

SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL.

INDIANAPOLIS:

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1841.

The following is the result of the election for a Justice of the Peace for Centre-township, on Saturday last:

William Sullivan,	224 votes
George W. Starr,	102 "
George Holland,	187 "
John Hare,	85 "
John J. McFarland,	53 "

CHEERING INTELLIGENCE—A prospect of obtaining over \$200,000 of the Public Debt.—We extract the following paragraph from the money article of a New York paper of the 25th ult. The editor, after giving a table of the relative value of State Stocks on the 30th August, the 15th September, and the 24th September, says:

"These prices evince the depression which stocks have undergone since the last packet, from causes here stated. The commissioners of the delinquent states are using every exertion to restore their credit. Ex-Governor Noble of Indiana, is sanguine of recovering a portion of the suspended debt of that State. He has laid an injunction on 6000 shares of the Dry Dock Bank, the property of Sherwood, who has absconded. Under cover of an assignment made by the North American Trust & Banking Co. to secure its foreign creditors, he hopes to force payment of the \$200,000 due from that concern to the State. The committee of investigation are, we understand, awaiting the confirmation of David Leavitt, as receiver for that concern, when the books will be placed within their reach, and the whole matter exposed."

Whether our able and indefatigable Fund Commissioner succeeds in getting back to the State a single dollar or not, he is richly entitled to the thanks and confidence of the people of Indiana; for he has done all that man is capable of doing in order to save something of the thousands that are justly due us.

CARRYING OUT THE PRINCIPLES—all but—The following instructions from the President to the Post Office Department, which we copy from the Madisonian of the 30th ult., evince a determination to carry out, at least, a part of the principles upon which the lamented Harrison went into office. But Harrison did not place without the pale of office any class of his fellow-citizens, as it will be seen that President Tyler has. He has forbidden the Department to make any appointments of Postmasters from the Editorial Corps—a class of men, from the very nature of their vocation, pre-eminently qualified to take charge of Post Offices. They are not so jealous and envious as the President seems to imagine. When one of them is appointed to office, instead of being a source of envious regret, it is one of gratitude and gratification to all his brethren.—

TO THE HON. S. R. HOBBS,
Acting Postmaster General:
Sir: Information having been received, in a form entitled to attention, that the Postmaster at ———, Pennsylvania, and ———, Ohio, have so far violated the obligations, which they impliedly assumed, on taking office under my Administration, of abstaining from any active partisanship, or in any way connecting their offices with party politics, or using them for party purposes; I have to request that inquiries shall be instantly instituted into their conduct, and that, if the charges against them be found to be true, they be immediately turned out of office, and citizens appointed in their places, who will otherwise conduct themselves. The Post Office Department, in all its operations, should be conducted for the single purpose of accomplishing the important object for which it was established. It should in an especial manner, so far as is practicable, be disconnected from party politics. It was established for specified purposes of equal importance to every citizen. To convert it into an engine of party, to be used for party purposes, is to make it the fruitful source of the most alarming evils. Ramified as it is and extended to every neighborhood, the purity of its administration and necessarily of its agents, should be particularly guarded. For a Deputy Postmaster to use his franking privilege, (a privilege bestowed upon him for the sole purpose of exonerating him from oppressive charges in the necessary correspondence of his office,) in scattering over the country pamphlets, newspapers, and proceedings, to influence elections, is to outrage all propriety, and must not for a day be tolerated. Let this be left to the politicians. I shall be happy if one or two examples shall be found sufficient to correct an evil which has so extensively prevailed.

I will take this occasion also to add for your instruction, that the appointment to, and continuance in the office of Postmaster of any one editing a political newspaper, is in the highest degree objectionable. It involves most of the consequences above stated—introduces politics into the Post Office—diminishes the revenues, and confers privileges on one editor which all cannot enjoy. In a word, it is my fixed purpose as far as in me lies, to separate the Post Office Department from politics, and bring about that reform which the country has so loudly demanded.

JOHN TYLER.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28th, 1841.

GEN. CASS.—Our readers will recollect that this Gentleman was nominated for the Presidency by a public meeting in Philadelphia, a short time since. In a letter to the committee appointed to notify him of his nomination, he declines the honor of being beaten for that high place by "Harry of the West." If he should, however, be the regular nominee of the "Republican party" he intimates that he would not decline a race.

The Editor of the Sentinel did not hear of much fighting on the day of the Senatorial election. The fellow was too drunk to hear.

The Sentinel claims the election of Mr. Sullivan as a Locoveto triumph. We are glad to see it. It will do more to arouse the Whigs than the short-sighted editor is aware of.

"Had this John Woods not sloped before the election, the Democratic majority in Marion would have been one less than it is!"—Ohio Statesman.

Had this John Woods not sloped till after the election the majority against the Whigs would have been one more than it is. Last fall when this same John Woods was considered an honest man he voted for Gen. Harrison; but this summer when he made the attempt and succeeded in cheating the people out of thousands of dollars, he declared himself a modern democrat. Not two weeks before he sloped, he declared in the presence of three or four persons that there was no Whiggery about him.

The Sentinel is still harping upon the fact that Mr. West at one time would not permit his work hands to eat at the same table with his family; and affects to deny it. Will Mr. West deny that a separate table, for a while at least, was not set apart from the family table for the men in his employ as laborers? Will he deny that he required them to sleep in some of his out-buildings?

Great anxiety has been frequently expressed with regard to the British armed vessels upon the lakes, which belong to both Canada and the United States. The provisions of the treaty between the two nations upon this subject are stated as follows in the Albany Evening Journal:

A treaty or arrangement was made in 1817 between the two countries, by which it was stipulated that the naval force to be maintained upon the American lakes by the respective parties, should thereafter be confined to the following vessels on each side:

"On Lake Ontario, to one vessel not exceeding one hundred tons burden, and armed with an eighteen pound cannon.

"On the Upper Lakes, to two vessels not exceeding like burden, and armed with like force.

"On the waters of Lake Champlain, one vessel not exceeding like burden, and armed with like force."

It was further agreed that if either party should thereafter be desirous of annulling the agreement, and should give six months' notice to that effect, the agreement should cease to be binding after the expiration of the six months. The British Government gave notice to the President of the United States in November, 1838, that that Government had found it necessary to increase their armament on the Lakes.

Mr. Van Buren seems to have supposed that it was perfectly proper and safe to let the British Government have as large a force upon the Lakes as it pleased, and to leave the frontier defenceless on our part.

GOOD NEWS FROM FLORIDA.

SAVANNAH, September 25.

By the arrival yesterday of the United States steamer *Gen. Taylor*, Capt. Peck, we have the cheering intelligence of the coming in of sixty Indians, and the prospect of upwards of two hundred more, they having promised to meet Colonel Worth at Pease Creek on the 22d instant. These Indians belong to Hosiaptaki's band, and include the whole of this indomitable Chief's people.

The prospect of closing this long and interminable war brightens every day under the auspices of the gallant Worth. The blow was long since struck by Colonel Hamey which soon will give peace to Florida, and we confidently believe that with the commencement of the new year the long desired result will be accomplished.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE SAVANNAH GEORGIAN.

FLORIDA, September 22, 1841.

Dear Sir: Every thing wears a favorable prospect of a speedy termination of this war. On the 13th instant a part of Hosiaptaki's band, numbering sixty, met Col. Worth, according to promise at Ponta Rosa. The rest of the tribe, numbering over two hundred, will meet him on this date on Pease Creek. You must understand that when an Indian meets our Colonel it is fully understood he is not to go out again, but must emigrate. Runners are now out to bring in Halleck Tusseuggee. No doubt but their efforts will be successful. Tiger Tail is assembling his people on the Withlacoochee, preparatory to their coming in some time during next month.

THE CLAY FESTIVAL.

It will be seen from the following letter from Mr. CLAY, to the Committee appointed on that subject, that he declines the honor of a public dinner tendered by his fellow-citizens. The festival, therefore, will not take place.

ASHLAND, Sept. 25, 1841.

GENTLEMEN:

I have received your friendly note, welcoming my arrival at home, and transmitting certain resolutions, adopted at a meeting of my fellow-citizens of Fayette county and the city of Lexington, proposing to distinguish my return from the recent extra session of Congress, by manifestations of their confidence and esteem towards me. According to one of these resolutions, you do me the honor to tender me the compliment of a public dinner on the 7th proximo.

I receive, gentlemen, with no ordinary sensibility, those testimonies of friendly consideration and public attachment. Proceeding from any community, they would command a prompt expression of my respectful acknowledgments; but emanating, as they do, from my neighbors and my friends, affectionate associates of forty years duration, or their descendants and connections, I should be happy to find adequate language to express the sentiments with which they inspire me. All I can offer, is the conveyance of my cordial thanks, and assurances of my lasting gratitude.

I recognize, with pleasure, your superior claims upon me to attend a public entertainment; but the very ground on which you justly place them, encourages the hope that you will kindly receive the reasons which compel me, with regret, to decline accepting your obliging invitation. An arduous session of Congress has been followed by a long and fatiguing journey; and both make me intensely feel the want of repose. A barbecue, with public speaking in the open air, and other usual incidents, would greatly add to my present exhaustion, if it did not produce more serious effects. I hope therefore, that my fellow-citizens, in lieu of a Public Festival, will agree to substitute that private, informal and friendly intercourse, so much more congenial with my feelings, and compatible with my health.

I offer you, gentlemen, assurances of the high regard and constant esteem of
Your faithful friend,
And obedient servant,

H. CLAY.

From the Boston Times.

We extract the following from the St. Albans (Vt.) Messenger:

Just as our paper is going to press, we learn that a most brutal outrage was committed night before last, in Alburgh. The substance of which is, twelve loyal subjects of Queen Victoria came over the line, two miles and a half, into the town of Alburgh, and arrested Colonel Grogan by force—bound him in chains, and took him to Montreal, where he is doubtless ere this, lodged in jail. This information we have from a well known acquaintance, who saw him in chains at Missisquoi Bay, yesterday morning.—This act, we trust, will be inquired into by our Government without delay.

The Boston Atlas has a letter from St. Albans, Vermont, under date of September 22, 1841, which confirms the above, and adds:

Last evening the citizens of St. Albans met together and appointed a committee of five to inquire further into this outrage, and to report upon the facts of the case. To seize a man within the territory of the United States—to load him with chains, and to hurry him off into a foreign jail, without form or trial, is a most nefarious and outrageous act, which, no doubt, will be inquired into by our rulers at Washington without delay.

Col. Grogan formerly—that is before the rebellion—resided in Canada. During the rebellion his property was wantonly destroyed and he driven from his home into the United States. It was rumored that he retaliated and burned buildings across the line. To punish him, as they pretend, they have been guilty of the most illegal and hostile transaction which could possibly disgrace any men or class of men.

THE CASE OF McLEOD.

Correspondence of the New York Tribune.

Utica, Monday, Sept. 27.

The Circuit Court for the Fifth Circuit of this State was to-day opened in the Court House, Justice Gridley, of this city, presiding, in the absence of Chief Justice Nelson, detained at home (Cooperstown) by protracted indisposition. It was intimated some days since that the Chief Justice might not feel able to attend this circuit, and that Judge Gridley would not undertake the trial at once, as, not expecting to try it, he had not prepared himself, and wished time to consult authorities on the important points of international, as well as criminal law certain to arise.

Three Judges of the County Courts appeared on the bench with Judge Gridley. The Court House was crowded, in good part with witnesses and persons strongly interested in the trial.

The usual formalities of opening a term of court (swearing in the jurors empaneled, &c.) having been completed, the first case called was that of *The People of the State of New York vs. Alexander McLeod*, indicted for the wilful murder of Anos Durfee, at Fort Schlosser, in the county of Niagara, in December, 1837.

Mr. Willis Hall, Attorney General, responded on behalf of the People. He handed to the Court a list of witnesses summoned on behalf of the People, which was called over by the crier. A portion only answered to their names.

The Court inquired when the case would be ready for trial. The Attorney General replied that the case, on behalf of the People, was ready now. He moved that the trial proceed.

Mr. J. A. Spencer, of counsel for the prisoner, submitted his reasons for opposing the motion. His associates (Judge Fardner, of Rochester, and Mr. Bradley, of Lockport) were both still absent in Canada, collecting testimony. He expected their return daily, but was not ready to proceed without them. Unexpected difficulties had been encountered in the obtaining testimony. The witnesses had, since 1837, become scattered over all British North America, from Lake St. Clair to the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Many of them had been found, and their testimony taken, (of which three large packages were produced in Court); but others, whose evidence was important, had not yet responded. He could not feel justified in going to trial in this state of the case, and he moved that the trial be set down for Monday next, (October 4th,) which was the earliest day that he could feel certain of being ready.

Mr. Hall felt bound to oppose so long a postponement. He would do nothing to deprive the prisoner of a fair trial; but ample time had been allowed for preparation. The opposing counsel were well aware that the trial came on at this time; while a great number of witnesses for the People had been at much expense summoned a great distance from their homes, and were now in attendance. They could not be detained here a whole week beyond the time necessarily employed in the trial but at great inconvenience and hardship to them.

Judge Gridley reserved the question for the present, but with the right to the Attorney General to renew his motion on a latter day of this week should he think proper to do so. He then made a brief and appropriate address to the jurors empaneled, reminding them of the great responsibility resting on them, of their sworn duty to avoid all grounds of bias or prejudice on the question which a portion of them would be called upon to decide, to repel all attempts to influence them by rumors and indirect approaches, as well as otherwise. He then directed them, should any attempt be made so to approach one or more of them, to give information to the Court, by whom the offence would be promptly dealt with.

The case was then dropped, and the Court proceeded to the trial of civil cases.

I understand from the Attorney General that he will feel it his duty to call up the case again on Thursday if no good reason is offered for further delay.—Should the opposing counsel still insist on delay, without further reason, he will probably be obliged to swear off the cause—in which case it goes over to the next term, unless by special agreement. I think, however, it will be tried at this term, and I hope commenced this week. The want of preparation on the prisoner's side is deplorable, as every hour's delay will tend to produce excitement, and give opportunities to prejudice the jury.

I have already heard enough to convince me that there will some hard swearing and most amazing contradictions of evidence on this trial. It will be sworn point blank by persons professed to be engaged in the attack on the Caroline, not only that this veritable Alexander McLeod was actively engaged in that enterprise, but that he ordered a man to fire at Durfee on the American shore, and that, on the man refusing he (Mac) seized the gun from the soldier's hands, and shot Durfee dead! This is but an item; and the evidence will be equally positive and particular on the other side.

I shall hardly have any thing new to write on this subject before Thursday evening. You will hear from me at the next Agricultural Convention.

H. G.

ARREST OF THE SUPPOSED MURDERER OF MARY ROGERS.—We learn from the Albany Argus of Tuesday last, of the arrest in that city of a notorious rowdy, named James Finnegan, under information amounting to nearly a certainty that he is one of the persons who committed the outrage and murder on Mary C. Rogers.

"It seems that the New York Police have already

two or three of the gang in custody; that one of them confessed to the crime, and implicated Finnegan; and that the keeper of a house to which they were in the habit of resorting, informed the police of Mr. F.'s whereabouts, he having quit the city immediately after the murder. It is stated, that the gang consisted of six or seven persons, whose atrocities in various forms are familiar in the police annals; that two of them were known to Mary Rogers, and meeting her in the street on the morning of the murder, invited her to sail to Hoboken, saying they had hired a boat with oarsmen; that she accompanied them; was enticed, unsuspecting, to a retired part of the shore, and there, after the accomplishment of their hellish purposes, brutally murdered.

Finnegan, when arrested, wore a ring which is said to have been identified as one belonging to Mary Rogers. The Bee says he is one of the gang who, about a year since, committed a gross outrage upon a young girl in this city.

Read the subjoined confession. It is replete with thrilling interest.

ST. LOUIS CRIMINAL COURT.

State vs. Augustus V. Jones, Indictment for passing counterfeit money.

The defendant in this case was, probably, twenty-eight years of age, but wore the appearance of at least thirty-five. He had evidently once been a fine looking man; in stature he was something over six feet, and his strongly marked features and prominent forehead gave evidence of more than ordinary intellect. But you could clearly discover that he had become a prey to the monster intemperance—the mark of the beast was stamped upon his countenance, which gave it a vivid and unnatural glare. He was placed in the box, with others who were to be arraigned upon the indictments preferred against them. All the others had plead not guilty, (as is usual) and a day was set for their trial. The defendant was told to stand up, and the clerk read to him the indictment, which charged him with having, on the 10th day of August, passed to one Patrick Oneal a counterfeit bill, purporting to be issued by the 2d Municipality of the city of New Orleans, for the sum of three dollars; and upon being asked the question, guilty or not guilty? he replied "guilty—guilty!" Then turning to the Court, he remarked that, as this was the last time he ever expected to appear in Court, he would be glad if he could be allowed to make a few remarks. The judge told him to proceed. After a pause, in which he was evidently endeavoring to calm his feelings, he proceeded as follows:

"May it please the Court: In the remarks I shall make, I will not attempt to extenuate my crime or ask at your hands any sympathy in passing sentence upon me. I know that I have violated the laws of my country and justly deserve punishment; nor would I recall the past, or dwell upon the bitter present, for my own sake. A wish to do good to others is my only motive.

"I shall, with the indulgence of the Court, give a brief narrative of my life, with a hope that those young men around me may take warning by it, and avoid the rock upon which I have split. I was born of respectable parents, in the State of New Jersey, and during my childhood received every attention that fond parents could bestow upon an only son. It was early discovered that I had a fondness for books, and my father, although in limited circumstances, determined to give me a liberal education. I was sent to a high school in the neighborhood, and such was my progress, that at twelve years of age, my preceptor declared me qualified for college, and I accordingly entered one of the oldest universities of the country. Here I so distinguished myself that, at sixteen, I graduated with the second honors of the institution, and returned home flushed with the brilliant prospect of success that lay before me. I soon after commenced the study of law, and when only in my twentieth year, I obtained a license to practice. Acting upon the advice of friends, I determined to seek my fortune in the west. I accordingly arranged my affairs for departure early in the fall of 1833. I will not detain you with an account of my separation from those I held most dear—suffice to say that I received the blessings of my parents, and in return, promised faithfully and honestly to avoid all bad company, as well as their vices. Had I kept my promise, I should have been saved this shame, and been free from the load of guilt that hangs around me continually, like a fiendish culture, threatening to drag me to justice, for crimes as yet unrevealed. But, to return, I left my early home, where all had been sunshine and where my pathway had been strewn with flowers, to try my fortune among strangers, and to try my strength in buffeting the storms and tempests of the world. With light heart I looked forward to the future; and taking the usual route, I soon reached Wheeling, where I took passage on a boat for Louisville. On the boat a game of cards was proposed for amusement; and although I had promised faithfully to avoid such things, still I argued to myself that there was no harm in playing a game for amusement. Accordingly I joined the party, and we kept up the amusement most of the way down. After we left Cincinnati, it was proposed to bet a 'bit' a game, merely, as it was said, to make it interesting. My first impression was to leave the table, but I was told that it was only a 'bit'—that I could not lose more than one or two dollars. This argument prevailed, for I lacked moral courage to do what was right; I feared my companions would say I was stingy of a little money. Influenced by these feelings, I played; and as the fates would have it, I won. Before we reached Louisville, we had twice doubled the stake, and I found my luck enabled me to pay my passage out of my winnings. It was the first time ever I had bet money, and my success ruined me. Again I played, and was again successful; and, in short, I continued to play for amusement, until I had acquired a thirst for gaming. I settled in a thriving village in Tennessee, and commenced the practice of my profession under flattering auspices, and my first appearance in a criminal court was highly complimented, and I soon became known throughout the circuit. Things went on thus for more than a year, and I believed myself fairly on the road to fame and fortune. I occasionally played cards; but I consoled myself with the idea that I only played with gentlemen for amusement.

One night I accompanied some young men to a gaming shop, and, for the first time in my life, I saw a *Faro Bank*. My companions commenced betting, and I was induced to join them, although I did not understand the game. Again I played with success; and when we left the house, I was more than two hundred dollars winner. None of my companions had been fortunate, and it was insisted that I was the lucky man, and that I must treat. We accordingly repaired to my room, where I ordered wine, and before we broke up we were all deeply intoxicated. With me it was the first time, and the next day I resolved that I would never play cards again; I adhered to this determination for nearly three months, when I again yielded to the entreaties of my dissipated associates.

I now played with varied success, and in all cases found an excuse for resorting to the wine-bottle. If I lost, I drank to drown sorrow; if I won, I treated my good fortune. Thus I progressed upon my down-