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From the (Frederick) Citizen.

## Report of the Secretary of War.

The length of this interesting and well written state paper, will prevent its appearance, entire, in our columns; but we trust, we shall be able to present such a review thereof, as will embrace all its prominent features. A more lucid and accurate piece of composition, we have seldom met with; in this opinion our readers will join us, on reading the passages we have copied.

The Report states that "The condition of the army is satisfactory in its material, and so far in its morale as depends upon the exertions of the officers. Its appropriate functions are performed honorably for itself, and usefully for the country. Although some of the details of the service are susceptible of improvement in their administration, and some in their legislation, still, in the general result, whether viewed as an arm of national defence, or as a depository of military knowledge and experience, it has attained the great objects for which it was raised and is maintained. It is efficient without being expensive, and adequate to the exigencies of our service without being dangerous. I refer to the report of the Major General commanding for the detailed operations of the year."

Desertions from the army have increased in a regular ratio for five years—in 1826 the number was 656; in 1827, 1439. Inquiries have been instituted into the cause of this increase, and a remedial suggestion, but thus far without effect.

"To retain a part of the bounty and the pay of the soldier who is discharged, to reduce the period of service, and to increase the pay of the rank and file of the army, and particularly of the non-commissioned officers, are among the most prominent suggestions, which have been offered upon this subject."

The pecuniary loss to the government, arising from desertion, is estimated, this year, to exceed \$118,000. An increase of compensation to non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates, is recommended—which, it is believed, would have a tendency to diminish the mischief of desertion.

Intemperance is considered the source of a very great portion of the crimes committed in the army—the Secretary is therefore satisfied that ardent spirits should not form a component part of the ration. "The cost of Whiskey for the use of the army, in 1830, was 22,000 dollars.—If this sum were applied to the purchase of Tea, Coffee, and Sugar for the use of the soldiers, their habits and morals would be greatly improved, and the discipline and respectability of the army greatly promoted." This regulation will not have the effect of excluding ardent spirits from the army; each soldier will still have the opportunity of procuring it by purchase, but not of indulging to excess, nor with the direct agency of the government. The physical condition of the American soldier, is wholly neglected. There is no management in our service for his mental or religious instruction." The Secretary therefore proposes the appointment of chaplains, and expresses the suggestion by remarks which do honor to both his head and his heart.

The fiscal concerns of the department have been conducted in such a manner, that not the slightest loss will occur this year.

"The Military Academy has existed sufficiently long, under its present mode of instruction, to enable the Government and the country to form a correct estimate of its value, both with relation to the cadets themselves, and the character of the army. Of 560 officers, having rank in the line, and now in service, 404 were educated at that institution. These young men have been prepared by a rigid and judicious course of instruction and discipline for the various duties of their profession. 660 have entered the army, of whom but thirteen have been dismissed; and during the present year only two have been brought before courts martial, and they upon charges not affecting their moral character."

This institution has been a favourite object of panegyric with all the heads of the war department—and it has lost nothing by the change which has brought it under the supervision of the talented Cass. Numerous as may be the advantages of this institution, regarded as a nursery of the "progressive science of war," we do not look upon it with that eye of partiality which sees in it nothing but a rich and influential, to have their sons educated at the public expense. It enables him, who has been lucky enough to secure the favour of those whose words have weight at court, to acquire an education, and a sumptuous living during the time of its acquirement, and having finished his studies, if he receive a commission, and be ordered to a station, not commensurate with his taste, he may resign, and abandon forever the profession for which the government has stocked his brain with science and his course with padding.

Whether it arise from the severe and rigid principles of discipline inculcated upon these clemencyaries of the people; from the flood of light cast upon their minds by science and literature, enabling them to perceive the immeasurable intellectual distance between them and their less favoured fellow-citizens, or from some other cause, we know not; but it has been remarked, how truly we cannot say, that there is an insufferable smell of aristocracy about them which nauseates like a redundancy of muck.

We are gratified to find the following passage, respecting the Cumberland Road; and have no doubt Congress will speedily act upon the suggestion.

"Unless provision is soon made for the repair and preservation of the road constructed by the United States from Cumberland to the Ohio river, that expensive and useful work will be ruined. Many parts of it are now so seriously injured as to render travelling difficult, and sometimes dangerous. The distance of this great connecting link between the Atlantic and the Western States, which, with a light transit duty and a proper system of administration, would last for ages, cannot be anticipated without great concern. The continuation of this road in the State of Ohio is free from this danger. With the assent of the General Government, that State has established toll gates, and levies a moderate duty upon that part of the road within her jurisdiction, which is finished.

"I consider it my duty to bring this matter before you, in the hope that it will engage the attention of Congress, and that a similar system for the preservation of the road from Cumberland to the Ohio river will be adopted. If it were passed by the General Government in proper repair, and then surrendered to the States respectively, through whose territories it passes, under the same conditions, as were annexed to the cession of the road in Ohio, there is reason to believe, that the arrangements would receive the sanction of those States, and that a permanent system and adequate means would be provided for the preservation of this work, and in a manner not burthenome to the communication upon it.—If this be not done or some other expedient adopted, the road will soon fall into a state of entire dilapidation."

"A general survey of our costs, both Atlantic and interior, is demanded by considerations of national interest as well as of character."

"The United States have now in serviceable condition about 463,000 muskets. The annual demand to supply the necessary loss in the army and the militia, and to furnish the issues to the respective States, is 18,500. The number manufactured in the public armories is about 23,000, and at private works about 11,000, making a total of 36,000, at the average cost of twelve dollars each.—We had, at the commencement of the late war, 240,000 muskets in depot, and during its progress, 60,000 were made and purchased. At its termination, there were but 20 thousand at the various arsenals, and many of those in the hands of the troops were unserviceable. Eight years were then required to replace the number lost during the war.

After reviewing the state of the ordnance department, generally, the Secretary proposes the establishment of a public armory for the fabrication of cannon. The number of Surgeons in the army, requires augmenting; and an increase of pay is recommended. This branch of the report closes with a series of pertinent observations on the militia system, and its claims upon the attention of Congress.

"The condition and prospects of the aboriginal tribes within the limits of the United States, are yet the subjects of anxious solicitude to the Government. Circumstances have occurred within a few years, which have produced important changes in the intercourse between them and us. In some of the States, they have been brought within the operation of the ordinary municipal laws; and their regulations have been abrogated by legislative enactments. This procedure renders most of the provisions of the various acts of Congress upon this subject inoperative; and a crisis in our Indian affairs has evidently arrived, which calls for the establishment of a system of policy adapted to the existing state of things, and calculated to fix upon a permanent basis, the future destiny of the Indians. Whatever change may be contemplated in their condition or situation, no one will advocate the employment of force or improper influence in effecting it. It is due to the character of the government and the feelings of the country, not less than to the moral and physical imbecility of this unhappy race, that a spirit of kindness and forbearance should mark the whole course of our inter-communication with them. The great object, after satisfying ourselves, what would best ensure their permanent welfare, should be to satisfy them of the integrity of our views, and of the wisdom of the course recommended to them. There is enough in the retrospect for serious reflection on our part, and for the unpleasant recollection on theirs; and it is only by a dispassionate examination of the subject, and by prudent and timely measures, that we can hope to repair the errors of the past by the exertions of the future.

The Indians, who are placed in immediate contact with the settled portions of the United States, have now the alternative present-

ed to them, of remaining in their present positions, or of migrating to the country west of the Mississippi. If they are, indeed, to prefer the former, their political condition becomes a subject of serious consideration.—They must either retain all those institutions, which constitute them a peculiar people, both socially and politically, or they must become a portion of that great community which is gathering round them, responsible to its laws, and looking to them for protection.

Can they expect to maintain that quasi independence they have heretofore enjoyed;—and could they so maintain it, would the privilege be beneficial to them?

The right to extend their laws over all persons, living within their boundaries, has been claimed and exercised by many of the States. The Executive of the United States has, on full consideration, decided that there is no power in that department to interpose any obstacle to the assumption of this authority.—As upon this coordinate branch of the Government devolves the execution of the laws, and, particularly, many of the most important provisions in the various acts regulating intercourse with the Indians, it is difficult to conceive how these provisions can be enforced, after the President has determined they have been abrogated by a state of things inconsistent with their obligations. How prosecutions can be conducted against trespassers removed by military power, and other acts performed, which require the co-operation of the Executive, either in their initiation or progress."

"That we may neither deceive ourselves nor the Indians, it becomes us to examine the actual state of things, and to view these as they are, and as they are likely to be.—Looking at the circumstances attending this claim of exemption on the one side, and of supremacy on the other, it is probable that the Indians can succeed in the establishment of their pretensions? The nature of the question, doubtful, to say the least of it; the opinion of the Executive; the practice of the older States, and the claims of the younger ones; the difficulties which would attend the introduction into our system of a third government, complicated in its relations, and indefinite in its principles; public sentiment, naturally opposed to any reduction of territorial extent or political power; and the obvious difficulties, inseparable from the consideration of such a great political question, with regard to the tribunal, and the trial, the judgment, and the process; present obstacles which must all be overcome before this claim can be enforced.

But could the tribes, and the remnants of tribes, east of the Mississippi, succeed in the prosecution of this claim, would the issue be beneficial to them, immediately or remotely? We have every reason to believe it would not; and this conclusion is founded on the condition and character of the Indians, and on the result of the efforts, which have been made by them, and for them, to resist the operation of the causes that yet threaten their destruction.

I need not stop to illustrate these positions. They are connected with the views, which will be found in the sequel of this report.—And it is not necessary to embarrass a subject already too comprehensive.

A change of residence, therefore, from their present positions to the regions west of the Mississippi, presents the only hope of permanent establishment and improvement. That it will be attended with inconveniences and sacrifices, no one can doubt. The associations, which bind the Indians to the lands of their forefathers are strong and enduring; and these must be broken by their migration. But they are also broken by our citizens, who every day encounter all the difficulties of similar changes in the pursuit of the means of support. And the experiments, which have been made, satisfactorily show, that, by proper precautions, and liberal appropriations, the removal and establishment of the Indians can be effected with little comparative trouble to them or us. Why, then, should the policy of this measure be disputed, or its adoption opposed? The whole subject has materially changed, even within a few years, and the imposing considerations it now presents, and which are now every day gaining new force, call upon the Government and the country to determine what is required on our part, and what course shall be recommended to the Indians. If they remain, they must decline, and eventually disappear. Such is the result of all experience. If they remove, they may be comfortably established, and their moral and physical condition meliorated. It is certainly better for them to meet the difficulties of removal with the probability of an adequate and final reward, than yielding to their constitutional apathy, to sit still and perish."

"The general details of a plan for the permanent establishment of the Indians west of the Mississippi, and for their proper security, would require much deliberation; but there are some fundamental principles, obviously arising out of the nature of the subject, which, when once adopted, would constitute the best foundation for our exertions, and the hopes of the Indians.

1. A solemn declaration, similar to that already inserted in some of the treaties, that the country assigned to the Indians shall be theirs as long as they or their descendants may occupy it, and a corresponding determination that our settlements shall not spread over it, and every effort should be used to satisfy the Indians of our sincerity and of their security. Without this indispensable preliminary, and without full confidence on their part in our intentions, and in our abilities to give these effect, their change of position would bring no change of circumstances.

2. A determination to exclude all ardent spirits from their new country. This will no doubt be difficult; but a system of surveillance upon the borders, and of proper police and penalties, will do much towards the extermination of an evil, which, where it exists to any considerable extent, is equally destructive of their present comfort and their future happiness.

3. The employment of an adequate force in their immediate vicinity, and a fixed determination to suppress, at all hazards, the slightest attempt at hostilities among themselves.

4. Encouragement to the severity of property, and such provision for its security, as their own regulations do not afford, and as may be necessary to its enjoyment.

5. Assistance to all who may require it in the opening of lands, and in procuring domestic animals and instruments of agriculture.

6. Leaving them in the enjoyment of their peculiar institutions, as far as may be compatible with their own safety and ours, and with the great objects of their prosperity and improvement.

7. The eventual employment of persons competent to instruct them, as far and as their progress may require, and in such manner as may be most useful to them.

Arrangements have been made upon fair and equitable terms with the Shawnees and Senecas of Lewistown, with the Shawnees of Wapakonetta, and with the Ottowas of Buchanan's fork, and the Maunee, all within the State of Ohio, for the cession of their reservations in that State, and for their migration to the region assigned for their permanent residence of the Indians. A similar arrangement was made with the Senecas in the early part of the year, and they are already upon their journey to their new country. A deputation from the Wyandots has gone to examine the district offered to them; and the general outlines of an arrangement for a cession have been agreed upon, to be formally executed, if the report of the exploring party should prove satisfactory.

It has been suggested that a considerable portion of the Cherokeees in Georgia are desirous of availing themselves of the provisions, May 10, 1838, for their removal.—With a view to ascertain this fact, and to afford them the aid offered by that treaty, if they are inclined to accept it, a system of operations has been adopted, and persons appointed to carry it into effect. Sufficient time to form a judgment of the result of this measure has not yet elapsed.

But in all the efforts, which may be made, the subject will be fully and fairly explained to the Indians, and they will be left to judge for themselves. The agents are prohibited from the exertion of any improper influence, but are directed to communicate to the Indians the views of the President, and his decided convictions, that their speedy removal can only preserve them from the serious evils which environ them. It is to be hoped, that they will accept this salutary advice, and proceed to join their countrymen in the district appropriated for their permanent residence.

If the seeds of improvement are sown among them, as many good men assert and believe, they will ripen into an abundant harvest—profitable to themselves in the enjoyment, and to all the members of this dispersed family in the example."

MINA AND MRS. CHAPMAN.  
From the Bucks County (Penn.) Intelligencer.  
Oyer and Terminer, for Bucks, December, 1851.

Arraignment of Mrs. Chapman and Mina. On Wednesday afternoon of the past week, soon after the judges had taken their seats, the grand jury brought into court the bill of indictment found by them against the above named individuals, for the murder of William Chapman. The bill contained three counts or charges; in the first of which, both defendants, under the names of Lucretia Chapman, alias Lucretia Esposy Mina, alias Lino Amalia Esposy Mina, alias Celestina Armentarios, alias Amalia Gregoria Xavier, were charged as having committed the murder, being principals in the first degree, in the second, Mrs. Chapman was indicted as principal in the first degree, and Mina as principal in the second degree, affray and abetting; in the third, Mrs. Chapman was charged as principal in the first degree, and Mina as an accessory before the fact, counselling and procuring her so to commit the murder. The crime, was alleged to have been perpetrated by mixing arsenic in chick-

en soup, and administering it in that form to the deceased, whereby he became sick, and greatly distressed in his body; and, on the 23d day of January, died.

The Bill having been returned, the Court directed that the prisoners should be brought up. The room was already crowded to excess, notwithstanding its accommodation for spectators are ample; and the dense mass awaited with anxiety, the entrance of the accused. Mina entered first, in company with Mr. Field, the Deputy Sheriff. His countenance wore a continual smile, or rather an apparent smirk; his self possession was complete; his assurance undaunted. He was dressed in a handsome suit of black, genteelly arranged; and once or twice he put his fingers through his hair, which was of a beautiful black, and disposed with some care. He has not, however, a handsome countenance; his person is small, but agreeable. Mrs. Chapman came in with the High Constable Blaney of Philadelphia. Her figure and dress were strangely contrasted with those of the prisoner. Her person, tall and masculine, appeared to much disadvantage in a faded brown travelling dress, and a large black hood.—Her countenance showed deep concern; though not bad, were not prepossessing.—She did not bestow one glance upon her companion in the box.

On the part of the Commonwealth, as counsel, there appeared Messrs. T. Ross, Deputy Att. Gen., and W. B. Reed of Philadelphia. On the part of Mrs. Chapman, Messrs. D. P. Brown, and P. M. Call, of Philadelphia. On the part of Mina, Messrs. S. Rush, of Philadelphia, and E. T. McDowell, of Doylestown.

Precedent to the arraignment, Mr. Ross arose and stated to the Court, that in consequence of the very imperfect and limited knowledge which his client had of the English language, he had been at some pains to make himself acquainted with the tenor of the indictment about to be read. He further desired to know from their Honours, whether after plea pleaded, the prisoner (Mina) would be shut out from a claim, intended to be made, of his right to be tried by a jury, one half of which should be composed of foreigners, (do medietate lingua)

Mr. Ross, in a very brief reply, stated that there should be no difficulty upon that point; the prosecution having determined that although they believed no such right existed in Pennsylvania, they would nevertheless concede it to the prisoner at the bar, if he should make such claim.

The prosecuting Attorney then proceeded to arraign the accused persons. The indictment was read to them, to which they severally plead Not Guilty, and put themselves upon God and their country for trial.

Mr. M'Call then produced to the Court an affidavit, made by Mrs. Chapman, setting forth that certain named witnesses, material to her defence, and who resided at great distances from this place, were not in attendance, and could not be procured in time for trial at that court; in consequence of which, and of the great fatigue occasioned by a journey from Erie, distant 510 miles, whence she had only arrived on Sunday preceding, she could not proceed to trial. The motion to continue to next court was followed by some remarks from the same gentleman.

Mr. Reed, in reply, stated that the prosecution were in complete readiness to proceed to trial, but, inclined to yield to the prayer of the defendants he proposed that an intermediate course be adopted, viz to adjourn this Court of Oyer and Terminer, to some point of time sooner than the February sessions, as the Court in their discretion should indicate. This proposed arrangement met the wishes of the Bench and the parties; but after much consultation and interchanges of views, it was finally determined to continue the cause to February sessions, commencing on the 15th of the month.

The multitude then, with one accord, rushed through the doors into the open air, to have a parting glimpse upon the prisoners upon their return to the jail. The same apparent unconcern marked his course to the last moment of his public exposure; her face was much concealed beneath her hood. It is said that on leaving the prison, previously to their entry into Court, Mina endeavoured to catch her eye, as they met; but she took no notice of him.

Subsequently, upon discharging the Grand Jury, Judge Fox earnestly reminded that body, that they had sworn to keep secret their own and the Commonwealth's counsel; that from this obligation they would never be absolved, and that as it respected the proceeding before them in relation to the case of murder it behoved them particularly to regard the sacredness of their oath. They were therefore upon no account to reveal what had passed before them as Grand Jurors; they were to avoid conversing upon the subject, and expressing any opinion upon it, leaving the public to judge wisely from their public act in returning the indictment as true. Any other course, he stated, could not fail to prejudice the public mind, while the accused were yet untried.

Alluding to this counsel from the Bench, we take occasion to remark, that nearly two months must elapse before the accused can be brought to trial; and that in the meantime, while the strong points of the prosecution are