

THE BANNER.

RICHARD CORBALEY, Editor.

PLYMOUTH IND.

Thursday Morning, April 28, 1853.

Advertisements to insure insertion, must be handed in by Tuesday preceding the day of publication.

Where is our street commissioner? Some of our streets have need of his presence.

CHURCHES IN PLYMOUTH.—There are four organized churches in this town, whose names are as follows:

Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and Christian—the latter was organized last Sunday.

William H. Doty who was tried in the Court of Common Pleas, last week for larceny, was acquitted; and Seth Hussy who was indicted with him, was also acquitted without a trial—the Prosecutor having entered a *nolle prosequere*. Our jail is therefore empty again.

We learn that Mr. Vanvactor's mill dam on Yellow River has been almost entirely swept away during the past week. And still worse—Fuller's dam is in nearly the same situation. This will not be good news to this community, for it was confidently expected that the new grist-mill so much needed here would be put in operation in a few days; but from present appearance we will be doomed to disappointment for some time to come.—The dams were injured by floating saw-logs over them before the water was high enough.

The citizens of Rochester are making arrangements to have their town incorporated. So says the *Flag*. We shall expect soon to hear of their making arrangements to have a telegraph office also.

FULTON COUNTY FLAG. The above is the title of a neutral paper just started in Rochester, Fulton county, Ind., Pershing & Hoover proprietors, and D. R. Pershing formerly of the Warsaw Democrat, is the editor. Success to you gentlemen.

Some of our Fulton county subscribers have given us notice to stop their papers, from the fact that a paper has been started in their county, and they desire to sustain it. We are sorry to lose them, but cannot say anything against their doing so, for it is right that they should support their own paper, and if they cannot take the *Banner*, we say take the *Flag*. And now we ask our citizens to look at the matter in its true light, and if they wish the paper to continue in this county, it will be necessary to lend a helping hand. Think of it friends.

The Trustees of Center township have levied a tax of 25 cents on the hundred dollars, for Township purposes, for the present year. The Trustees of the several Townships will find it very convenient to take the county paper, as they will find by consulting the new Statutes that some advertising will be necessary. Of the 27 trustees in this county, four take the *Banner*. It is not because these men are not able to pay for the paper, but because they formerly did not feel any particular interest in the legal business of the county. But now the card has been turned, and it is of importance to them that they should know what is going on in the entire county, and especially in their own townships. Likewise when a meeting is called by the Trustees for the purpose of levying a tax for building school houses, supporting schools or libraries, is it not of importance that every voter should know it? and how can they, if they do not take the paper in which the notice is published? We trust that all of our citizens will duly consider this matter, and then act as they think best.

Death of Vice President King.

Our last issue contained a notice of the continued illness of the Vice President, but it had reached the hands of many of our readers, the melancholy intelligence of his death was before us.—His tedious illness has rested upon the minds of his countrymen for several months past, and at one time, our readers may recollect, that his fellow-citizens were so solicitous in regard to his health, that a slight change for the worse led to the premature announcement of his death, but now the stern reality forces itself upon us that the Hon. WM. R. KING of Alabama is no more. He arrived at his plantation on the 17th inst. and expired on the 18th.

By this event, Hon. DAVID A. HATHORN of Missouri is the Vice President, *pro tem*.

FINANCIAL.

Mr. CORBALEY.—To a reflecting mind, should it chance to be engaged upon the subject, there must appear something radically wrong, if not oppressive, in the mode of assessing and taxing the citizens of this State under our present revenue law.

The Constitution of the State provides: (see article 10, 1st section,) "The General Assembly shall provide by law, for a uniform and equal rate of assessment and taxation; and shall prescribe such regulations as shall secure a just valuation for taxation of all property, both real and personal," &c.

The definition given to "personal property" by the legislature, in complying with the foregoing requisition, furnishes grounds for complaint, too manifest to be overlooked. For example, see 1st vol. of the late Revised Statutes, page 110 and we find, subject to taxation, "the value of all demands against any person or body corporate." Also, horses, wagons and farming implements, &c., &c. In order to test the propriety and constitutionality of taxing notes, book accounts and other demands, we will find our neighbor A has a good horse which he sells to B for \$100 00, on the 1st of November, taking his note without interest, payable in six months. B keeps the horse until the 25th of December following and sells him to C for \$110 00 taking his note payable in three months without interest. On the first of January the assessor calls to know the amount of property, (including notes, accounts, &c.,) for taxation. He finds in A's possession the note of B for \$100 00, and that B has C's note for \$110 00, both of which are taxed, and then the horse is taxed as the property of C—thus the single item of property worth but \$100 00, is taxed at \$310 00; and how far the same evil may be traced, it is unnecessary to illustrate.

Again, witness the following instance, in which you call upon our neighbors, Belangee & Elliott on the first of November, and get of their manufacture:

One 2 horse wagon,	75 00
" Large Doane plow,	12 00
" Small do. do.	10 00
" Wheelbarrow,	3 00

Amounting to \$100 00

This account remains upon their books unsettled on the first of January following, when the assessor calls, and they are taxed with the amount charged for this property, and you are taxed upon the articles themselves, and if they should be transferred through a dozen hands, each purchaser giving a note, or standing charged on book, the imposition is proportionate.

If there is not a species of oppression recognized by our present mode of taxation, I am at a loss to determine what oppression is.

THE VICE PRESIDENCY VACANT.—By the death of Mr. KING, the office of Vice President is vacant, and will remain so until the next election of President and Vice President. The President of the Senate *pro tem*, (who is now Mr. Atchison, of Missouri,) is not Vice President by reason of the death of that officer. He is merely the presiding officer of the Senate, and the constitution makes no provision for filling a vacancy in the Vice Presidency. But in case of the inability or death of both the President and Vice President of the United States, the President of the Senate *pro tem*, and in case there shall be no President of the Senate, then the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the time being, shall act as President of the United States until the disability be removed or a President shall be elected. This is according to the act of Congress of March, 1792.

The Vice Presidency, says the *New York Herald*, has been vacant before this time, on the following occasions, viz: Twice by the death of the vice Presidents, viz: George Clinton, April, 1812; his term expiring March 3, 1813. Elbridge Gerry, November, 1814; his term expiring March 3, 1817. Once by the resignation of John C. Calhoun, December 28, 1832; his term expiring March 3, 1833. Twice by the death of Presidents Harrison and Taylor, and the consequent accession of Vice Presidents Tyler and Fillmore to the Presidency—the former in April, 1841; the latter in July, 1850—leaving the Vice Presidency vacant for the remainder of their respective terms, and the President of the Senate with the right of succession to the Presidency.—The powers and duties of the Vice President and the President of the Senate *pro tem*, are precisely the same, except that the latter votes as a Senator and has the casting vote.

WEBSTER MEDAL.—The Baltimore *American* says an elegant medal, of the largest medallion size, has been got up at the instance of the friends of Mr. Webster in commemoration of that great statesman. It is somewhat similar to the Clay medal, and bears on one side an admirable profile

of Mr. Webster in high relief; on the reverse is an Ionic pillar sustaining a globe, the inscription, "I still live," and in the back ground a representation of Faneuil Hall, the Capitol, and other buildings connected with Mr. W.'s public life. Within the medallion is a broad and richly sculptured wreath enclosing the words—Liberty and Union, now and forever one and inseparable. The medal has been struck in gold, silver and copper.

Extraordinary Juggling Feat.

In the early part of the last century, a physician named Angicola, living at Ratisbon, in Germany, obtained great celebrity by certain discoveries which he declared he had made as to the multiplication of plants and trees. He could produce, he said, from a small branch, or even from a leaf, six large forest trees in the course of an hour, through the sole instrumentality of fire. He published several works on the subject, one of which was published at Amsterdam, in 1720. Its title was, *Agriculture, par-faitte, or Nouvelle Decouverte*, &c. It has been supposed that he had learned the secrets of the Hindoo jugglers, whose feats in the same line are of the most extraordinary character. They actually sow the seed of any tree the spectators call for, in the earth, and after a few cabalistic words pronounced over it, a mulberry, a plum, or walnut plant, is gradually seen springing upward until it becomes a large tree, with its natural fruit depending from its branches. Nor is this all. The fruit is plucked and given to the spectators to eat; and while he is engaged in partaking of the enchanted dates or walnuts, the branches of the miraculous tree are crowded with birds of every plumage, who fill the air with their melody. A signal is given, and the tree, with its feathered inhabitants, disappears in an instant, leaving behind it no trace of its existence!

The author of the "Oriental Annual," an English gentleman of unquestionable veracity, gives an almost incredible description of a juggling performance at which he was present. The operator introduces into the middle of the circle a naked little girl, about eight years old, in a wicker basket. The girl is shown to all the spectators. The operator then enters into a conversation with her, which soon assumes an angry tone; he threatens to kill her with a drawn sword; she supplicates for mercy, and while her piteous cries grow louder and louder, he plunges the weapon into her bosom two or three times successively. The earth is dyed with blood, while her agonizing groans announce dissolution. The spectators are ready to fall on the wretch whom they believe to be guilty of so barbarous a murder, when the little girl enters the circle from without in her usual attire and as gay as if nothing had happened to her.

A still more extraordinary feat than that, was performed in the presence of the Mogul Emperor Jehangire, who gave an account of it in his autobiography.—The performers produced a living man, whose head they cut off in the first instance. They next divided the limbs from the trunk, and the mutilated remains lay on the ground for some time. A curtain was then extended over the spot, and one of the performers putting himself under the curtains he emerged from it again in a few minutes, followed by the individual who was supposed to have been so completely dissected!

His Mogul Majesty gives the following minute account of some other performances, by the same jugglers, which are very wonderful!

They took a small bag, and having first shown that it was entirely empty, one of them put his hand into the bag; on withdrawing his hand again, out came two game cocks of the largest size and great beauty, which immediately assailed each other, and fought with such force and fury, that their wings emitted sparks of fire at every stroke. This continued for the full space of an hour, when they put an end to the combat by throwing a sheet over the animals. Again they withdrew the sheet, and there appeared a brace of partridges, with the most brilliant and beautiful plumage, which immediately began to tune their throats as if there was nothing human present, picking at worms with the same sort of chuckles as they are heard to use on the hill-side. The sheet was now thrown, as in the other instance, over the partridges, and when again withdrawn, instead of those beautiful birds, there appeared two frightful black snakes, with flat heads and crimson bellies, which with open mouth and head erect, and coiled together, attacked each other with the greatest fury, and so continued to do, until, as it appeared, they became quite exhausted, when they fell asunder.

"They made an excavation in the earth in the shape of a tank or reservoir, of considerable dimensions, which they requested us to fill with water. When this was done they spread a covering over the place, and after a short interval, having removed the cover, the water appeared to be one sheet of ice, and they desired that some of the elephant keepers might be directed to lead the elephants across. Accordingly, one of the men set his elephant upon the ice, and the animal walked over with as much ease and safety as if it were a platform of solid rock, remaining for some time on the surface of the frozen pond without occasioning the slightest fracture in the ice. As usual, the sheet was drawn across the place, and being again removed, every vestige of ice, and even moisture of any sort, had completely disappeared.

"They procured a blank volume of the purest white paper, which was placed in

my hands to show that it contained no figures or any colored pages whatever, of which I satisfied myself and all around. One of the men took the volume in his hand, and the first opening exhibited a page of bright red sprinkled with gold, forming a blank tablet splendidly elaborated. The next turn presented a leaf of beautiful azure, sprinkled in the same manner, and exhibiting on the margins numbers of men and women in various attitudes.

"The juggler then turned to another leaf, which appeared of a Chinese color and fabric, and sprinkled in the same manner with gold, but on it was delineated herds of cattle and lions, the latter seizing upon the knee in a manner that I never observed in any other paintings.—The next leaf exhibited was of a beautiful green, similarly powdered with gold, on which was represented, in lively colors, a garden with numerous cypresses, roses and other flowering shrubs in full bloom; and in the midst of the garden an excellent pavilion. The next change exhibited a leaf of orange, on which the painter had delineated the representation of a great battle, in which two adverse kings were seen engaged in the struggles of a mortal conflict. In short, at every turn of the leaf a different color, scene and action was exhibited, such as was, indeed, most pleasing to behold.—But of all the performances, this latter of the volume of paper was that which afforded me the greatest delight; so many pictures and extraordinary changes having been brought under view, that I must confess my utter inability to do justice in the description."

In observing upon the extraordinary nature of these performances, the Emperor put aside the supposition that they were to be ascribed to a mere visual deception:

"They very evidently partake," he says, "of something beyond the exertion of human energy. I have heard it stated that the art has been called the Asmynian, (celestial) and I am informed that it is also known and practiced to a considerable extent in the nations of Europe. It may be said, indeed, that there exists in some men a peculiar and essential faculty which enables them to accomplish things far beyond the scope of human exertion, such as frequently to baffle the utmost subtlety of the understanding to penetrate."

What virtue there is in a stone it is for naturalists to discover; but it is a fact, often and often witnessed that "Norway" runs in all directions in search of a stone, which he will take up in his mouth, and then slacken his pace till the two dogs come up, when neither of them will touch him. He is then permitted quietly to walk off with the hint that the stone has saved his bacon. He is watched, however, and should he drop the stone, another pursuit takes place, and he again picks up a stone, and contrives in this way to escape with a whole skin. That they are not afraid of his throwing the stone is evident, as they don't run away; but it is likely it is a point of honor not to molest him when his mouth is full, and when he is not in a position to defend himself or to give them battle.—When "Norway" is met or seen by any person, with a stone in his mouth, so well it is known that "Foxy" and "Scotch" are in chase, that they are looked for, and found not to be far distant. "Norway" is a very knowing fellow, and a cunning dog, too; and, being aware of his advantage in the water, will often, for a bit of a lark, a stroll upon the shore, when he knows "Scotch" is out of the way. He has not to wait long till he is accosted by "Foxy," to know what he wants there. "Norway" then retreats backward till he gets on a favorite projecting rock, about fifteen feet above the level of the sea, when he will lay hold of "Foxy," and tumble with him to the bottom, where they both fight till they are nearly drowned. After being mutually convinced that they have got enough of it, they swim ashore, shake off the water, and separate, like a pair of duellists, pleased, no doubt, that the "affair" has entailed no fatal consequences.

Daily Standard.

From the Cincinnati Times.

France and her Monarch.

We scarcely open a British newspaper or periodical, or look over a debate in the "Imperial parliament," without seeing something on the subject of the "French Emperor" and his "Intentions." The strange transformation and magical metamorphosis of the Arabian Nights do not, we believe, exhibit an example of so startling a change from obscurity to the pinnacle of earthly power and grandeur, as has been manifested in the romantic and picturesque career of Napoleon III. Three years ago he was a constable in one of the Wards in London, zealously engaged in repressing municipal disorders. Now the whole British Empire may, without much exaggeration, be said to tremble at the sound of his name.—Fifteen or twenty years ago, or probably not so far back, he was a houseless, homeless vagabond loafing about the purlieus of the gambling halls of New York, arraigned before the Police Court for riotous conduct, and again prosecuted in New Jersey for shooting dogs. Now, when a New York politician or stock broker scans the horizon for "signs and wonders" in the political sky of Europe, the most portentous and baleful star that blazes in red and angry colors on the zenith, is that of this *ci-devant* loafer and rone, who at the periods mentioned would have been driven with contumely from his door.—Verily this modern genius of Democracy, the people, is a very potent spirit, and quite throws in the shade all his prede-

cessors of Arabian and Oriental renown.

For many centuries France has been the great disturbing element in the European political system. She has herself passed through many changes, undergone many singular revolutions—by turns adopted and discarded many political systems.—At one time fanatically religious, anon ferociously atheistical. Now radically democratic, again growing under the sternest and most remorseless despotism. Now, standing with the haughty step of a conqueror on prostrate thrones, then covering like a whipped cur under the lash of the conquered.

"The desolator, de-olate, The Victor, overthrown."

And yet in all these vicissitudes of fortune, and amid all change of manners, institutions and principles, the character of the French people has remained essentially unchanged from the days of Clovis to Louis Napoleon. They have been ever the same vain restless, volatile, factious, gay, reckless, brave; thoughtless, hair-brained people, from the Monarch on the throne to the *sans culotte* of the *canaille*. From civil war and domestic revolution, to foreign conquest, defeat and counter revolution, the change has been as regular and incessant, as the ebbing and flowing of the tides. Surrounding nations felt constantly the same uneasy apprehension of a collision at any moment, that a grave and sober citizen does when thrown into the society of an intoxicated bully. There is no confidence felt in the stability of her policy, or any assurance of the continuance of peace, even when peace is her obvious interest.

It appears to be the opinion of those who have most attentively studied the character and position of Louis Napoleon that a European war is sooner or later inevitable. It is thought that the necessities of his position, as well as certain idiosyncrasies of mind, which are known to exercise a controlling influence over his actions, will propitiate the French Emperor into hostilities though so palpably opposed to his true interests. He is a man, in many respects, of very remarkable character. Though of narrow intellect and limited information, he is nevertheless one of the ablest men of the age. He is brave, haughty, self-willed and persistent. He is an original man. He thinks much, and whatever he does, is the offspring of his own thoughts. He is secret, and broods over his schemes in the recesses of a mind peculiarly gloomy, close and reserved. He is known never to abandon an idea or to renounce an enterprise upon which he has fully determined. He is a man of wild *romantic* imagination, which renders it very unsafe to undertake to predicate a course for him, based upon considerations which would determine the conduct of ordinary men. No scheme is too wild or improbable for his adoption, if it happens to fall in with any of his cherished ideas. To all this, we are to add that he is a servile copyist of his uncle, and looks upon himself as the destined instrument to restore the Empire, with its old boundaries, of the days of the great Napoleon, and to wipe out the disgrace of Waterloo, and the occupation of Paris by the allied troops.

In many of these ideas, the French heart goes with him, and at the first tap of the drum, would rally to his standard the fighting men of the most bilious people on earth, no matter how wild and quixotic the crusade.

If Louis Napoleon, by the necessities of his position and the peculiarities of his mind and temper, should be driven to assume an aggressive attitude, the blow will be levelled either at England or Belgium, and so far as our English friends are concerned, it does not much matter which, as in either event the burden of the war would fall upon them. If left to a fair field and single handed combat, England would no doubt come out, as she always has, victorious. If, on the other hand, she should have to fight a Continental alliance, the United States would probably have a word to say in the conversation.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI, CHINA, Jan. 29, 1853.

The rebellion, which has become a most formidable affair to this government, is continually gaining ground, and is the all-absorbing topic of discussion, both among the foreign residents and the natives. The rebel troops are reported to be sixty miles from Nanking, and Tien Tuh, their chief, has sent a message to the authorities of that city, announcing his intention to advance upon it, and demanding its capitulation, which they have declined. They are fortifying it to the best of their ability. Nanking was the capital of the empire before the downfall of the Ming dynasty, and Tien Tuh has declared his determination to re-instate it in its former position. He has also issued a notice that he will be there on the first day of the Chinese New Year, which will be on Feb. 8th, to worship at the tomb of his imperial ancestors, near that city. His progress has interrupted nearly all the trade west and south of Fuchan and Nanking, and this has so materially affected the markets here that business has been, for a month past, quite at a stand still. Money is, in consequence, more difficult to be obtained, the rates of exchange more disastrous, and the prices of foreign imports lower than have been known since the opening of this port to foreign commerce. Another reason has been assigned, to account in part for the stagnation of trade; and that is, the scarcity of water in the canals in the interior, so that boats with merchandise can ply in neither direction. Then the Chinese New

Year is just at hand, when all business with the natives is suspended for a few weeks. Better times are confidently anticipated, when this annual holiday season has passed.

The rumors with reference to the numbers of the rebel force are various and conflicting. We have heard estimates from 30,000 to 100,000. Suffice it to say that they are so brave and numerous that their progress has not been checked in any instance, nor have they been defeated, as far as we have been able to learn, in any single engagement, by the government troops. The latter are remarkably inefficient, even when there is no great inequality in point of numbers.

The mass of the population are as indifferent to a change of government, or a change of rulers, as the French. And they would give themselves no uneasiness at the prospect of Tien Tuh becoming their Emperor, if they were assured their own lives and property would be secured to them. Indeed, they are so ground to the earth by oppressive taxation; and by the exactions of mandarins, or public officers, that many of them think no change could be for the worse. This new aspirant for the Dragon throne, promises a reform in all these abuses.—In advancing his claims, he has one advantage in the minds of the people—he is a lineal descendant of the native Chinese Emperors who held the throne before the Tartar conquest. This fact gives him some importance, as an individual, in estimation of the "haunted names" for they often recur with as much affection and enthusiasm as a Chinaman can feel, to the glories of the ancient *regime* under the laws of Han. The end of these things is not yet.—*Com. Advertiser*.

THE PENSION LAW.

The following is the amendment to the Pension law enacted at the last session of Congress:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all widows and orphans who were granted and allowed five years' half pay by the provisions of the act approved the twenty-first day of July, one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, entitled "An act amending the act granting half pay to widows or orphans where their husbands or fathers have died of wounds received in the military service of the United States, in case of deceased officers and soldiers of the militia and volunteers, passed July fourth, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight," or an act approved the twenty-second day of February one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine, entitled "An act granting five years' half pay to certain widows and orphans of officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates, both regular and volunteers," be, and they are hereby granted a continuance of said half pay, under like limitations and restrictions, for a further period of five years to commence at the expiration of the half pay provided for by the aforesaid acts: *Provided, however*, That in case of the death or marriage of such widow before the expiration of said term of five years, the half pay for the remainder of the term shall go to the child or children of the deceased officer or soldier whilst under the age of sixteen years; and in like manner the child or children of such deceased when there is no widow, shall be paid no longer than while there is a child or children under the age aforesaid: *And provided further*, That no greater sum shall be allowed in any case to the widow or children of any officer than the half pay of a lieutenant colonel: *Provided further* That the act approved the 22d of February, one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine, "granting five years' half pay to certain widows and orphans of officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates, both regular and volunteer," be so extended and construed as to embrace the widow and minor heirs of the officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates of the regulars, militia, and volunteers of the war of eighteen hundred and twelve, and of the various Indian wars since 1790.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the widows of all officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates, of the revolutionary army, who were married subsequent to January, A. D. eighteen hundred, shall be entitled to a pension in the same manner as those who were married before that date.

Approved, Feb. 3, 1853.

"SILVER," says the Philadelphia *Ledger*, "we understand, is fast coming from its hiding places, and there is every indication that the channels of the retail trade will soon be abundantly supplied with silver change. The inquiry so often made, without eliciting an answer—'what has become of all the silver?' is now about to be solved. The banks of this city, we understand, hold over three million dollars in silver. One bank in the interior, we are advised, holds about seven hundred thousand dollars in silver, and all the banks all over the country hold a greater or less amount."

Search others for their virtues, thyself for thine vices.

MARRIAGE.

On the 24th inst., by Rev. AUSTIN FULLER, Mr. JOHN ARMSTRONG, to Miss SOPHERIA JANE SMITH: all of this county.

On the 21st inst., by JAMES H. CASE Esq., Mr. WM. BOREAN, to Miss SARAH JANE WHITE.

On the 17th inst. by Rev. RUBE, Mr. GEORGE BROWN, of Plainfield, to Mrs. MARIA JOHNSON, of Marion county, Ind.