

INDIAN WAR.

THE CREEK INDIANS.

The Tuscaloosa (Abbe) Intelligence of the 24th ult. says:—We understand that recent information received by the Executive of the State, induces the belief that those Indians are making preparations to commence hostilities against our citizens in consequence of which we are informed the Governor has ordered out one thousand mounted men to be stationed at different points, and act as a corps of observation for the protection of the inhabitants near the Indian locations, in the Eastern part of this State.

THE FLORIDA WAR.

Volunteers continue to pour into Florida. At the last dates a force amounting to about 4000 men had collected there. A letter from Tampa Bay, under date of January 25 says,

"About two weeks ago Governor Eaton (and much I think to his credit) authorized Major Belton to abandon the post, if, in his opinion he was too weak to defend it. At the time the Governor's despatches arrived, Major Belton's whole force did not amount to 200 able-bodied men, and at the same time the Indian force in the immediate vicinity—say within twelve miles of the post, could not have been less than one thousand warriors, highly excited and flushed by their recent victory over poor Dade and his unfortunate companions. Major B. immediately called a Council of War, and it was unanimously agreed to defend the post to the last extremity—and rather than yield it to bury themselves in its ruins. Nearly all the barracks and out houses are burnt down, and the troops are picketed around the two block houses some two or three rods from the margin of the river. The barracks and out houses were burnt in order to give the cannon in the block house an opportunity to play on an open plain that intervenes between the pickets, from which the enemy would rush in the event of an attack. Our whole force now amounts to about 250 men, acting strictly on the defensive—they are not allowed to go many rods from the pickets. All communication between this and the other posts is cut off. It is thought by the best informed among the officers that 1000 men would not be able to force a communication between this and Fort King.

We are hourly in an expectation of an attack—we do not fear it, we almost pray for it—we are but few in number, but we feel ourselves amply strong enough to whip the rascals. Should they rush on us, I am morally certain that we can preserve our scalps—at least we will try."

Some six or eight days ago, a party of friendly Indians took a prisoner close to the cantonment. I have just been to see him. The suit he had on when captured, had no fewer than four bullet holes in it; it belonged to one of Major Dade's poor fellows—it is much clothed with blood.

He says the Indians held a grand consultation the 22d inst. to decide whether they should attack the post or no. Powell their principal chief, was for an immediate attack, but other chiefs were of an opposite opinion. But it is evident they will very soon make a grand effort on some point."

The sloop of war Vandalia arrived at the mouth of Tampa Bay on the 20th of January. On the 30th it was apprehended that the Indians were concentrating their forces for an attack.

A letter from Charlotte Harbour says:—"The Indians are removing from Mico River to Cape Sable, where they intend to make a stand. They are well supplied with powder, ball, caxos, and arms of all kinds. It is stated they have with them a number of runaways, and expect others to join them with boats, &c. so that they can go to the various keys in case of necessity."

The dates from Fort King are to the 17th of last month. At that time but few volunteers had joined Gen. Clinch. Nothing of interest had occurred there. On the 14th Gen. Gaines set out with a force of about 8000 men, to commence active operations against the Indians, leaving a force of about 150 men, and 30 to 40 friendly Indians, for the protection of Fort Brooke. They were well supplied with arms, provisions, &c., and expected to render a good account of the savages.

LATEST FROM EAST FLORIDA.

The following is an extract of a letter from an officer of the Army to his correspondent in this city, dated Fort Brooke, Tampa Bay, February 13, 1836:

"We arrived here on the 11th, after a very boisterous passage from New Orleans. Each day we have been expecting to start for Fort King, but as yet have been delayed from time to time, until we begin to think that we shall not go there at all. We start this morning, however, for the woods, and, if we keep on to Wythlacochie, it will be very well; if not, why no matter. There will be a force of 1,000 men to take the field, of which 450 will be regulars, and the balance militia. The prospects of a fight are pretty fair, and, in my next, I hope to inform you that we have met and captured a great many Indians. I am in a hurry now, so that you must excuse me for not writing more."

In addition to the above, we learn from other sources that Gen. Gaines had reached Fort Brooke; that the sloop of war Vandalia was lying 14 miles below the Fort, not being able to get nearer, and that, for some days he had seen Indian signs had been seen within from 12 to 20 miles of the fort. A. L. L.

"St. Mary's," (Gen.) Feb. 10.

"It is asserted here on good authority that the famous warrior chief, Powell, was sometime since at the agency, where for some misdeeds he was confined for several days. On releasing him, Gen. Thompson gave him a rifle, and a reconciliation apparently took place. When General Thompson was lately shot in the vicinity of the fortification at the Agency, it is supposed that one of the fifteen balls was discharged from the same rifle.

"There is no doubt that Gen. Thompson fell a victim to his misplaced confidence in the sincerity of Indian faith; and perhaps most of our present troubles have arisen from the same source."

POWELL, THE SEMINOLE INDIAN.

We copy from the Floridian the following description of Powell, the leader of the Seminole Indians:

Mr. Editor: The following facts, in relation to this interesting personage, I collected from authentic sources during the late campaign, and they may be relied on.

Ocala, Powell, the head chief of the hostile Seminoles, is likely to figure in history with Philip of Pokanoke, Tecumseh, possessing all their noble daring and deep love of country, with more intelligence, and perhaps more ferocity. He is a half breed (his father an Englishman) of the Creek Nation and Red Stick tribe. In person he is slight, well proportioned, and active, complexion rather light, deep restless eyes, and a remarkably clear and shrill voice, and supposed to be from 30 to 35 years of age. He has brought himself into notice, and raised himself to his present station, by his superior talents, courage and ambition—not having inherited any title or command. Formerly he was proud, gloomy and insolent, and on one occasion, in a talk with the late lamented agent, General Thompson, burst into paroxysm of passion, declaring that the country was theirs; that they wanted no agent, and that he had better be off; for this he was arrested and confined; afterwards he appeared penitent, became cheerful, signed the treaty, and was released with many fair promises.

He then made himself very useful to the agent and officers at Camp King, performing many daring feats in arresting criminals, among the troublesome Miccosukees, with which tribe he was at variance; and for these services received repeated marks of friendship from the agent, and gained his entire confidence.

Suddenly he threw off the guise of friendship—murdered Chearly Mathla, a friendly chief—forced his followers to join him—received as allies, the Miccosukees, who were glad to have such a leader—and raised forthwith the firebrand and scalping knife.

He, it is supposed, led on the party which attacked and defeated the advance guard of Col. Warren's regiment, about the 17th December.

On the 28th he was seen at the head of a band who rushed on General Thompson and some other gentlemen, within range of the guns of Fort King, and shot and scalped them.

On the 31st he made a sudden and unexpected attack upon the army under Generals Call and Clinch, whilst engaged in crossing a deep and dangerous stream the Wythlacochie—attacking at two points simultaneously, and only yielding after a desperate struggle of an hour.

During the action he was recognized by officers and men of the regular army, fighting several paces in advance of his men, and after each discharge of his rifle, wiping it with the utmost coolness; and his voice was distinctly heard when his men were flying, trying to rally them.

He is, or pretends to be of the belief, that the old treaty of Payne's landing is the only one, and according to his account, the time stipulated for their removal by that treaty, does not expire for five years yet; and he says he can fight the whites for that length of time.

Twenty-fourth Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Friday, March 4, 1836.

Mr. HANNEGAN rose and said, it seemed to him to be the settled purpose of the majority of the House to prevent any publication from being made in relation to the manifold abuses and corruptions of the West Point Academy. (Much laughter and cries of "order.")

"But I warn the House" continued Mr. H. "that they cannot longer smother the truth, and that one way or another, we will have it out."

The Chair peremptorily called Mr. H. to order.

Mr. HANNEGAN moved to suspend the rules in order to offer a resolution for the printing of the Report of the Select Committee, appointed last session to investigate the concerns of the Military Academy at West Point, now on the files of the House—which report, he added, the House had kept back and smothered. (cries of "order.")

Mr. HANNEGAN—"I hope the House will indulge me (cries of "order," "order.") with the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered. Mr. VAN DERPOOL said he was ready to prove that this paper purporting to be the report of a committee was not the report of the majority, but of the minority of the committee.

The question being taken, the motion was rejected—yeas 112, nays 82—not two thirds.

AN OBSCURE SHIP.

The following description of the fine ship of the line Pennsylvania, we copy from the Philadelphia Gazette:

"The line of battle ship Pennsylvania, now on the stock at our navy yard under the shelter of a building that cost \$15,000, is one of the most stupendous fabrics that was ever destined to sail on the ocean. Her length on deck is 225 feet which is 27 feet more than half way from Fifth to Sixth street, in Chestnut, and her breadth 58 feet, which is 8 feet wider than Chestnut street, opposite the theatre, including the footways. She is large enough to carry 2000 men, which a larger number than the whole American Army, that fought and gained the battle of Chippewa, and greater than the population of a considerable sized country town. She is of the burthen of 3,000 tons, and could, if loaded with flour carry the moderate cargo of thirty thousand barrels, enough to supply bread for fifteen thousand men for a whole year. She is to carry 140 guns, thirty-two pounders, so that every time she discharges a full broadside, she will dispose of precisely a ton of bullets to make iron pebbles for the bottom of the ocean, unless she happens to hit the enemy. She will draw 27 feet of water, and thus find it difficult to navigate in shoal rivers.—One of her anchors which is to be seen in the yard, and which is said to be the largest one in the world, weighs 11,669 pounds, which is something more than five tons, and will require some merry piping at the capstan to get it apeak. Her water tanks are of iron, mostly in the shape of large chests capable of holding 1 to 200 gallons, but having a proportion of them of other shapes adapted to fit around the sides of the ship, so as to leave no space, as happens with casks. The number is probably 150, as far as we could judge from looking at them, as we did a day since, under the guidance of some of the polite and attentive officers stationed at the yard.

A friend has just informed us that the largest anchor in the British Dock Yard, Portsmouth in 1832, weighed something less than 40,000 lbs at which time were on the stocks, three ships nearly as large as the Pennsylvania."

Among the charities of Philadelphia, may perhaps be enumerated the bequest made by Dr. Franklin to the Corporation of the city, for the purpose of lending small sums—to such young unmarried artificers, under the age of twenty-five years, as has served an apprenticeship in the city, and faithfully fulfilled the duties required in their indentures." The legacy amounted to \$4,144 44 cents, or £1000 sterling. No loan to one person is to exceed £60 nor be less than £15. The interest paid by the borrower is five per cent, and he is required to give a bond, with two sureties, for the repayment of the money. The present amount of the fund, including interest due is \$31,615 44, being an increase \$27,471.—Dr. Franklin calculated, that at the end of one hundred years, it would amount to £131,000 sterling, or \$581,640, of which he recommended that £100,000 should be applied to public purposes, and the balance of £31,000 left to accumulate for another century, at the end of which period he supposed that it would amount to upwards of four millions of pound sterling, or upwards of seventeen millions of dollars, which is to be divided between the inhabitants of Philadelphia and the government of Pennsylvania.

The sum of three thousand dollars, United States three per cents, was bequeathed to the corporation, for the same purposes, by John Scott, Esq.

Ohio and Michigan.—The following bill has been introduced into the United States Senate, by Mr. Ewing of Ohio. This is the third time that the question has been brought before Congress so far as it relates to the line between Ohio and Michigan. It has twice passed the Senate, and twice been lost among the unfinished business of the House.

A BILL, to settle and establish the northern boundary line of the State of Ohio.

Be it enacted &c. That the northern boundary of the state of Ohio shall be established by, and extend to, a direct line running from the southern extremity of Lake Michigan to the most northerly cape of the Miami bay; thence, northeast, to the northern boundary line of the United States; thence, with said line, to the Pennsylvania line.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the boundary line surveyed, marked, and designated agreeably to "An act to authorize the President of the United States to ascertain and designate the northern boundary of the State of Indiana," approved March the second, eighteen hundred and twenty-seven, shall be deemed and taken as the east and west line mentioned in the constitution of the State of Indiana, drawn through a point ten miles north of the southern extreme of Lake Michigan, and shall be and forever remain the northern boundary of said state.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the northern boundary line ascertained, surveyed, and marked, agreeably to a law of Congress entitled "An act to ascertain and mark the line between the State of Alabama and the Territory of Florida, and the northern boundary of Illinois, and for other purposes," approved March second, eighteen hundred and thirty-one, shall be deemed and taken as the line west from the middle of Lake Michigan, in north latitude forty-two degrees thirty minutes, to the middle of the Mississippi river, as defined in the act of Congress entitled "An act to enable the people of Illinois territory to form a constitution and State Government,

and for the admission of such State into the Union on an equal footing with the original States," approved eighteenth of April, eighteen hundred and eighteen, and shall be and forever remain the northern boundary line of said state.

St. Augustine.—This City, now a point of great attention, in consequence of the threatening aspect of the Indian War, is said to be the oldest settlement in North America, having been founded by the Spaniards in 1665. According to a description attached to a drawing of the Fortress of St. Marks, in the New York Commercial Advertiser, the reliques of antiquity which are to be found in the vicinity are highly interesting and curious. It is, indeed, the only perfect specimen of a feudal castle to be found on the continent. At the southern extremity of the city is the old Spanish powder house inclosed by a substantial wall, and of dimensions ample enough to contain all the powder of Spain at the time of its erection. It is now, in part, unroofed, but otherwise uninjured by time. The guard houses are still standing at its exposed angles; and beyond may be seen the remains of the embankment, with here and there a rusty piece of ordnance.

But the fortress at St. Augustine is the principal object of curiosity to strangers. It commands an admirable view and defence of the harbor, and its frowning walls, its deep embasures and masonry bastions, its watchtowers—the deep moat by which it is surrounded, and the solid wall which, with its silent angels, so securely protects the moat from the action of sea and wind, constitute a novel and highly interesting spectacle to the untravelled American whose knowledge of European fortifications is derived from books alone. All the adjuncts of military strength and power are realized on entering within its gates, in the heavy stone works—the damp and gloomy dungeons,—the intricate winding passages, and the enormous strength and thickness of the walls.

The interior is a square, on either side of which, as well as in front, are apartments of corresponding dimensions, with arched ceilings. A light is necessary to explore its recesses, and the air is damp and chilling. As yet it has not been thoroughly examined, and an impression exists that it has a subterraneous connection with the city; various secret openings have been discovered in the thickness of the walls, but no one has yet ventured to follow the winding passages to which they seem to give entrance. In one corner is a vast well, furnishing an ample supply of water for the garrison, however numerous. The communication with the ramparts is by a broad inclined plane, which forms an angle on the right of the entrance, and the wide parapet affords an ample promenade, which is much resorted to by the inhabitants and visitors of St. Augustine.

The fort is built of stone, consisting principally of concreted shells, which, though not very hard, has successively resisted the attacks of time, and is admirably qualified to sustain the shock of cannon balls. It is said to have been many years in construction and to have cost more than three millions of dollars; tradition relates that when the king of Spain was told the amount, he shrewdly asked whether it was built of gold. The date of its erection is not accurately known, but it is supposed to have been commenced soon after the middle of the 17th century. It was called by the Spaniards the castle of St. Juan, but now bears the name of St. Marks.—Even against battering cannon it would make a long resistance, and all the power and skill of Indian assailants would be wasted upon it forever.

The Public Lands.—TIM SURPLUS REVENUE.—In the course of Debate in the Senate yesterday, Mr. Ewing (of Ohio) stated some striking, we may say astonishing, facts, in regard to the Revenue and the Sale of Public Lands.

The amount of Surplus Revenue, or rather of unexpended Revenue, already exceeds Thirty Millions of Dollars.

The amount of receipts from Sales of Public Lands during the last month (January) far exceeds any amount heretofore received, as appears by the following statement, by Mr. Ewing, of the amount received in the month of January, 1835, (then unusually large,) and the amount received, as far as the several Land Offices have been heard from, during the corresponding month of the present year:

RECEIPTS FROM PUBLIC LANDS.	
In January, 1835.	In January, 1836.
Ohio,	42,861
Indiana,	160,893
Illinois,	56,715
Missouri,	15,721
Mississippi,	188,090
Alabama,	367,263
Louisiana,	10,248
Michigan,	43,072

Should the sale of Public Lands during the rest of the year bear the same proportion to other years, as is indicated by the sales in the month of January, the revenue from the sales of Public Lands alone, during the present year, (1836) will exceed twenty-seven millions of dollars!

Should the proceeds of the sale of the Public Lands not be distributed, as proposed, among the States, nor their revenue divided in some other way, the Surplus Revenue will, in a year from this time, amount, upon reasonable calculation, to FIFTY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS!—Not, late!

Governor TAYLOR, of Virginia, has refused to transmit to the Senators in Congress,

from that State, the resolutions adopted by the Legislature, instructing them to vote for expunging from the Journal of the Senate the resolution of Mr. Clay censuring the conduct of the President, in relation to the removal of the deposits.

The Governor assigns his reasons for declining to transmit the resolutions, with great force and clearness. The resolutions, he says, require him to do two several acts—the first to transmit the resolutions, and the second to request the Senate to lay them before the body of which they are members. Neither of these, he conceives, are within the sphere of his duty as Governor—but as the constitution and laws of the State have not prohibited him from performing them, he would have complied with the wishes of the assembly, if he had not been required to add his approbation to their resolves and to furnish his solicitation to their commands. The Governor could not consent to this, in as much as he cannot consider the resolutions otherwise than as requiring a palpable violation of the constitution of the United States, and that he would, by transmitting them incur guilt, from which not even the approving voice of the General assembly would suffice to absolve him. "Greatly indeed," he adds—"would this be aggravated, if, while entertaining these sentiments, I should dare to request others to incur such criminality on their part."

The governor abstains, out of the respect and courtesy due to the assembly, from characterizing the act he is requested to perform, in soliciting honorable and high minded functionaries of Virginia to do that which, if it is their duty to do, they will surely perform without any official request from him, and, if it is contrary to their duty, no one ought to desire of them to perform it, especially one who cannot claim authority of any kind to denounce such a question for them."

He offers, however, if the assembly will permit him, to spread upon the journals of that body a document stating, at large, the reasons which have induced him to dissent from the opinions of the assembly as set forth in the resolutions. The resolutions were, on motion of Mr. WATKINS, ordered to be transmitted by the Speakers of the Senate and House of Representatives.

RAIL-ROAD WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

The people of St. Louis, Missouri, are about projecting a Rail-road from that place to Fayette, upwards of a hundred miles west of the Mississippi.—The cost, it is supposed, will not exceed \$5000 per mile, and great advantages to the trade of St. Louis are expected to flow from the measure, if adopted.

It is thus, that our Western brethren are supplying the links of that great chain of Rail-road communication, which, before the end of this century, will be probably unbroken between the Atlantic seaboard and the furthest limits of habitation in the West.—The Atlantic and Pacific Rail-road will one day be the name of that splendid whole, of which the Baltimore and Ohio Rail-road is now one of the parts.

A Terrible Remorse and Death.—A colored man living in Liberty Valley, Perry Co., met with an untimely and fearful death one day last week. Our informant states that he had been employed during the day by some of his neighbors butchering, and was returning home in the evening, as it is presumed, with a portion of the day's spoils given him by his employers, which attracted a gang of wolves that followed his path. They attacked the poor fellow and literally tore him into pieces. His remains were found the next day, surrounded by some of the evidences of their desperation with which he ended his life.—The only weapon to defend himself with was an ordinary knife he had been using at his work, and which he lay around his mutilated body five or six ferocious animals gnawed in every imaginable manner. It is supposed there must have been a dozen or more in the gang, for in the sight which the scene of this unhappy occurrence presented.—Juni 1st Jan.

Accident.—An accident occurred yesterday upon the Camden and Anchoy Rail Road, owing it is stated to the darkness of the fog, which existed at the time. The locomotive attached to the line of passenger cars, on its way from Anchoy, with the passengers from New York, came in contact with the locomotive of the transportation cars, passing in an opposite direction. The concussion was of course tremendous, but fortunately with no loss of lives. Several of the engineers and firemen were thrown from the locomotives and somewhat injured.

The passengers it is said remained safe in the cars, which were not thrown from the track, notwithstanding one of the locomotives was considerably injured, and if not shattered to pieces. A locomotive proceeded immediately from Camden for the purpose of bringing down the New York passengers.—The accident was entirely owing to the denseness of the fog, which rendered it impossible for the engines to be seen, until too late to prevent the collision.

Silk Culture.—The Harrisburgh Chronicle observes:—"The culture of silk will one day employ thousands and thousands of people. There is already as much raised as is required in the Eastern States, as there was of cotton in the Union, in 1792. In this state (Penn.) people are every where planting the mulberry tree, either for the purpose of cultivating the silk worm themselves, or for selling trees to those engaged in the culture."

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