopted the habits, manners, and costumes of the natives.

to which the Indian title has been extinguished. At present Mike Shuck claims a portable citizenship, or a floating title to a residence that he locates for the time being wherever he may chance to lay himself down for the night. His subsistence he draws from nature's grand storehouse, by means of an old rusty rifle that has been his constant companion since his first campaign under Gen. George Rogers Clark.

He possesses in an eminent degree, a knowledge of all the intricacies of trapping, and he appropriates his autumn, the proper season for this branch of his business, in exploring the small creeks that put in to the Missouri above the settlements. He is frequently discovered at the peep of dawn, barcheaded and barefooted, pursuing the meanderings of these water courses, bending under a load of traps, to learn whether or not his bait has attracted the cautious victim; or for the purpose of locating his traps more advantageously.

Such is the accuracy of his skill, that Mike Shuck can make up pack of beaver, where an Indian, with all his rude knowledge of natural history, would esteem the prospect hopeless. A gentleman who was in pursuit of elk, about the middle of November last, discovered this modern Crusoe at evening, laden with his effects, that by great good fortune at this time amounted to about a pack horse load. He proposed to encamp with him for the night. Mike muttered a kind of grumbling assent, and led the way, first through an extensive hazle thicket, thence descending into a ravine, he proceeded by a devious route through a compact grove of swamp ash, and at length arrived at a cheerful fire that had previously been lighted up by our hero; but for which the place would have been as dreary as purgatory is represented to be. The owls themselves, however pressing their necessities, could scarcely have flapped their way into this dismal labyrinth. But Mike and his plunder, as he very properly termed it in this instance, (for it was the legitimate property of the Indians) was safe, Mike Shuck threw down his burden, and turned to his follower with a malicious smile, or rather hysteric grin, and desired him to be seated. The hospitality of his board, if a bear skin spread on the ground deserves the name, was tendered with very little ceremony, and consisted of a beaver tail and an elk marrow bone, both of which were prepared on the coals by wain host in his own proper person.

Mike, as I have before remarked, claims no family connexions; and, if he ever had any, he has outlived them: He is therefore, making no provisions for legacy hunters. But he is always when he designs to make use of his tongue, grumbling about his arrangements, for an easy independent old age, and speaks of it as if it was yet very far distant, although he has attained almost four score. When the trapping season is over, he betakes himself to his craft, as he is pleased to term a cotton wood canoe, and proceeds to market with his usual indifference towards the elements. On one occasion, when his cargo was fairly afloat on the angry current of the Missouri, and Mike had extended his weather-worn limbs upon the shore for repose, his bow-fast (a grape vine) parted, & his frail bark put to sea without a pilot. On making this discovery in the morning he was chagrined, but not discouraged, by the event. He lost no time, but instantly set off in pursuit of his fortune, and having coasted down the river, on the third day discovered his craft self-moored under the lee of a raft of drift wood, without having sustained the smallest injury in hull, rigging, or cargo. Michael was so much rejoiced, that by inspiration or instinct, he was induced to offer a hasty prayer of thanksgiving; but whether it was directed to God, Man, or the Devil, I have not been informed. As old Michael disdains to decorate his pericranium with the beaver he may entrup, his hair has been suffered to grow into a matted grisly substitute, and at present very much resembles the borrowed wig of a strolling player. His features, too, are worn by time and the storms of nearly eighty winters, into the inflexibility of a barber's block. With all these evidences to the contrary, he professes to be exceedingly happy. He insists that he relishes his meals infinitely better than a professed epicure; and he contends that Madeira can, by no means, bear a comparison with spring water.

BENEVOLENCE OF LA FAYETTE.

Extract of a letter from an American gentleman in the West Indies—a citizen of New York.

I believe I mentioned to you a circumstance of some interest that occurred after I became acquainted with the Marquis La Fayette, and in which I was particularly concerned; but perhaps you have forgotten it. It was in April, 1822, at his own house in Paris, that I first saw him. After our acquaintance, he very politely gave me a ticket of admission to the Chamber of Deputies, where among others, I heard a speech from M. Ville, now so distinguished in the Bourbon cabinet. The revolution in Piedmont, you may perhaps remember, took place a little before this period. Many of the distinguished Italians, threatened with the vengeance of the Sardinian government, after the failure of their patriotic exertions, fled into France. Louis the 18th, being cousin to the King of Sardinia, projected the dastardly project of apprehending and punishing these poor refugees. One of them applied to the Marquis La Fayette for protection. The Marquis informed me of it, and begged me to take the Italian gentleman out of France with me, as a servant.

I cheerfully consented, and was on that account detained in Paris a day or two longer than the rest of our party. Having procured an alteration of my passport, so as to include the Italian under a feigned name as my domestique, I was on the point of setting out for Havre, when I received information that the Bourbon government of France, taking wit in their anger, had determined not to molest the Piedmont refugees any longer, and so I was deprived of the pleasure of perhaps figuring away hereafter in history along side of St. Robert Wilson and Lavalette!

CANALS.

The following brief paragraph speaks volumes in favour of the benefits resulting from the judicious and prudent course pursued by New-York in relation to her internal improvements:—

A western paper states, that such has been the increase of commerce on the Erie Canal, that for some time past, the Erie Canal Company of Rochester, have paid in tolls to the state, upon an average, one thousand dollars a day.

LOCKED JAW.

Several years ago during conversation in Newport, upon that dreadful malady, the Locked Jaw, an intelligent master of a vessel observed, that when he was at the Island of St. Eustatia, he heard an eminent physician remark, that he had had many cases of the Locked Jaw, and never lost a patient. On enquiry of him as to the particular mode of treatment in which he had been so successful, the physician replied, that he directed an application of warm lye made of ashes, as strong as possible; if the foot or hand was wounded, the same was dipped repeatedly into the lye; and if a part of the body, which could not be immersed in it, then in that case the part affected to be bathed with flannels wrung out from the warm lye. In July last, Capt. Charles Gordon, of Newport, unfortunately jumped upon a scraggy pointed spike which perforated his boot and foot, and he was taken home in excruciating torture—the attending physician could afford him no relief. Providentially a lady, who heard the above conversation, recommended the warm lye bath, into which his foot was placed—within 15 minutes the anguish was then out: he went to bed and slept quietly. The application of lye was made for 10 succeeding days; no pain, no uneasy sensation returned, but what is incident to a common sore, and on the eleventh day, Capt. Gordon walked abroad—Newport Mercury.

SPAIN.

We have in our hands Madrid papers to the end of August last. They furnish no information of the internal condition of Spain, but contain statements from South America, calculated to foster hopes of a recovery of dominion in that quarter.—Nat. Gaz.

RUSSIA.

According to a Census recently taken, St. Petersburg has a population of 300,000 souls, besides 1,000 English.

From the Alabama State Gazette. CIRCUIT COURT, October Term, 1824.

William Bonnell, vs. Charles J. Shackelford, & Henry Haynes.

This was an action founded upon two promissory notes, given by the defendants to one William N. Thompson, and endorsed by him to the plaintiff.

To this action the defendants pleaded, That the payee of the note was a member of the company known by the name of "The Talapossa Company," who had associated themselves together at the March sale of public lands at Cahawba, in the year 1819, for the purpose of defrauding the United States. And that frauds had been practised by said company upon individuals, at a subsequent sale, to the extent of all the lands purchased, by employing puffers to run the land beyond its real value.—That the notes upon which this action was founded, were given by the defendants in part payment for a tract of land purchased at the subsequent or company's sale. Fraud and want of consideration were likewise pleaded.

The counsel for the plaintiff moved to strike out the different pleas, on the following grounds:—That the first plea was double, as it alleged a fraud to have been practised upon the United States, and likewise upon individuals; and as every plea must be simple, entire, connected, and confined to one single point, it was therefore defective, and must be stricken out. (See Jacob's Law Dictionary, Vol. V. p. 170.)—That admitting it to be a defence, it was only such a one as could be available between the original parties.—And that the defence attempted to be set up, amounted to the general issue, which could not be pleaded specially. (See Chitty on Pleading, Vol. 1. page 459.)

Defendant's counsel, in reply, contended—That because several badges of fraud were charged in the first, it only substantiated, instead of vitiating the plea. For admitting that the defendants could not avail themselves of a fraud practised upon the government, yet when they had been made sufferers by the same transaction, they could then plead it.—That they are entitled to the same defence they would have against the payee.—And that the act of the General Assembly guarantees to parties the right of pleading as many several pleas as they may think proper, provided the pleas are susceptible of issue.

After considerable argument, the court ordered the first plea to be stricken out, and issue to be taken on the remaining two.

Plaintiff's counsel then read to the jury, the notes upon which the action was founded, as the evidence of their debt, and there rested their case.

Defendant's counsel called several witnesses to substantiate their defence, who proved the following facts:—That at the March sales of public lands at Cahawba, in the year 1819, forty-seven persons associated themselves together for the purpose of purchasing lands.—That they entered into written articles of agreement and made a deposit of one thousand dollars each. Settlers were particularly invited to join the company, and on signing the articles of agreement and making a deposit, to share in all their profits. Regular meetings were held, and a secretary and treasurer appointed; their proceedings were public, known to every person attending the land sales; no force, threats or any other undue means used, to prevent persons from bidding against said company. In one instance, a compromise had been made with one of the settlers, who refused to join them, and he was allowed to purchase his land without opposition, on promising not to bid against the company the remainder of the sale. In purchasing lands, they generally selected such as sold at a reduced price, though for one tract, they paid thirty dollars per acre. An agent was appointed to bid for the company; and limited to a certain price for each quarter section.

After the public sale, in accordance with one of their articles of agreement, they proceeded to sell, at public outcry, all the land that had been purchased. The crier at this and the preceding sale, was likewise a member of the company, and it was attempted to be proven, had used trick and artifice, to induce persons to bid, frequently, on knocking off a tract of land, and being asked who was the purchaser,

using this expression—"you find the money and I will find the man." The conditions of this sale were, that no bid would be received for a less amount than the land cost; that one fourth of the purchase money must be paid on receiving the certificate, and should any tract of land sell for more than the original cost, that payment for the excess should be secured to the company by note, with approved security, at one, two, and three years.—Under these circumstances, one of the defendants (who acted as a member of the company either for himself or his father) became the purchaser of a certain quantity of land, for which he gave upwards of thirty dollars per acre; one fourth of the purchase money was paid on receiving the certificate, and the two notes upon which the action was brought, given in payment of the difference between the first sale and the last. It was proven that the land at the time of the sale was supposed to be worth what the defendant gave for it, and that other lands of similar quality sold equally high—that he or his father had remained in possession of said land since the day of sale.—That the company was engaged in this speculation one or two days, when the public sales were stopped by the Register of the Land Office, and that their dividends amounted to eighty-four thousand dollars, clear profit—that to prevent settlers from bidding, they were promised the liberty of remaining on their lands during the year.—That these promises were in some instances complied with, in others violated and rent exacted. There was no proof of puffers having been employed, or of any fraud having been practised in the sale of the land. Witnesses stated expressly, that it was a fair and bona fide sale, at which all persons were allowed to bid.

Upon these facts, the case was submitted to the jury; who, after being absent about eighteen hours, were returned into court by their bailiff, when they declared by their foreman, that to agree, was impossible.—Whereupon, by consent of counsel, they were discharged from the further consideration of the cause.

EAST INDIES.—The supercargo of the ship Factor, at Philadelphia, in 107 days from Calcutta, brings the following information. The Birmé war was still raging, with the prospect of its early termination. The British army had been drawn from Chittagong, for the purpose of a general junction of forces in Rangoon, which they succeeded in capturing. Rangoon is the principal port of the Birma empire, has from 50 to 40,000 inhabitants, and contains some Christian missions; among them, one of the American Baptist Society. The Birmé, taking advantage of the withdrawal of the British force had approached Chittagong, with an army of upwards of 50,000 men, but hearing of the fall of Rangoon, retired towards Ava. The British army rescued many of the missionaries, who had been ordered to execution by the Birmé commanders. The publication of the official accounts of the war had been suspended at Calcutta.

NORFOLK, Nov. 11, 1824. LATE NEWS FROM THE PLATES.

By the schooner Princess Anne, Captain Banks, which arrived here yesterday, in 9 days from Havana, we have a confirmation of the report of the capture of a piratical schooner by the U. S. schooner Porpoise, Lieut. Comd'r Skinner.—Capt. Banks states, that the capture was made on the 25th ult. and the pirates succeeded in escaping to the shore, but he is not in possession of any further particulars.

Capt. Banks understood at Havana, that part of a quarter deck of a vessel supposed to be that of the late U. S. schooner Wild Cat, had been discovered drifting down the Florida coast. This vessel, temporarily under the command of Lieut. Booth, (Lt. Com. Legare having been left sick at that port) sailed from Havana 1st of Sept. with stores for Key West, since which nothing had been heard of her.

POETICAL DIRECTION.

Maysville, (Ky.) Oct. 27.—The following is a copy of the direction on a letter which passed through the post-office in this place:—"To John Williams, a laboring man. Who shoes can make and leather can. This letter must go to, if it is so thick. A place called Lexington in Kentucky."

Maryland Gazette.

ANNAPOLIS, THURSDAY, NOV. 18, 1824.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

There will be a meeting of the Executive Council, on Friday the 26th instant. HENRY HOBBS, Clk.

A LARGE HOG.—A Hog weighing three hundred and twelve pounds was this week killed and brought to our market. It was raised by Captain R. J. Crabb, on his Farm, near this city, and was sixteen months old.

Captain John H. D. Waters, a member elect of the legislature of this state, died at his residence in Somerset county, on the 3d instant.

THE PRESIDENCY.

The result of the Electoral Election in this state gives Mr. Crawford 1 elector, Gen. Jackson 7, and Mr. Adams 5. The Legislature of Georgia has chosen electors favourable to Mr. Crawford, by a large majority. The articles which we have selected for our paper of to-day shewing the issue of the presidential election in the states of Delaware, New-Hampshire, and New-Jersey and in two towns of North-Carolina, we believe, may be viewed as containing the most correct information which has been published in the papers of these states.

DELAWARE.

Wilmington, (Del) Nov. 12. Our Legislature adjourned on Tuesday evening last, after appointing for electors of President and Vice President, General John Caldwell, Isaac Tunnel and Joseph C. Rowland. Esqrs. The two first are in favour of Mr. Crawford and the latter for Mr. Adams. We had sufficient strength with us to have carried the whole vote of the state for Mr. Crawford; but as some of our friends are in favour of Mr. Adams, our old fashioned, fast federalists, yielded to that feeling for the sake of harmony and the preservation of the standing of the party.

As Mr. Rowland will see that a decided majority of the party prefer Mr. Crawford—as he will see, as we trust, that the honour and interest of the party and the state will be promoted by the vote of it being given entire to Mr. Adams, and as he is a man who is sincerely anxious for the promotion of these objects, notwithstanding his preference for Mr. Adams, we still indulge the hope that he will not divide the vote of the state. [Gazette.]

Remarks from the National Intelligencer.—The Legislature of Delaware consists of thirty members. One of the electors (Mr. Rowland) received 21 votes, and was of course elected—the other two received 15 each, and the remaining 15 votes were scattered amongst the various other persons put in nomination. The Speaker of the Senate gave his casting vote for the two gentlemen having fifteen each, which decided the choice in their favour. Certain members of the Legislature unfriendly to the election of Mr. Crawford, have protested against the validity of the choice made by the vote of the Speaker. We understand, however, that there is no foundation for their objections, as will be seen by the following brief explanation, which we give to counteract the attempts that will be made to misrepresent the true state of the case.

A standing law of the State makes it the duty of the Legislature to meet on the 8th of November in every fourth year, for the express purpose of choosing Electors of President and Vice President of the United States. The object of this law is to prevent the necessity of a proclamation of the Governor to convene the Legislature. The same law provides, "that if an equal division of ballots shall appear for any two or more persons, not being elected by a majority of votes, the Speaker of the Senate shall have an additional casting vote." In this instance, there was an equal division of ballots—two of the persons having an exact moiety of the whole number, and the "additional casting vote" of the Speaker decided the election, in their favour.

We are informed, that the certificates of election of the three persons chosen, have been regularly made out, signed by the Speakers of the two Houses, approved by the Governor, and bear the great seal of the State. Where, in this state of things, the members protesting can expect redress, even if their objections were valid, it would be difficult to imagine. We take it that Congress has no power to look beyond the record.

NEW HAMPSHIRE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

From the Concord (N. H.) Patriot. We learn that the entire regular list of electors, consisting of Messrs, Josiah Bartlett, Abel Parker, William Fish, Hill Burgin, William Hodge, Samuel Charles, Caleb Keith, and Moses White, are chosen in that state. The last named gentleman is a Crawfordite. It adds the "ticket is unpledged, and from the high character of every individual on the list, we do not entertain a doubt that each will cast his