

# THE ARKANSAS GAZETTE.

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## TERMS OF THE GAZETTE.

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From the St. Louis Enquirer.

## MOUTH OF THE COLUMBIA.

Most of our readers, it is presumed, are already apprised of the fact that government has sent the Macedonian frigate and a sloop of war to take possession of the mouth of the Columbia river, and to cruise on the shores of the Pacific ocean. This measure, it is conceived, evinces great extension of views in the administration, and probably, in the lapse of a few years will be considered of more importance than is at present attached to it.

The views of the British government, or more properly speaking, of the fur companies of that nation, have been long turned to this point. They have sent several travellers to explore the Columbia river, and examine into the practicability of carrying on a trade with the East Indies by this channel, and in case of its being feasible, their intention was to exchange the valuable furs of the North American forests for the elegant luxuries of the east. They were only prevented from acting upon this suggestion, from the want of proper means.

With a view to this object, a company of gentlemen of the city of N. York, at the head of which was Mr. John Jacob Astor, despatched two ships to establish a settlement at the mouth of this river; they arrived at their place of destination, and settled themselves at a place which they called Astoria. In consequence of the rupture between the U. States and Great Britain, this establishment was broken up by an armed force of the latter power.

The distance, by this route, to a country, the commodities of which enriches every nation engaged in its trade, will be considerably shortened, and an examination into its practicability will perhaps not be uninteresting. The best route to the Pacific ocean will be, to cross the mountains south of the returning track of Lewis and Clark, and descend Clark's river to the Columbia, thence down the latter to the Pacific ocean. To show the advantages of this route, we will extract an article from Mr. Brackenridge's Views of Louisiana: "The route taken by Lewis and Clark, says he, across the Rocky mountains, was perhaps the very worst that could have been selected. Mr. Henry, a member of the Missouri company, and his hunters, have discovered several passes, not only very practicable, but even in their present state less difficult than those of the Alleghany mountains. These are considerably south of the sources of Jefferson river. It is the opinion of the gentleman last mentioned (Mr. Henry) that loaded horses, or even wagons, might in its present state go in the course of six or eight days from a navigable point on the Columbia to one on the waters of the Missouri. Thus rendering an intercourse with settlements that may be formed on the Columbia, more easy than between those on the heads of the Ohio, and the Atlantic states. Mr. Henry wintered in a delightful country on a beautiful navigable stream."

"Whether," continues the author above quoted "the returns could be introduced into the United States across the Rocky mountains to any advantage, might be worthy of experiment. A shortening of the distance by more than a thousand leagues, will certainly make it an object to lessen the expense and difficulty of transporting goods across the mountains and down the Missouri. It is worthy of consideration, that articles usually imported from the East Indies are not of great bulk or weight, and that a small compass will include goods of great

value. Hence this transportation will be attended with much less difficulty."

If this route is taken, no adequate idea can easily be formed of the future importance of a town at the mouth of this river. Mr. Brackenridge observes that the soil in the vicinity of the Columbia "is represented as rich and highly susceptible of cultivation; the climate is more temperate than in the same latitude in the United States. "The natives on the Columbia river are very numerous; Gen. Clark informed me that their number might be safely estimated at 80,000 souls."

This seems to indicate a capacity of supporting a dense population, practicably exemplified by the number of its inhabitants who live upon its spontaneous productions. Probably there are as many Indian inhabitants on this river and its branches as in any other parts of North America, of the same extent.

Among other objections against the expediency of taking this route, it has been urged that the distance of the Columbia river from any white settlement, and the consequent difficulty of making it the channel of active commerce, will present insufferable obstacles to the successful prosecution of this plan. To this objection we answer, that until the country becomes inhabited, posts might be established at proper distances, as is frequently done in other countries thus situated, which will subserve every necessary purpose. In process of time, these posts will become the residence of families, and assume the appearance of towns. The fertility of the soil will invite farmers to settle around them, and by this means the country contiguous to the route will acquire a population sufficiently dense to answer the demands incident to such a trade.

If it be asked where can be obtained the requisite means of carrying on this intercourse, we answer, that independent of the supply derived from the fur of this country, the mines of Mexico can be very easily diverted to this channel, and that in such quantities as to obviate the inconvenience arising from a scarcity of specie, in consequence of the drainage produced by this trade. But it may be said, that the Spanish system of restriction, which forces the produce of those mines to their ports, may defeat, or defer, the attainment of this advantage. If the obstinacy of Spain will still protract the reciprocal adjustment of all differences existing between her government and ours, it would then, it is conceived, be advisable to obtain, by a resort to arms, that redress diplomacy could not effect. An efficient aid would then be given to the Mexicans, and their independence would be established. The local situation of Mexico renders it impossible for them ever to become a maritime nation, and the American possessions contiguous to it will come in for their share of the carrying trade. By this means the gold and silver will flow into New Orleans, and thence into the territory, and the western country generally. St. Louis will be the medium of exchange between the mouths of the Columbia and Mississippi; it will not only advance her prosperity, but that of the United States.

The Pacific ocean, so called from the placidity of its waters, will enable the merchant to trade backwards and forwards with the greatest celerity and despatch, and the shortness of the distance will enhance its advantages.

This plan may appear visionary, but that which is now speculation, will, it is confidently believed, shortly become a fact, and this country will be enriched by the overflowings of its benefit.

**Subterranean Garden.**—A curious account of a subterranean garden, formed at the bottom of the Perry Main Pit, Newcastle, by the furnace keeper, was communicated at the last quarterly meeting of the Caledonian Horticultural Society. The plants are formed in the bottom of the mine, by the light and radiant heat of an open stove, constantly maintained for the sake of ventilation. The same letter communicated an account of an extensive natural hot bed, near Dudley, Staffordshire, which is heated by means of the slow combustion of coal at some depth below the surface. From this natural hot bed, a gardener raises annually, crops of different kinds of culinary vegetables, which are earlier by some weeks than those in surrounding gardens.

## FOREIGN NEWS.

London, July 3.

It was stated in London that Attigas has formed a connection with Buenos Ayres, and that they had declared war against the Portuguese.

Petitions from all parts of the country was pouring into parliament, praying for reform. The marquis of Tavistock had presented one signed by 1800 of the most respectable inhabitants and manufacturers, praying that they might be permitted to have a voice in the councils of their country—Sir Francis Burdett was also making exertions for the same object.

The volunteers under Gen. Devereux had sailed from Ireland for South America—the General was shortly to follow.

There was a rumor in Stockholm of disturbances expected between the Russians and the Danes.

July 12.

The rumors respecting a misunderstanding between Sweden, Denmark and Russia, are corroborated by the movements of troops on both sides. The King of Sweden has a camp at Scania, where he himself resides; and the Emperor Alexander has ordered the formation of three camps in Finland, towards which the troops are marching, and the Emperor is expected to review them there.—The fort of Scania was supposed to be chosen for the purpose of overawing the Danes, who were disputing a short time back about the Norwegian debt; but as the payment of that debt was (according to official announcements in the Swedish Journals) arranged by negotiations in London, the keeping up the force and the presence of its royal general look very like some apprehension of attack from Russia, though it might not be thought politic to show any fear or suspicion by moving nearer to the Russian frontier.

It is stated in letters from Italy, that the recent visit of the Austrian Emperor to Italy, was for the purpose of sounding the dispositions of the holy college, respecting the views his Majesty has on the legislations, which he is desirous of obtaining, as also some other good things in Italy; nay, it is asserted, that he extends his projects on Rome itself, after the death of the Pope, when perhaps Prince Metternich will, for his many virtues, be appointed the head of the holy college. The Austrian Emperor has conceived these projects on account of the Emperor Alexander's intention to restore the kingdom of Poland to its former greatness; and in that case Austria will be called upon to cede Galicia. According to the latest accounts from Russia, three camps are formed in Finland, under the command of the Grand duke Nicholas. The Emperor Alexander is arrived at Warsaw. The assembling of a formidable Russian army in Finland and in Poland looks ominous.

July 23.

Lord Sidmouth has addressed circular letters to the Lords Lieutenant of the manufacturing counties, directing them to give orders to the yeomanry cavalry to hold themselves in readiness to assist the magistrates in the preservation of the public peace.

Don Onis proceeded from Paris on the 11th July for Madrid. The last Madrid papers say it is confirmed that he is to be prime minister of Spain.

Intelligence from Berlin states that 'recent investigations in Prussia and other countries have proven the existence of secret democratical societies, whose proceedings are of a treasonable nature.' A complete plan of a republican constitution had been seized in Germany.

Parliament was prorogued on the 13th, to the 24th of August.

From the N. York Commercial Advertiser, of August 11.

We have received from our correspondent at Bermuda, a file of the Bermuda Gazette, to the 28th of July. In the paper of the 24th we find the following of Commodore Perry:—

"The American schooner of war *Non-such*, went into Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes, on the 5th inst. with dispatches to Admiral Campbell, from commodore Perry, who was cruising to windward of that Island, in quest of some pirates, of whom it would seem information had been received."

The same paper contains a letter from Nassau, addressed to the editor, of which the following is a copy:—

'One pirate has already been execut-

ed, and two more will meet the same fate on the 19th inst. The Grand Jury has brought in a bill against the invincible Sir G. M'Gregor, who stands charged with aiding and abetting piracy, by issuing commissions in the Bahamas to subjects of powers in amity with Spain. But I suppose this will be chase after a wild-goose."

Washington City, Aug. 24.

We have learnt from the newspapers that some misunderstanding had taken place amongst our Naval Officers on the Mediterranean station. We are sorry to say that private letters received in this city, confirm these accounts. It is said to have arisen upon the occasion of the disapprobation of Com. Stewart, of the proceedings of a Court Martial, held whilst the squadron lay off Naples. About that time the squadron sailed for Gibraltar, and the officers who had composed the court met off that port, and addressed a remonstrance to the commanding officer against the terms of his disapprobation of the proceedings of the court.—Whereupon, he arrested those officers, being four captains and one lieutenant. Among the former are said to be captains Macdonough and Ballard. We are so much in hopes that this matter will be amicably adjusted, that we should not have noticed it, but that statements respecting it are already in general circulation. The captains being arrested, the first lieutenants are now in command of the ships respectively which, previous to this occurrence, were commanded by the officers now under arrest. [*Nat. Intel.*]

New-York, Aug. 15.

It gives us great pleasure to have it in our power to give the following pleasing result of the late disturbances at Gibraltar between the American and British officers. We have seen a letter from an officer of the American squadron at Gibraltar, stating that a court of inquiry was held on board of the *Guerriere*, on the 1st of July, by request of Gov. Don, who had brought charges against the American officers for breaking the peace of the garrison. The court completely exculpated our officers from any blame; and captain Johnson, of the British army, had apologized for his conduct, and that of his fellow officers, in relation to the late duels at Gibraltar. [*Gaz.*]

Aug. 27.

Yesterday the coroner, according to custom, was called to view the body of Hervy Jessup, an unfortunate debtor, confined in the limits of the debtor's gaol.—The jurors, after a studied investigation, reported his death to have been occasioned by the visitation of God, under a deep depression of mind and body, brought on by the cruelty of ABEL CLAPP, on whose account the poor unfortunate deceased has been confined, since the 23d day of October last, for the paltry sum of \$40 32 cents.

Humanity shudders at the facts which came out in the investigation, one of which it may not be amiss to mention, viz.—the sheriff, a day or two previous to the death of the deceased, applied to his creditor for permission to remove him to the hospital at Bellevue; but, shocking to relate, no permission could be obtained! [*Nat. Adv.*]

Sept. 3.

**Our Northern Boundary Line.**—The Plattsburg Republican of Saturday last, states that the scientific agent appointed by our government to ascertain the boundary line between the United States and Lower Canada, concurring with the observations made last year, expresses the opinion that the military works at Rouse's Point are north of the 45th degree of latitude.

The Boston Centinel of Wednesday, on the same subject, remarks on the authority of letters from Vermont, that the commissioners on the Northern boundary line have finished their surveys and observations, and that it was generally understood, though not officially promulgated, that the boundary line between the United States and Lower Canada has fallen a mile and a half to the southward of Rouse's Point.

New-Orleans, Aug. 3.

The important suit of Jasper Lynch vs. the Natchez Steam-Boat Company, was determined on Friday last in the supreme court of this State, judgment was given in favor of the plaintiff for \$45,000.