

THE WEEKLY REGISTER.

[Vol. 1.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1812.

[No. 24.]

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"I wish no other herald
"No other speaker of my living actions,
"To keep mine honor from corruption
"But such an honest chronicler."

Shakspeare—HENRY VIII.

Legislature of Massachusetts.

Wednesday, Jan. 22.—The following message was received from the governor. In senate read and committed to Messrs. Otis, Means, and Sprague—In the house, read and concurred, and Mr. Green, of B. Mr. Whitman, of B. Mr. Smith, of W. S. Mr. Cobb, of P. and Mr. Prentiss, of M. are joined.

Gentlemen of the senate and gentlemen of the house of representatives.

It being officially announced, that the Indians complain, "they cannot receive the usual supplies of goods, by reason of the non-importation act," and that they are not to be purchased "within the United States."

I submit to your consideration, whether it is not incumbent on this state, to use the means in its power for enabling the national government to rise superior to such a humiliating circumstance. In the year 1775, when our war with Great Britain commenced, and when, immediately preceding it, a non importation act had been strictly carried into effect, the state of Massachusetts apportioned on their towns, respectively, to be manufactured by them, the articles of clothing wanted for their proportion of the army which besieged Boston; fixed the prices and qualities of those articles, and they were duly supplied within a short period.

This before we had arrived at the threshold of independence, and when we were in an exhausted state, by the antecedent, voluntary and patriotic sacrifice of our commerce, between thirteen and fourteen thousand cloth coats were manufactured, made and delivered into our magazine, within a few months from the date of the resolve which first communicated the requisition.

Thirty-six years have since elapsed, during twenty-nine of which we have enjoyed peace and prosperity, and have increased in numbers, manufactures, wealth and resources, beyond the most sanguine expectations.

All branches of this government have declared their opinion, and I conceive, on the most solid principle, that, as a nation we are independent of every other, for the necessities, conveniences, and for many of the luxuries of life.

Let us not then at this critical period, admit any obstruction which we have power to remove, to discourage or retard the national exertions for asserting and maintaining our rights; and above all, let us convince Great Britain, that we can and will be independent of her for every article of commerce, whilst she continues to be the ostensible friend, but implacable foe of our prosperity, government, union and Independence.

By calling on the inhabitants of this state, and offering them reasonable prices, there exists no doubt in my mind of our ability to supply every article of clothing, which may be wanted for our proportion of troops that may be required to carry on a defensive, or the most vigorous offensive war.

and at the same time every article wanted for the Indians.

But if this should appear in any degree a doubtful point, cannot the wealthy, and manufacturing states of Massachusetts, New-York and Pennsylvania; and those north of the latter, effect that object?

The question requires not a moment to give a prompt and affirmative answer. The legislature then having a thorough knowledge of the resources; of this commonwealth, of her abilities, and her disposition to draw them forth on such an important occasion, leaves nothing necessary to be added on this subject.

E. GERRY:

Council Chamber, Jan. 21, 1812

United States Militia.

The bill for classing and arming the militia; which has occupied the house of representatives, for six or seven days, having been rejected on its third reading on the 5th instant, (as will have been observed by our minutes of the congressional proceedings of that day) we do not think it worth while to go through a detail of all the debate which took place on the bill. We suppose our readers will generally be better satisfied with an abstract of the arguments used for and against the bill, given at once, than to have them drawn out at length in several successive papers, at a remote date.—[Nat. Int.]

This bill, as has already been stated, in our minutes of congressional proceedings, provided that the militia should be divided into three classes, viz. *minor, junior and senior classes*. The first to consist of youths over 18 and under 21 years of age; to be called out for three months at a time only; and within their own state; the second, to consist of citizens over 21 and under 31 years of age, to be employed for twelve months at a time, in any manner in which the president of the United States may direct; and the last to consist of citizens over 31 and under 45 years of age, liable to be called out for six months at a time, in the state in which they live, or an adjoining state. The bill also provides that every youth, arriving at the age of 18, shall be provided with a stand of arms at the expence of the government.

This bill was supported by Messrs. D. R. Williams, Macon, Wright, Stow, Randolph and Smilie, on the following grounds. In behalf of the classification, it was said, that in consideration of youths from 18 to 21 being generally engaged in either obtaining an education, or in learning some trade or profession to fit them for future usefulness in life, they had laid the burthen of military service lightly on them, and confined them within a moderate distance from their homes: That on the next class, consisting of citizens in the prime of life, considering them as being possessed of the great physical strength and spirit of the community, they had laid the heaviest burthen of duty

though no more than every citizen is at present liable to be called upon to perform : On the senior class, they imposed a lighter duty, because they considered them as being more necessary at home, and as being less able to sustain service than the persons composing the second class. Though at first view, it might appear that the service was unequal, yet it was stated, that if it were considered that every man who lived to be of the age of 45, would pass through all the classes, it would, in the end, be a perfect system of equality, and considerably lessen the present burthen of militia service, at the same time that it would afford to the country its most efficient force whenever it should be necessary to call out the militia ; and though one-third only of the whole number of citizens liable to do militia duty, could be called out to any considerable distance from home, yet, from our increased population, it was argued, this would be a greater force than the government could possibly want for any distant service ; and the minor and senior classes would be always ready to perform service in their own and adjoining state. Under this arrangement, it was said, every citizen would know the kind of service which he was liable to be called upon to perform, and would have the satisfaction in passing from one class to another, until he arrived at that age which exempted him from militia service.

This arrangement, it was contended, would have no visible operation upon the militia, until they became detached for the service of the United States, in consequence of a call from the president, in conformity with a law of congress ; as all that this bill requires while the militia remains at home, is, that the returning officer shall make three columns in his return, instead of one, containing an account of the number of men there are in each of the classes, instead of returning the whole in one column as at present.

This kind of classification would do away the inconveniences which are always experienced in an army, by having young and old men in the same ranks—from having the father and son on the same battle ground. Every experienced officer, every man, must know, that old and young men cannot sustain the same fatigue in marching and other service ; as a proof of this it was asked, if an officer would not always prefer an army of men, from the age of 21 to 31, to one composed of men of all ages from 18 to 45 ? It was added, that most of the celebrity which had been obtained by the emperor of France, as a warrior, had been owing to this mode of drawing out the strength and flower of the population of the country, in preference to the mode of mixing all ages together.

It was further urged, that the classification must be agreeable to the citizens themselves who composed the different classes ; as men of nearly the same age, would be more likely to be pleased with each other's company, by having similar turns of thought and inclination ; that stronger attachments were more likely to be formed amongst men of the same age, and pursuits, than could be made where the disparity of age was greater—that the habits and dispositions of the old and the young never accorded well together. That this classification would certainly tend to render the militia more effective ; would comply with the first and last injunctions of the great father of his country, general Washington ; and in proportion as the militia system was improved, in the same degree would a standing army become unnecessary.

In favor of arming the militia, it was said, that it having been provided by the constitution, "the

right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed," it was the duty of congress to provide them ; as, if it were left to the people themselves, experience had shown, that some citizens will provide themselves with arms, and some will not, and that those which they get will be of various sizes and qualities, unfit for military service, where all the muskets ought to be of precisely the same calibre. Besides, that this mode of procuring arms operates very unequally, as it lays the same burthen on the poor as on the rich—is a kind of *poll-tax*, the most oppressive of all others. For surely nothing can be more unjust, than that the poor man, who, if there be any fighting, will have to do it, should be forced to purchase himself arms, when, perhaps, he finds great difficulty to procure bread for himself and family, whilst the rich man, who can always hire a substitute to fight for him, is called upon to do no more, in the way of tax, than his poor neighbor. The injustice of this is so glaring, that the law, in many parts of the country, has not been complied with.

In consequence of this unequal tax, and because the arms cannot, in some parts of the country be procured, the militia are, in certain parts of the United States, particularly in the middle and southern states, very imperfectly armed. Some of the state legislatures have endeavored to remedy this defect, by manufacturing or purchasing arms, and loaning them to the militia-men, either by putting them into their hands for a limited time, or by placing them in armories, and handing them out occasionally when wanted. In both which cases inconveniences had been experienced. Where the arms were put into the hands of the individuals, many of them were lost or disposed of ; and when they were kept in depots, many were spoiled or greatly injured by the rust.

This bill, it was stated, was calculated to do away all these difficulties and inconveniences, by putting suitable arms into the hands of every free, white young man in the United States, when he arrives at the age of 18 years, at the public expence ; so that, by degrees, the whole nation would become armed. The idea of arming the nation at the public expence was not new ; it had been acted upon in the year 1808, by passing a law, appropriating two hundred thousand dollars annually for the purchase of arms, to be placed in the hands of the executives of the several states, in proportion to the population of each, to be distributed by them among the militia men, or kept in armories, as they might judge most expedient. This appropriation, however, was inadequate to the object, nor was the mode of distribution approved.

This bill, therefore, proposed originally to appropriate 400,000 dollars annually, in addition to the former appropriation ; but in the course of the debate 400 was stricken out and 200,000 inserted for the same object, but instead of placing the arms at the disposition of the several state governments, it proposed to place them immediately in the hands of the militia-men themselves. And as the plan embraced the whole United States, it would make no difference whether a man who received these arms continued to reside in the same place, or removed to another—wherever he went, within the United States, the arms would be equally useful for the public service.

It was believed, that by placing the arms in the hands of the citizens themselves, they would consider them as their own property, and take care of them as such ; and they would become better acquainted with the use of them than if they were

only put into their hands occasionally. Besides, it would be more strictly complying with the constitutional provision, "that the right of the people to bear arms shall not be infringed." Having them in possession, they would be ready for any emergency which might occur.

It was supposed that from 50 to 60,000 stands of arms would be wanted annually; the procuring of which, it was believed, would be attended with no difficulty, as within the last year there had been manufactured at private manufactories within the United States, about 30,000 stands, which, by holding out proper encouragement to the manufacturers, it was supposed, might be doubled. Government had made about 30,000 stands annually at the manufactory at Harper's Ferry, which, by proper exertions, might probably also be doubled; so that the arms wanted, if this bill passed into a law, might be got from either resource.

And when the nation shall be thus armed, said the advocates of this bill, who will dare to molest us? The country will be safe from any enemy within or without. The government would have nothing to fear from a standing army, or from an ambitious military chief. A well-informed people, understanding their rights, with arms in their hands, cannot be subdued. They are invulnerable. And being the real sovereigns of the country, government has nothing to fear from them; because the government is, and will be, at all times, what they please to make it.

Reference was had, as an illustration of the efficacy of an armed people, to the capture of Burgoyne, by the people of New-England, and to all the other acts of bravery of the revolution. Give the people but arms, said they, and the Republic is safe.

The passage of this bill was opposed by Messrs. Mitchell, Boyd, Pitkin, Nelson, Gholson, Findley, Tallmadge, Law, Quincy, Bigelow, Mosely, Rhea, Sturges, Potter, and Widgery, principally on account of the classification. Several of these gentlemen expressed a willingness to vote for arming the militia, if that was presented to them in a separate bill; and an unsuccessful attempt was made, on motion of Mr. Nelson, to recommit the bill, for the purpose of amending it.

The objections made to the classification were, that it threw too great a burden on that portion of citizens who were between the ages of 21 and 31; that citizens in good health from 18 to 21 and from 31 to 45, are as able to perform militia duty as any others; that this classification would lessen the effective strength of the country. It was contended that it would break in upon the settled habits of the people, and debase all their present plans, with which they are very well satisfied. That in the eastern states, especially, the militia are not only armed but well disciplined, and will not approve of such a change as is proposed. It was said that this classification was calculated to produce bickerings and dissatisfactions among the people, by being divided, some into a favored and others into an overburdened class. That they would not see the justice of such a division. A man a few months older or younger than his neighbor, with whom he had been used to perform equal burthens, would not like to be called out for twelve months, and sent wherever the president might direct, while his more fortunate neighbor, if older, would be subject only to a six months tour in his own or the adjoining state; or if younger, subject only to a three months tour in his own state. It would not satisfy him to be told, that when he arrived at the age of 31, he

would also be in a favored class—that time might never arrive to him, or it might arrive when his service would no longer be wanted.

It was objected against this plan of classification, and calling out one description of citizens to the exclusion of others, that it had too much resemblance to the conscriptions of the emperor of France, which were too odious to be imitated by the freemen of this country.

It was doubted by some, (by Mr. Mitchell particularly,) whether it might not be rather a disadvantage than an advantage, to divide the youths and the elderly citizens from the junior class. It was thought to be an advantage to the youth to associate with men of experience, part of whom might have seen some military service, and be able to give valuable instructions to their young friends, not only in their military duty, but in taking care of their health, their persons, &c. That much mischief might ensue from youths being encamped together, without any persons of riper age to restrain the thoughtless levities incident to that season of life.

It was contended, that this bill proposed no improvement to the militia system; it contained no provisions for producing any better discipline than at present exists. The objectors, therefore saw no use in passing the bill.

With respect to that part of the bill, which went to arming the militia, it was stated to be unnecessary for the eastern states, as the militia were already well armed, and that young men when they arrived at the age of eighteen, would provide themselves with arms, as their fathers had done before them.

This provision was said to be unnecessary on another ground. A law had been passed by congress, in 1808, appropriating 200,000 dollars annually for the purchase of arms, for the purpose of arming the militia. 600,000 dollars have therefore already been appropriated for this purpose. By this law, it is provided, that the arms shall be distributed to the executives of the several states, agreeably to their respective population, to be by them disposed of as they judge proper: and this mode of disposing of the arms, was thought to be far preferable to the mode proposed in the present bill. If the arms be put into the hands of individuals, government may calculate upon a loss of at least ten per cent. annually.

It was contended, that the arms for which it is now proposed to appropriate money, will be of no use in the present contest. They are to be put into the hands of youths of 18, who are to stay at home—it will be some years, therefore, before any considerable number of the arms would be brought into use.

It was said, that this appropriation would be altogether unnecessary, if the citizens of other parts of the United States had complied with the laws of congress as punctually as the people to the eastward had done; but, if this bill were passed, no man would hereafter think of purchasing his own arms. All would look to the government of the United States for a supply; and though the appropriation for the present be reduced to 200,000 dollars; as it is provided that every youth, arriving at the age of 18 years, shall have arms put into his hands, the appropriation must hereafter be made commensurate with the object.

Many objections were made to the details of the bill respecting the regulations which were thought necessary by the military committee, for preserving the arms within the states, by means of fines, &c. It was doubted whether congress had a right to impose fines on the militia while remaining in the

states to which they respectively belong.—The phrase “militia of the United States,” was objected to. It was contended that the militia was the “militia of the several states,” until called into the service of the United States.

[The following are the yeas and nays on the above bill, noticed in the proceedings of congress, and promised insertion, in page 424 of the WEEKLY REGISTER.]

YEAS—Messrs. Alston, Anderson, Baker, Bassett, Bibb, Breckenridge, Calhoun, Cheves, Clay, Cochran, Crawford, Dawson, Dismoor, Earle, Fish, Franklin, Green, Grundy, B. Hall, O. Hall, Huffy, Johnson, Kent, Key, King, Lacock, Leffer, Lewis, Little, Macon, Maxwell, Moore, McBryde, Metcalf, Morgan, Morrow, Newbold, Ormsby, Pickens, Ridgely, Ringgold, Roane, Sage, Seaver, Serier, Shaw, Sheffer, Smilie, Stewart, Snow, Strong, Troup, Williams, Winn, Wright—55.

NAYS—Messrs. Archer, Bacon, Bard, Bigelow, Blacker, Boyd, Brigham, Brown, Butler, Champion, Chittenden, Davenport, Davis, Ely, Emott, Findley, Fitch, Cholson, Gold, Goodwyn, Gray, Harper, Hawes, Hymenau, Jackson, Law, Livingston, Lyle, Minor, Mitchell, Mosely, Nelson, Newton, Piper, Pitkin, Pleasant, Pond, Porter, Potter, Reed, Rhea, Roberts, Rodman, Sammons, Seybert, R. Smith, Stanford, Sturges, Taggart, Tallmage, Tallisferro, Turner, Van Corderlet, Wheaton, White, Whitehill, Widgery, Wilson—58.

Catholics of Ireland.

In the supplement to No. 15 of the WEEKLY REGISTER, page 279, is inserted an account of the first meeting of the general committee of the Catholics of Ireland; which, though conducted in the most orderly manner, was designed to have been interrupted by the British police of that ill-fated island. From the following narration of the trial it appears that a similar meeting was afterwards held in a chapel at Liffey street, and that certain persons, for assembling there, were indicted for high misdemeanors. A careful perusal of this sketch will enable the reader justly to appreciate the “*bleedings of royalty*,” and, while we admire the honest firmness of a jury so unjustly selected, cannot fail to deprecate a system of tyranny practised in Ireland which an eastern despot ought to blush at. The famous major Sirr it seems is still in office—he is a fit tool for the British government in Ireland. The ferment of the French revolution never spewed up a more atrocious or accomplished wretch.—*Marat* and *Robespierre* would have hesitated at the cool and deliberate proceedings of this man. His office was long considered the head-quarters of perjury—the grand engine of the crown, to swear away the lives of its victims. That it still maintains its infamous celebrity may be gathered from the conduct of the clerk, Mac Donough.

In consequence of the lively feeling of the people of Dublin when the verdict was known, though no breach of good order had been committed, the garrison had orders to be in readiness, and a second order commanded the artillery to timber their guns.

From the [Dublin] Freeman's Journal.

DUBLIN NOV. 23.

One of the most splendid, one of the most animating scenes ever witnessed in a free country, or upon no grounds whatever. These protestants, it

in a country looking for freedom, was exhibited last night in the court of king's bench. From the late hour at which the court adjourned, it will not be expected that we can give an account of all that occurred on this most important and memorable occasion—important not only to the traversers at the bar of the bench, not only to the Catholics of Ireland, but to Ireland itself, and not to Ireland alone, but to the empire, of which this island forms so powerful and indispensable a member. Although, therefore, we cannot give the debate, we shall endeavor to present to the public, the essence and spirit of yesterday's proceedings.

The court assembled after ten, when the chief justice called on Mac Donough, a clerk in major Sirr's office, to explain certain parts of his evidence, which in his lordship's mind was contradictory and inclusive.—The witness was examined by the court, and appeared very much dashed and confounded.—He was asked, whether among these persons sworn to in the information, he had mentioned doctor Breen as present.

He could not actually say that doctor Breen was in the chapel at Liffey street—heard his name to the best of his recollection mentioned—did not see him in the chapel—knew his person, and heard that he was one of those concerned in the delegation.

Mr. Justice Osborne.—But in the information before us, you do not speak as to your belief—you swear positively that doctor Breen was one of the persons chosen.

Chief Justice.—Then you swore positively to a man who you did not see.

Witness ordered to retire.

Mr. Burrows then addressed the jury in a strain of manly and persuasive eloquence, which we feel it impossible for us to follow. Perhaps in a court of justice, there can be remembered few exhibitions equal in point of ability, whether we consider it as addressed to the understanding of the audience, to the temper of the jury, to the policy of the case, and the law under which the Catholic gentlemen were indicted, an appeal so powerful, so convincing, we might say, so overpowering was ever yet made. The learned counsel began by arraigning the conduct of the crown in the formation of the jury.—He lamented to have witnessed that more decency, or the appearance at least, if it was no more, of justice on the part of the Crown. He did not lay any blame to his majesty's attorney general, whose virtues and talents he took occasion repeatedly in a speech, which lasted upwards of three hours, to panegyrize. He was convinced that the honorable and upright man would not be privy to any act of meanness, of unconstitutional and illegal interference on the part of the known agents, instruments, nay, the very creatures of administration.—It was notorious that on the jury, there was not a single Catholic, in a cause in which the Catholic interest was so deeply concerned. He reflected upon the circumstance with pain, not unmixed with a considerable portion of dismay, that in a city, nine tenths of whose inhabitants consisted of Catholics, not one was to be found on a jury in which the Catholics were to be tried. It was, he feared ominous for the country, when government had recourse to such paltry artifices. Nay, the only Catholic on the panel was instantly objected to—but that was not enough for the crown—it was not content with objecting to the solitary Catholic—but in the spirit of liberality which so very honorably distinguished the administration of the country, it objected against twenty-two protestants.

should seem, were under the suspicion of being suspected as friends to the great Catholic cause. But the very circumstances of these *shameful challenges* put the present jury in a most delicate and awful situation. The eyes of the country were on them.

From the partiality evinced by the crown to their selections from among so many other of their excellent and liberal fellow-citizens, it would naturally be concluded that they were prejudiced, and illiberal. He did not insinuate that they were, he believed in his heart that they were not—but see the situation in which they were placed by the crown—a situation he would contend not only *indecent* but almost unconstitutional. They would, however, he felt convinced, risk themselves from the peculiarity in which they were so unhandsomely placed, contradistinguished from the remainder of their fellow-citizens.

Mr. Burrowes, then at great length, and with a force of eloquence seldom surpassed at the Irish bar, and never, we are persuaded, equalled at that of England, went into the subject matter of the trial before the court. As we have already said, it would be impossible for us, this day, to enter into any thing like a detail of this admirable forensic display. He first addressed himself to the *facts*, then to the *law*—next to the *history* of the Catholics of Ireland, and finally to the *policy* of the Irish administration. In all these divisions, Mr. Burrowes was super-eminent, supremely happy.—But we are compelled to reserve until our next a satisfactory report of this admirable speech. After he had sat down, there was a murmur of applause, and he was congratulated on all sides by his friends. Indeed the union of honesty and talent was eminently conspicuous in this address, and we never saw more powerfully exemplified what great virtue, aided by great ability, is able to perform. In the course of his speech Mr. Burrowes pronounced panegyric on the FREE PRESS OF IRELAND, and *stigmatized* in his powerful and impassioned language, the incendiaries and slaves *hired* by the Castle* to influence the popular mind, and to inflame the people to madness.

When Mr. Burrowes had concluded, the council for the traverser, relying upon the evidence of the crown and the law and justice of their case, declined calling witnesses or occupying the attention of the court and jury on a case which they thought already proved for their client.

Mr. Gould then in a strain of eloquence so peculiar to himself, and which fascinated the court for more than two hours, touched upon all the leading topics of this great cause. We feel ourselves at this hour totally incapable of giving an outline of this speech. We shall therefore reserve it for this evening's publication, when we hope to be able to convey some faint outline of his manner and argument.

The solicitor general replied with great animation and force, and with great peculiar grace of delivery and happiness of diction for which he is so justly prized. Although our feeling and conviction went against Mr. Bushe and his cause on this occasion, it would be absurd to deny, that he exhibited a splendid instance of what great abilities—great art, admirable action and imposing face may do for any cause. We lamented, it is true, to hear Mr. Bushe utter such sentiments, but we should do injustice to our nature, if we pretended that we did not admire the man. He concluded his speech by observing that a new body, the Catholic Convention, had

arisen in our political horizon, obedient to no rules, governed by no attraction, a stranger to our system, and which menaced its ruin.

The chief justice after recapitulating the evidence, proceeded to define the law. We could not discover in his lordship's speech any shade of distinction from that delivered on Thursday by his majesty's attorney general. After about an hour and half's charge, the jury retired.

It is impossible—indeed language sinks under the effort to describe the state and anxiety manifested while the jury were in the box. Although it was nine o'clock at night, yet the hall of the four courts, the court of king's bench—all the avenues leading to the courts, the very attick windows at the top of the courts, were crowded with people.

When it was announced that the jury had agreed to their verdict, there was at first a murmur, and when they again appeared, after an hour and a half's deliberation there was a deep silence for a minute. Mr. Byrne, the clerk of the crown, then called over the names of the jury. Having answered, Mr. Geale, the foreman handed down the issue—NOT GUILTY.

The word was scarcely pronounced when a peal of huzzaing and shouts rung through the court and galleries, and shook the very judicial bench. It was caught by the anxious auditors in the hall. The judges attempted to speak; the officers attempted to act—the enthusiasm denuded and destroyed every attempt. The judges waited for some minutes, and the chief justice attempted to address the court, but he could not be heard—nothing could be heard but the loud, the overwhelming torrent of popular enthusiasm.

As the jurors passed through the hall they were greeted with waving of hats and clapping of hands; our excellent, worthy, and truly vixacious sheriff, *Harty*, to whose honesty and incorruptibility we are indebted for such a jury, and who, we will be bold to say, has, by this one act, conferred more lasting benefit on his country, than any man who has held this exalted situation before, our sheriff *Robert Harty*, was received with the most unbounded tumult of approbation and applause.

Nor was this popular exhibition confined to the populace merely. The verdict in the course of ten minutes was known in every part of the town—the tide ran instantly in every direction. The shouts reached the most remote streets with the rapidity of an electric stroke. We should like, for curiosity alone, to observe the philosophic countenance of Mr. Pole when he received the *gratifying* intelligence. No doubt he was rejoiced at the fate of his Catholic countrymen. But his Catholic countrymen did not think of Mr. Pole. They were too much engaged in their own happiness to shade it by the recollection of Mr. Pole or his administration.

We shall here subjoin the list of the names of the *honest men* to whose conscience the safety of the state and what yet remains of the *liberty* of the subject were entrusted, and who nobly fulfilled the awful conditions of their oath.

1. Benjamin Geale, Esq.
2. Peter D. Lutwiche, Esq.
3. Leiland Crothwaite, Esq.
4. John Orr, Esq.
5. John Duncan, Esq.
6. John Pepper, Esq.
7. William Sparrow, Esq.
8. John Hurton, Esq.
9. Robert Armstrong, Esq.
10. Edward Clibborn, Esq.
11. Charles Pentland, Esq.
12. John Hamilton, Esq.

Meaning the government—from the castle being the residence of the Lord Lieutenant, &c. [Ed. Reg.]

OFFICIAL PAPERS,

(D.)

*Accompanying the Secretary of the Treasury's annual report. (Concluded from page 418.)
Statement of receipts and payments at the treasury of the United States, from the 1st
October, 1810, to the 30th September, 1811.*

CASH IN THE TREASURY, SUBJECT TO WARRANT, OCT. 1, 1810,		PAYMENTS ON THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS:	
Received from the proceeds of the customs,	12,490,656 14	<i>Civil expenses both foreign and domestic, viz.</i>	
Internal revenue,	6,319 60	Civil list proper,	620,620 16
Direct tax,	6,362 87	Light house establishment,	112,018 76
	12,632 47	Marine hospital establishment	58,322 34
Sales of public lands,	767,061 23	Invalid pensions,	74,674 68
Cents and half cents coined at the mint,	8,463 78	Public buildings in Washington,	600
Fees on patents,	6,480	Furniture for the president's house,	1,000
Public arms sold to States,	71,906	Third census,	108,699 66
Postage of letters,	37 70	Prize money for navy pension fund,	7,106 25
Salt works in the Illinois territory,	2,500	Mint establishment,	28,999 96
Fines, penalties and forfeitures,	11,105 24	Grants and miscellaneous claims,	23,036 96
Seamen's wages paid to consuls in foreign countries,	2,035	Better accommodation of the gen. post-office, &c.	4,700
Payment by an unknown person thro' the president of the of the U. States,	250	Unclaimed merchandize,	224 93
Repayments,	168,268 81	Surveys of public lands,	69,741 70
	13,541,446 37	Ascertaining land titles in Louisiana,	11,426 06
Loan from bank United States, on 31st December, 1810,	2,750,000		80,167 76
		Roads within state of Ohio,	19,000
		—From Cumberland to do.	6,861 50
		—From Mississippi to do.	209 25
			26,070 75
		Trading houses with the Indians,	3,975
		Contingent expenses of government,	3,396
		Intercourse with foreign nations,	207,745 77
			1,360,858 93
		<i>Military expenses, viz.</i>	
		Pay, subsistence, clothing, &c. for the army,	1,463,000
		Fortifications of ports & harbors	165,000
		Ordnance, arms, arsenals, &c.	501,000
			2,129,000
		Indian department,	142,725
			2,271,725
		NAVY.	
		Repairs & contingencies,	542,000
		Ordnance and arms,	62,000
		Navy yards,	74,000
		Marine corps,	251,000
		Pay, provisions, and other expenses,	1,207,000
			2,136,000
		PUBLIC DEBT.	
		Interest and charges,	2,225,800 90
		Principal discharged,	5,058,272 82
		Repayment of loan to bank United States,	2,750,000
			10,034,073 75
		Balance in the treasury, subject to warrant, Sept. 30, 1811,	3,917,818 36
<i>Dollars,</i>	19,750,476 09	<i>Dollars,</i>	19,750,476 09

History

*Of the Invasion of Spain by Bonaparte.*ABRIDGED FROM THE MOST AUTHENTIC SOURCES.
CHAPTER IX.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 417.)

Conduct of the council of Castile after the flight of Joseph from Madrid. Answer of Palafox to their letter. The council publishes a defence. Organization of a supreme Junta. Bonaparte orders out a new conscription and joins his brother at Vittoria. Opening of the campaign. Position and strength of the French and Spanish forces. Defeat of the three Spanish armies under Blake, Belvedere and Castanos. Madrid, by the treachery of Morla and the prince of Castile Franco is surrendered to the French.

While Joseph was yet at Madrid, those friends of Ferdinand who had been compelled to enter into his service, took the earliest opportunity to effect their escape, and declare themselves in favour of the patriots. The duke del Infantado got out of the city in the dress of a peasant, and in that disguise made his way to Salamanca, where he joined one of the Spanish armies. The duke del Parque who had been appointed captain of the body-guards, and travelled in the same carriage with Joseph from Madrid, threw off the charge which had been imposed upon him and went to bear arms in defence of his country. Cevallos (28 July) sent in his resignation, having previously secured his retreat: and the first use he made of his liberty was to lay before the world an account of the iniquitous transactions at Bayonne. The council of Castile who, probably more from cowardice than corruption, had sanctioned all the measures of the French, during the usurpation, were now alarmed for their own safety, and addressed a proclamation to the people of Madrid, every line of which betrayed a consciousness of their own misconduct, by its flattery and its ill-disguised fear. (Aug. 6.) It called them a generous and worthy people, virtuous Spaniards, worthy citizens, good men, and true patriots. It told them that what they had suffered was but a punishment necessary for their correction: their morals having almost reached the point of complete corruption: that the innocent victims whose blood had been shed, had implored forgiveness for them; the God of battles had heard their intercession, and was appeased; and all their victories were owing to God and our lady the virgin. Would they then add to the calamities of their country? would they commit new insurrections and excesses? They who were crying out for justice, and were eager, under the pretext of exercising it for themselves, to pillage, and burn, and destroy, were not inhabitants of Madrid, or its vicinity, but vagabonds, who having fled from their own magistrates, took shelter in the metropolis. "Judge no one," it said, "for that renders you liable to sacrifice many innocent.—If there have been among us any traitors, the supreme tribunal will avenge their crimes, and, if they merit it, cast them away, as unworthy of the name of Spaniards. God grant that there be no occasion to draw the sword of justice! Let it be employed against the enemies of our nation, against the oppressors of our liberty." In another part of this address, the council ventured even to pronounce their own eulogy.—"The government and the faithful provinces," they said, "would be filled with joy, when the council should have exhibited before them, and all Europe, the constant firmness with which the first nobility, the superior tribunals, and

the chiefs of the nation, had sustained their cause, and the rights of the throne. Not a few individuals among them had been led, by fraud and force, far beyond the limits of Spain, and though without liberty, and exposed to the severest insults, they had proved the inflexibility of their loyalty, and the religious purity of their opinions." And then, without introducing any excuse for their own baseness, they bade the people distrust the signatures which had been circulated among them, and wait with patience for the testimonies of their conduct.

A circular address in the same spirit, was sent, at the same time, to the provincial juntas. "The council," it is said, "which could not fail to be, in a great degree, involved in the consequences of the subjection of the capital availed itself of the first moments of liberty, to make its sentiments known; these could not but correspond with the immutable loyalty, and the indelible love of justice, which always constituted its character, and had gained it, in all times, the confidence of the nation." This it was which had supported them in the midst of the greatest dangers, and added firmness to the constancy with which they had refused to recognize the intruder farther than circumstances justified." Addressing them to believe that the juntas which it addressed must be convinced of this, the council expressed its readiness to co-operate with them in any plans of defence. With respect to measures of another kind, which were necessary for the salvation of the country, it belonged to this supreme tribunal, said the address, merely to rouse and excite the national authorities, which it would assist with its influence, its advice, and its knowledge. As it was not possible, under the existing extraordinary circumstances, to adopt the expedients pointed out by the laws and customs of Spain, the council would not occasion any delay by ill-timed discussions, but would confine itself, for the present, to the indication of a measure in which it would with the greatest satisfaction concur—which was that deputies be appointed by all the different juntas, who should concur on this most important object, and make such an arrangement, that all projects and expedients, proceeding from this common source of action, might be as expeditious as the end in view required.

A separate letter was addressed to Palafox (Aug. 4) in which, after the same apologetical protestations, they exhorted him to contribute, with all his power, to the safety of the capital. This letter was written at the time when the war was raging with most violence in the heart of Zaragoza; and when this modern Cid, to whom it was addressed had leisure to reply to it, it is not to be wondered at, if the sight of the ruins and slaughter around him occasioned in him some feelings of not unreasonable indignation. The integrity with which the council of Castile, he said, had conducted itself in other times, had rendered it respectable, even in foreign countries; but, in these mournful circumstances, in which Spain had been assailed by perfidy the most enormous that the history of the world presents, this tribunal has not fulfilled its duty. Many of the individuals who compose it have established satisfactory proofs of their own justification; but others, suffering themselves to be seduced at such a time by France, or perhaps prompted by the depravity of their own hearts, have not been content to remain neuter; they have even sided with the most cruel enemies of their country. "I myself," said Palafox, "to my bitter sorrow, have seen some of them direct the operations of the enemy, and

appear with them before Zaragoza, where they wrote treasonable papers, and circulated addresses which are a disgrace to the Spanish nation. I know well that the council was not at liberty, and that after the outrages of the French in Madrid, it was reduced to the necessity of being the mere executor of the pleasure of that most execrable government; but had it only once expressed the general wish of the nation, it would, by such an act, have given more importance to what was transacting in the provinces, it would have united itself to them, and would at least have prevented its apparent sanction of those detestable, treacherous, and false proclamations. To this there seems to me no insuperable obstacle, and even if there had, the good of the whole, and the welfare of the nation, ought to have been preferred to the personal interest of any individual."

The council next published an elaborate justification of their proceedings, from the time of the affair of the Escorial; referring to the firmness with which they had then protected the prince and his friends, as the first proof of their good conduct, in the most delicate circumstances wherein the tribunal had ever been placed. When the French troops entered the kingdom various objects had been surmised—the protection of Ferdinand, the occupation of Portugal, the defence of the coast, the conquest of a part of Africa, were talked of; but, at length, suspicion was excited, even in the most unwary. The council observed, that even in times of great security, the confidence with which these troops were received would have been most imprudent, both on account of their number and of the position which they took; above all, that it was contrary to the constant maxim of not receiving the forces of an ally superior in number to our own; and that it was an act of unexampled weakness to let them take possession of the fortresses. But, having no constitutional controul over affairs of this nature, it had been compelled to dissemble its iniquities, especially because it would have been dangerous to manifest any apprehension while a probability remained that the object of the French might be generous, and that they intended to support the interests of Ferdinand.

When the court were preparing to emigrate, and had ordered the troops from Madrid to escort them, the council trembled for the safety of the prince, and endeavored to impede or retard, as much as possible, the departure of the soldiery, that they might at least be able to facilitate his escape, for which they were assured that secret measures had already been taken. They therefore presented a report to the king in which they endeavored to make him abandon his design, and to lessen his confidence in his favorite; and urged him, if any extraordinary measures were necessary, that he would consult with a competent number of well informed subjects, devoted to their sovereign and to their country; adding, that if they were thought worthy of being advised with, they would deliver their opinion briefly, sincerely, and faithfully, having in view nothing but their duty to God, the king, and the people. The subsequent events, till the departure of Ferdinand for Bayonne, were but too well known. On the 20th of April, a printer informed them that some Frenchman had requested him to strike off copies of a proclamation, signifying that the royal parents were about to re-ascend the throne; in consequence of this information, two Frenchmen, who stated that they were in the service of general Grouchy, were arrested, and put in confinement. The council then came

to a resolution that all the provinces should be called upon to raise forces in proportion to their population: the number of the whole, according to their estimate, might amount to 300,000. After much consultation, however, with the infante Don Antonio, and with persons who came with confidential instructions from Ferdinand and Cevallos, that resolution had been abandoned, as tending to endanger the king's person, and prematurely to put to hazard the safety and independence of the kingdom. Don Antonio, nevertheless, engaged to transmit instructions privately to the captains-general of the provinces, to take every measure consistent with prudence for increasing their military force. And when the junta of the government ordered the council to send a circular notice to all the provincial tribunals, enjoining them to see that the most cordial reception was given to the French troops, they transmitted a memorial in reply, expatiating on the dangers which might result from any attempt to repress the high spirit of loyalty and affection towards Ferdinand, with which the people were animated.

The day after the dreadful massacre of Madrid, a memorial had been laid before them from the captain-general of Catalonia, stating the means to which he had recourse for the relief of the poor of Barcelona, and requesting their sanction. Convinced that this was only a pretext on his part to obtain the funds necessary for procuring arms, they immediately sanctioned his proceeding, without those previous inquiries which the usual forms required. They had received a decree from Murat, directing the formation of a junta of police, having two Frenchmen for its commissaries: they had refused to obey, quoting the law, which excludes all foreigners from any share in the public administration of justice: thus was the door shut against the favorites of the grand duke; thus were those mischiefs obviated which must have come upon the state, had they been appointed; and Madrid thus continued under her own magistrates. When they were called upon to acknowledge Joseph Bonaparte as their king, in consequence of the renunciation of Ferdinand and his parents, they argued, that such a renunciation was altogether nugatory, and incompatible with the laws of the constitution: it was monstrous to suppose that the royal family could give away the sovereignty of the nation, or that any one act which they had performed could be considered binding, on account of the time, the situation, and the circumstances in which they were placed. Once, however, they observed, that supposing the treaties of abdication and cession were valid, and that the throne devolved to a branch of the imperial family, it was their opinion that the king of Naples, Joseph Bonaparte, appeared the fittest for it. This fact indeed was too notorious to be denied or dissembled, and it invalidates the whole apology.

When they were called upon to publish the decrees for convoking the assembly at Bayonne, they suspended its publication, and sent in a memorial to the grand duke, Murat, observing that their body never had taken, nor could, according to the laws, take upon itself the national representation,—that these were consequently, and by the same laws, excluded from the election of their sovereign,—that whatever change took place in the succession was entirely the concern of the nation; and that when a succession took place, without the proper forms, it was to be deemed, according to the actual constitution of the monarchy, null and void. This spirited answer, they affirmed, drew upon them much

indignation, and they were even threatened with a process for sedition,—but they admitted, that, at length, confessing themselves influenced by the reasons assigned by the president of the assembly at Bayonne, and likewise by the request of Joseph Bonaparte, they ordered the documents to be printed. "From that time, they had perhaps greater difficulties to struggle with," they added, "than the nation was aware of. They were threatened with the loss of their authority; but they determined to yield it up altogether, rather than retain it when polluted. Persecution, banishment and death became familiar to their ears; but the consciousness of their integrity supported them amidst all their trials. Such was the state of affairs, when they had the unexpected happiness of witnessing the sudden departure of the French. The Omnipotent Ruler of human events, by a supreme act of his Divine Providence, delivered the council from the imminent danger which hung over it, thus rewarding the purity of its intention, and the unshaken loyalty, which it had preserved, amidst all its troubles and all its difficulties. Joseph Bonaparte departed with his army, and the council had never taken the oaths to him, never been introduced, nor on any occasion paid him even those honors which they had always been in the habit of performing as marks of respect, to foreign princes."

The council of Castile so far succeeded in its appeal to the compassion of the people, that its weak members were pitied, and the guilty ones remained unpunished. Shocked at the atrocities of the French revolutionists, the Spanish patriots have erred on the side of clemency: They should have censured this council as soon as a provisional government was formed, and have displaced all its members, as men who, by their own admission, had failed in their duty, and lent their aid to the degradation and subjugation of Spain. Meantime, the necessity of a central government was felt by all the provinces, various projects were talked of, and the different juntas seemed to expect the decision of that of Seville, which, not less from the wisdom of its measures than from its favorable situation, had hitherto, in some degree, been regarded as the leading authority. That junta published, upon this occasion, a paper of great importance. Hitherto, they said, the cause of the Spaniards had been prosperous, and nothing could impair or frustrate their hopes of eventual and complete success, except a want of union among themselves. Their enemies were anxious to foment divisions. Human passions, personal interests ill understood, the ignorance, the weakness, the blindness of men, might perhaps assist these evil designs, destroy a beginning so glorious, and facilitate and consummate the ruin of Spain. This they were endeavoring to guard against, protesting, before God and man, whose aid they invoked with all fervency, that they would write nothing but what was dictated by the love of their country, for the preservation of their king and of their rights, not mingling with it any thing that appeared to partake of passion, of interest, or of any other personal motive; but being always ready to hear the opinions of the other provinces, and to amend their own errors, whenever it had been shown that they had committed any. The chief care should be to avoid whatever was not absolutely necessary, and might serve to sow the seeds of disunion; of this nature were all discussions concerning the royal house, and the order of succession in the different families which derived a right from it. The laws upon this point were well known; but are we, said they, in

a situation to talk of this? Long live our king and indisputable sovereign, Ferdinand VII. and long live his august brothers, heirs of the crown after his attested disease! Why anticipate equities which could only be necessary in default of them? It was both absurd and dangerous to dispute about the succession in cases evidently remote; and the provinces ought to confine themselves to avowing the general principle of hereditary succession, according to the fundamental laws of the monarchy.

The second question which agitated the people was of a different nature:—Was there a necessity for creating a supreme government which should unite the sovereign authority of all the provinces, till the restitution of Ferdinand to his throne? The junta of Seville declared, that, from the beginning, they had been persuaded such a supreme government was by all means necessary, and that without it the country was in danger. Many juntas and many military commanders had expressed their conviction of this truth as a conviction arising from the indispensable necessity in every nation of a civil government, whose duty it is to attend to the happiness of the kingdom, and to which the military may be subordinate.—The confidence of the nation, the public funds, and the capitals of individuals must have a civil government for their support. Without it the military power would inevitably be compelled to employ violence, with the view of acquiring that confidence which it never could attain, and getting a command of those capitals which it would be equally impossible for it to bring within its grasp; for thus it would ultimately destroy that public prosperity and happiness which ought to be the sole object of every government. Spain had derived a lesson of wisdom from the history of past ages, and had never thought of appointing a military dictator. Her generals, and the fact was most honorable to the Spanish name, had been the first to embrace with the utmost cordiality, a system of things as ancient in Spain as the monarchy itself. The experience of these times, the confidence of the people in the supreme juntas, the facility and abundance with which pecuniary resources had been placed at their disposal, the heroic loyalty with which the generals and the armies had acknowledged and obeyed them, and the happy issue, thus far, of their civil administration, and of the military enterprises which they had directed, placed in the most conspicuous light, and established, beyond all doubt, this fundamental truth, and most essential political principle. But who was to create this supreme civil government? Who were to compose it? Where should be its place of residence? What the extent of its authority? How might it be established, without interrupting the public tranquillity, and producing disunion among the different provinces? How was the public opinion to be so regulated, as that this tranquillity could be obtained without opposing it, and all risk of disturbances obviated? These were the important questions to be examined. It had been said that the cortes should assemble, that the council of Castile should convocate them, and the whole proceedings be executed under the authority of that tribunal. But the council of Castile never possessed the right of convoking the Cortes—why then should they give it that authority? Was it because it had lent the whole weight of its influence to the usurpation? Because it had acted in opposition to those fundamental laws which it was established to preserve and defend? Because it had afforded every facility to the enemy to usurp the sovereignty of Spain,

to destroy the hereditary succession of the crown, and the dynasty legally in possession? Because it had recognized and seated on the throne a foreigner destitute even of the shadow of a title to it; for it was incontrovertibly manifest, that the renunciation of Charles IV. could give him no such claim? What confidence could the Spanish nation place in a government convoked by an authority, incompetent, illegal and guilty of acts which might justly be ranked with the most atrocious crimes against their country? But the council of Castile being thus excluded from all consideration, who was to convvoke the cortes? It was the peculiar and exclusive prerogative of the king to summon them;—the p-provinces would not submit to any other authority: they would not unite: thus, therefore, there would be no cortes, or if a few deputies should assemble, that very circumstance would occasion divisions in Spain, the very evil which all were anxious to avoid. Besides, some of the cities which have votes in the cortes, had neither undertaken the defence of the kingdom, nor even their own defence, nor had they made any effort to defend it in their corporate capacities. With due respect for them and their rights, still it was necessary that the truth should plainly be spoken; and certainly, in not referring to these forms they had acted prudently, and with a due observance of law. The kingdom found itself suddenly without a king and without a government—a situation unknown to its history, and to its laws. The people legally resumed the power of appointing a government—this truth had been avowed by various supreme juntas. They created these juntas without any regard to the cities which had votes in the cortes. The legitimate power was therefore lodged in these juntas; in virtue of that power they had governed, and were still governing, with real authority, and had been, and still were, universally acknowledged and obeyed. Their situation had not changed; the danger still existed: no new authority had been supervened; the lawful authority, therefore, resided entire in the juntas which the people had created, and to which they had confided it. It was therefore incontestable that the sole and exclusive right of electing those who were to compose the supreme government was vested in the supreme juntas. And whom should they elect? Most certainly individuals of their own body; for they alone derived their power from the people; and in them the nation had reposed entire confidence. Should any other persons be chosen, they would possess neither the consent nor the confidence of the people. Hence, if there were any province in which the military power subsisted alone, it was absolutely necessary that a supreme junta should be constituted there, by which the people might act; this being indispensable in order to concentrate the legitimate power of the people; for, under the present circumstances, the supreme government could not be legitimate, unless it originated in their free consent.

The junta of Seville was therefore of opinion that all the supreme juntas meeting on the same day, should elect each from its own members, two deputies, to form the supreme government; and the persons so elected should, from that moment, be acknowledged and obeyed as the governors-general of the kingdom. The supreme juntas ought nevertheless to be continued until the termination of the present state of things, being invested with the internal management of their respective provinces, but under due subordination to the general government. They ought to give instructions to their deputies constituting that government, and it

would be the duty of those deputies to observe them, and to represent and support the claims of their provinces, as far as was consistent with the public weal. If there were one of the royal family capable of presiding in the supreme government, he and no other, ought to be appointed to that office; but if there were no person of the blood-royal, then it must elect a person from its own body; and, to obviate all danger the presidency should be only for such a limited time as might seem best. The juntas would appoint a place for the seat of government, which the government might afterwards change, by a majority of votes. It ought to be at a distance from all the dangers of war, and should possess other local advantages. Seville possessed all those advantages, but had no anxiety to be elected, and most cordially sacrificed all her claims. The junta of that city would, however, frankly state, that, in their opinion, La Mancha was most convenient for the seat of government, and, especially, either the city of Ciudad Real or Almagro.

The system thus recommended by the junta of Seville was adopted; yet their advice was unfortunate, if not unwise, and the reasons upon which they grounded it were inconclusive; for, to the question, who should convvoke the cortes, if it could be deemed necessary to observe all the forms of government, in a country whose government had been suddenly destroyed, there was a ready answer. Ferdinand had expressed his will that it should be convoked, in a decree addressed to the royal council in the first instance, and, in case they could not put it into effect, to any chancery or audience. What farther formality could be required? Assuredly also, the people were qualified to elect a cortes by the same right in virtue of which they had elected the juntas,—the right of self-preservation; the right of appointing a government when they were without one; the right which is inherent in every people to recover, maintain and establish their freedom. The name and the nominal authority of Ferdinand served, indeed, as a rallying point for the Spaniards, and prevented the possibility of dissensions. A circumstance sufficiently similar to be remembered as a precedent, had occurred in the history of the Portuguese, who, in their struggle against the first usurpation of the Castilians, fought in the name of an infant who was then a prisoner in Castile. By the fiction of supposing Ferdinand to be their king, they postponed the difficult and dangerous task of forming a new government; but it was no more than a fiction, and the difficulty was only postponed by it, sure to recur at last. For the most sanguine friends of that prince could scarcely think it possible that either he or any of his family could ever return from the place of their imprisonment. There were, therefore, persons who, when they considered the miserable mis-government by which Spain and Portugal had been weakened and degraded, during so many generations, wished that both nations had taken their stand upon loftier ground, that they had given up the weak and unworthy dynasties of which they had so unexpectedly been rid—dynasties equally weak, unworthy and contemptible in their remotest branches—and united themselves in a federal commonwealth. This form of government is peculiarly adapted to Spain, because of its previous division into different kingdoms, with different laws, and it would remove all objections to a union between the two countries. Had they proclaimed a revolution upon these principles, it is possible that the English government might, for a time, have withheld its assistance from them; but

it is not less possible that they might have found allies in France itself. So bold a resolution, indeed, though the people might readily have acquiesced in it, was not to be expected, and some benefit in the early part of the struggle, undoubtedly arose from their attachment to Ferdinand, the principle of personal loyalty being to patriotism, what image worship is to piety. This political idolatry might safely be permitted while the idol was at a distance; and the Spaniards, by assembling the cortes, might constitutionally have strengthened their cause with all the resources of a popular government. The provisional government which was now adapted had none of these advantages, notwithstanding the primary derivation of its authority from the people. Neither, indeed, were the provincial juntas so much chosen by the people in the first instance, as they were recognized by it after they had constituted themselves:—They were chiefly composed of men whose influence arose from their rank or property, whose sanction was of the utmost importance in exciting the nation to take arms, but among whom it was little likely that the genius necessary for directing a country in such times would be found;—men, too, who, from the very circumstance of their possessing those adventitious advantages, were liable to be tempted by the intruder at the easiest price, and who, it might not unreasonably be suspected, if they found the patriotic cause declining, would be disposed to listen to his overtures. Subsequent events have shown with how much reason this was to be feared. A cortes would have been the best security against this danger; it would have realised all the benefits to the nation which the intruder falsely promised; and it would have opposed the tyrant with that energy of which free governments alone are capable, and with that, which, of all things, he dreaded most—the principles of freedom.

The temporary expedient of a central junta was preferred: they chose the palace of Aranjuez for the place of their sittings, and there the ceremony of installation was performed, on the 25th of September. The archbishop of Laodicea, coadjutor of the archbishop of Seville, and one of the deputies from the junta of that province, celebrated mass, and administered to each of the appointed members an oath of fidelity, having previously in their presence, taken it himself.

Count Florida Blanca was appointed president *ad interim*, and his first act was again to proclaim Ferdinand from the front of the palace. The gates of the palace had been closed since the departure of Charles for Bayonne, and were now first opened, and the ceremony of thus proclaiming Ferdinand in the favourite residence of his ancestors,—the scene of his own childhood,—the place where, four months ago, he had been acclaimed king—he, who was now a prisoner, in the power of the tyrant, who had betrayed him—and in a foreign land,—affected the venerable nobleman who first pronounced his name to tears, and excited thoughts of poignant sorrow and indignation in the multitude, which heightened and hallowed the enthusiasm with which they repeated it.

The central junta thus peaceably established and unanimously recognized by the nation, began its administration with the fairest promises. But it soon afforded an ominous proof, that, however enlightened and patriotic some of its members might be, the majority were either ignorant of the nature of freedom, or ready to betray it; for, after having called for the advice of every individual who thought

himself qualified to give it, respecting reforms in the government, they issued an edict, prohibiting the circulation of all books, pamphlets or papers, printed without the names of their respective authors. Their measures for prosecuting the war were as little correspondent to the plans which they had proclaimed. A military junta of five generals was formed at Madrid, that the central government, freed from the anxiety of directing the campaign, might give their undivided attention to the means of raising and supporting the armies and the civil affairs. Castanos and Morla were members of this council of war: the people had confidence in both; but Morla was a traitor in his heart; and it is not to be wondered at if nothing effective proceeded from a council in which he bore a leading part. The spirit of the people remained the same; yet by the formation of a regular government, they were rather weakened that strengthened; for that confidence which every province had till now felt in itself, in its own measures, and in its own exertions, gave way, in some degree, to a feeling of dependent reliance upon the central junta. The nation was ready for any sacrifices, any efforts, but it waited to be called upon; and the provincial and subordinate juntas, losing their consequence, lost a great portion of their activity.

Bonaparte having ordered a conscription of 160,000 conscripts, set his troops in motion for Spain, and provided for all that which might be demanded by the contingencies of war, set out from Paris for Spain, without waiting for the answer to an overture for a negotiation with the British government in like manner as he had hastened to meet the Prussians, leaving lord Lauderdale to dispute with his ministers about the basis of a negotiation in the autumn of 1806. With his usual celerity, having set out from Rambouillet 30th Oct. he arrived at Bayonne 3rd Nov. and on the 5th accompanied by a reinforcement of 12,000 men, he joined his brother Joseph at Vittoria.

In time of peace Bonaparte has proper persons employed to furnish him with the most correct topographical maps of different territories, on a great scale: by which means, being acquainted by his generals, with the relative positions of the opposite armies, he is enabled to give general directions, even at a great distance. The campaign had been opened a few days before his arrival, according to his directions.

It would not serve any purpose either of amusement or instruction to enter into a detail of the means by which the first military commander in the present, and one of the greatest of any age, at the head of a numerous, well equipped, and veteran army, accustomed to conquer, and of which the different divisions were also under the orders of the ablest generals,—it would be idle in the present period of striking events following each other in rapid succession, to detail the steps by which such a commander, with such an army, through the boldness of his tactics, the combination of his movements, and the rapidity of his marches, defeated armies scarcely yet organized, chiefly composed of new levies, without being properly equipped, without regular supplies of provisions, and extended over too large a space of ground, without sufficiently strengthening the line of their communications. When Bonaparte put himself at the head of the French armies in Spain, they amounted to not less than 200,000 men. The head quarters were at Vittoria. The left wing, under Monecy (Duke of Cornegiano) was posted along the banks of the

Aragon and the Ebro, having its head quarters at Rafalla. Ney (duke of Elchingen) was with his division at Guardia; Bessieres (duke of Istria) at Miranda, part of his troops garrisoning Pancorbo. General Merin, with one division, occupied the heights of Durango, and defended the heights of Mondragon, from the threatened attack of the Spaniards. Castanos, in order to concentrate his forces, and cover the province of Arragon, quitted the line on the Ebro, and posted himself on the left bank of the Aragon, forming a line from Sanguesa to Villafraña, and leaving 2,500 men at Logrona. His right wing touched the left of Palafox's army; but their united forces did not exceed 20,000 men. The armies of Estremadura and Murcia, computed at 30,000, were in the centre, opposed to the French on the Ebro: they expected to be joined by the British under sir John Moore and sir David Baird, whose effective force amounted to 28,000. Blake's army was now estimated at 35,000. The whole force therefore, to be opposed to the French 200,000, was only 113,000 if the British had joined. The first object of the French was to prevent this junction. In a series of actions from the 31st October, Blake notwithstanding some successful conflicts was driven from post to post: from Durango to Guenas; from Guenas to Valmaseda; from Valmaseda to Epinosa. Never, indeed, did soldiers endure greater privations; several days they were continually exposed in the open air, during rainy nights and the most inclement weather; they were all without hats, great part of them without clothes or shoes: and they were whole days without food. Yet under all these sufferings, not a murmur of dissatisfaction was heard, and they manifested no other wish than that of contributing to the destruction of the enemy and the safety of the country. Blake at length attempted to collect the scattered remains of his army at Reynosa: but on the 11th November he was suddenly attacked both in his centre and on the two wings; and he was obliged to take refuge in Asturias. But all credit is due to this gallant little army: no men ever behaved more valiantly, nor with more determined patriotism. Without cavalry, without clothing, almost without food, they fought battle after battle, against troops always superior in numbers and discipline, and whose losses were always repaired by fresh reinforcements. Nor was there one circumstance of disgrace attending their defeat: there was no capitulation: no surrender of large bodies or of strong places: the ground on which they fought was won by the French and this was all that they won.

While the French were thus successful against Blake, they quietly suffered the Estramaduran army, consisting of Walloon and Spanish guards, a few regiments of the line, and the students of the universities of Leon and Salamanca, under the command of the young count Belvedere, to take possession of Burgos. Here the French cavalry under Bessieres and the infantry under Soult attacked him. (Nov. 10.) Twice they were repulsed, nor was it till after a third action had been obstinately contested for thirteen hours, that the French, by their superiority in numbers, and especially in cavalry, were successful. The count, with the wreck of his army, fled to Lerma and thence to Aranda.

The armies of the north of Spain and of Estramadura being thus routed, the central army under Castanos became the next object of attack. From Burgos, where Bonaparte had now established his head quarters, Ney and Victor (duke of Belluno)

were dispatched to take post behind him, while Lasnes (duke of Montebello) should attack him with 30,000 men in front. Upon advice of this, Castanos fell back, without any loss, to a position extending from Tarragona to Tudela. On the 23d Lasnes came up with the Spaniards, whom he found posted with their right before Tudela and their left occupying a line a league and a half; a position, says the French bulletin, *altogether faulty*. Castanos had also, contrary to the advice of Palafox and the representative of the junta, neglected to secure some commanding heights, of which the French possessed themselves. Yet the action was well contested. On the right, the Spaniards had the advantage, but their centre was broken, and the French cavalry passing through, came in the rear of the pursuing wing, and decided the fate of the day. According to the French account 4000 Spaniards either fell in the field or perished in the Ebro, and nearly as many more were made prisoners; a number probably not much exaggerated, as Castanos states his loss to be very considerable. Castanos retreated to Borgia and then to Calatagud: not finding sufficient subsistence for his army at this place he next marched to Sigüenza. The total defeat of Castanos had compelled Palafox to fall back to Zaragoza, the defence of that city being the object for which he was especially to provide. The scurrilous manner in which this was stated in the bulletins evinced how deeply this noble Spaniard had wounded the emperor's pride. "A fellow called Palafox," he said, "formerly a garde-de corps,—a man without talent and without courage, a kind of insignificant monk, the fit head of a party, which gave him the name of general, was the first to take flight:—it was not the first time he had acted in that manner—he had done so on all occasions."—Such language proved only the innate baseness of the heart from which it proceeded. The confident manner in which this extraordinary man had spoken of the limited resources of Arragon; his denunciations of vengeance against the mighty chief of the French empire, whom he professed to hold personally responsible for the safety of the Spanish princes, his religious zeal, his loyalty, the whole tenor of his language, whether addressed to his followers or the council of Castile could not but excite the hatred of Bonaparte: and this was the way he chose to gratify his feelings.

By the battle of Tudela the road was laid open to Madrid. On the 29th Nov. a division of the French army, under the command of general Victor, arrived at the pass of the Sierra Morena, called *Puerto*. It does not appear to have been defended with much spirit. The French were soon successful, and on the 1st of December, advanced parts of their cavalry appeared before Madrid. Now was the time for that city to have emulated Zaragoza; and the spirit was not wanting in the people, had there been a man like Palafox to have directed them. The inhabitants breathed a determined spirit of resistance: they began to erect batteries, to barricade the streets, tear up the pavements and carry the stones to the tops of the houses. But it was in vain. They had previously been sold by Morla and the prince of Castelfranco. The enemy was beaten back several times: but on the 3d, they were in possession of the gate of Alcala; and also of the Retiro, the reduction of which place cost them very dear. The junta then hoisted a white flag, which the people pulled down, persisting in their resolution to defend the city. Bessieres sent his aide-de-camp to summon the town: he was seized by the populace, and would

have been killed, if the soldiers had not protected him. On the fourth a second summons arrived, and in the evening Morla and Don Bertrando Yriarte waited on Berthier, and were introduced by him to Bonaparte, who told them, that if the city did not tender its submission by five or six o'clock next morning, it would be taken by assault and every one found with arms in his hands be put to the sword. Bonaparte, with affected magnanimity, extended his clemency to the degraded deputation from the junta. To conceal their concert with him, and at the same time to gratify his splenetic humor, he cunningly taunted Morla for his former perfidy in breaking the capitulation with Dugont. "The English" said he "are not renowned for good faith: but having agreed to the convention of Cintra, they observed it."

During the night, those persons who had come from the country to defend Madrid, and those of the inhabitants who were most zealous in the cause of liberty, left a place where they were no longer at liberty to exert themselves: and at ten on the morning of the 5th general Beilliard took the command of the city. The mockery of a capitulation was not observed by Morla, till some days after the French were masters of Madrid. It was then stipulated that no religion should be tolerated except the Catholic: that no persons were to be molested for their political opinions: that the Spanish were to march out with the honors of war, &c. &c. This last article was scarcely necessary, for few of the soldiers remained to take advantage of it. Castillar and all the military officers of rank, refused to enter into any terms, and with the main body of the troops and 16 guns, had marched out of the city on the night of the fourth and made their escape.—Morla's fortune and military rank were preserved to him. The same indulgence was shown to his associate, who, having joined him in betraying their country, did not disdain to live under the protection of the usurper. Morla, in a circular letter, addressed to the Andalusians, endeavored to draw them over to the side of king Joseph, who, he told them, was a man of great mildness and humanity of disposition. Thus did this traitor bely all his former patriotism and render himself an object of contempt as long as history shall endure.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

College of South Carolina

On Monday the 2d ult. was celebrated the commencement of the *South Carolina College* at Columbia.

Exclusive of the performances of the day, this anniversary was rendered brilliant and truly interesting, from the singular attention paid to this rising institution by its generous founders and patrons, the members of the legislature.

For the purpose of giving a token of their approbation, and publicly lending their sanction to the occasion, both houses of the legislature were adjourned.

The procession, which added so much grandeur to this day, was commenced in front of the college by the students, with Mr. Maxcy, the president of the college, and the rest of the faculty, at their head. From college it proceeded to the governor's house, where it was joined by his excellency the governor and the rest of the trustees of the college. The procession then proceeded to the state house and waited on the members of both branches of the legislature.

The order of the procession was as follows—

The senate, preceded by their president, the honorable Samuel Warren, vested in robes of state, commenced the procession.

The members of the house of representatives with their speaker, the honorable John S. Richardson, likewise in robes of state, at their head, followed next.

His excellency John Drayton, governor and commander in chief, followed by the trustees, came next in the procession.

The faculty, at the head of the students of the college closed the procession.

In this order the procession moved from the state house to the college chapel. No prospect could be so elegant, or so animated to the feelings of the patriot. Here were the constituted authorities leading on the rising hope of our country, and giving their sanction to the laudable exertions of youth.

The graduates on this occasion, acquitted themselves with honor, and to the entire satisfaction of a numerous and brilliant assembly.

But what principally arrested the attention of the learned was the eloquent and masterly farewell address of the president to the graduates who were about quitting college. Whether we consider the sentiments, style or the energetic and forcible delivery of this address, it must be pronounced a complete and truly finished performance. It was highly impressive on the surrounding audience, and it is presumed the wholesome instruction and rules of conduct through life, which it contained, will never be forgotten by those to whom it was addressed. Such is the present flourishing state of the college, that we have reason to congratulate ourselves on that degree of learning and refinement to which our state is fast approaching.

While our legislature continues its liberality, the time is not very distant, when our college shall stand pre-eminently conspicuous amongst the best institutions of the Union. [Communicated.]

Twelfth Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Thursday, February 6—Mr. Quincy presented the memorial of the Vermont mineral factory company, stating that they had established a manufactory of coppers, equal, they believe, to the supply of the consumption of the United States, and praying that such a rate of duty may be laid upon imported coppers as may to them appear expedient. Referred.

Mr. Gold presented the petition of the Union Manufacturing Company of Oneida county, in the state of New York, complaining of their want of a certain kind of wire used in their manufactory of woollen cloth, and praying for leave to import it. Referred.

Mr. Williams from the committee on military affairs, reported a bill authorising a detachment of the militia of the United States. [The detachment is proposed to consist of 100,000 men.] Twice read and committed.

The bill making appropriations for the mounted rangers; the bill making appropriations for the military establishment; the bill making appropriations for the navy; and the bill making appropriations for the additional military force, were severally read the third time and passed.

Mr. Condit said, that it might not be considered that those who voted yesterday against the passage

of the bill for classing and arming the militia, were unfriendly to arming the militia, and believing there was a considerable majority of the house in favor of arming, he moved the following resolution, which was agreed to:

"Resolved, That the committee on military affairs be directed to report a bill making provision for arming the militia of the United States."

[The bill for the relief of infirm, disabled and superannuated officers, was then taken up in committee of the whole, and passed to a third reading—ayes 54—nays 38.]

Friday, February 7.—Mr. King presented the petition of John Rutherford, praying permission to import certain negroes from the West Indies. Referred to a select committee.

A bill from the senate, respecting the enrolling and licensing of steam boats, was twice read and committed.

A message from the senate was read, informing the house that they had postponed the further consideration of the bill for establishing a quarter master's department, until the first Monday of December next.

On motion of Mr. Williams, the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Nelson in the chair, on the bill authorizing the President to make a detachment of the militia.

[This bill authorizes the calling out of 100,000 militia, and appropriates one million of dollars. The bill is similar to the former laws on this subject, except that it contains no provision for accepting of volunteers.]

It was ordered to a third reading without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Jennings, the house went into a committee, Mr. Bassett in the chair, on the report of a select committee allowing the legal representatives of the officers and soldiers who fell at the battle of Tippecanoe certain bounties. After some time spent upon the report, Mr. Jennings moved to change the allowance reported by the committee from money to land. The chairman of the select committee not being present, on motion of Mr. Grundy, the committee rose, and obtained leave to sit again. Adjourned till Monday.

Monday, Feb. 10.—Mr. Macon called the attention of the house to the informal proceedings of Saturday, occasioned by the death of his friend and colleague, general Thomas Blount, which he moved might be entered upon the journals. The motion was unanimously agreed to, and they were entered as follows:

"House of Representatives,

"Saturday, Feb. 8, 1812.

"In consequence of the death of general Thomas Blount, last evening at 3 o'clock, a member of the house of representatives from the state of North-Carolina, of which Mr. Blackledge communicated information to the speaker, he requested the attendance of the members in the chamber of the house of representatives on this day at 12 o'clock; and a quorum having accordingly assembled, he addressed them as follows:

"Of the event, gentlemen, which has deprived this house of one of its most valuable members, and a disconsolate wife of one of the tenderest of husbands, you have all heard. The usage of the house of representatives, in paying the last sad respect to departed worth on such occasions, I have no doubt accords with the sentiments of every one of you. To enable you to execute this melancholy duty, your informal attendance has been requested. You will therefore take such order as may seem to you proper."

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Williams,

1. "Resolved unanimously, That a committee appointed to take order for superintending the funeral of general Thomas Blount, late a representative from the state of North Carolina.

2. "Ordered, That Messrs. Macon, Alston, Blackledge, Cochran, Franklin, King, M'Bryde, Pearson, Pickens, Sawyer, and Stanford, are appointed the said committee.

3. "Resolved unanimously, That the members of this house will testify their respect for the memory of general Thomas Blount, late one of their body, by wearing crape on the left arm for one month.

4. "Resolved unanimously, That a message be sent to the senate to notify them of the death of general Thomas Blount, late a member of this house; and that his funeral will take place to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

Mr. Macon moved the following additional resolution, which was also agreed to:

"Resolved, That the speaker of this house notify the executive of the state of North Carolina of the vacancy occasioned by the death of the late general Thomas Blount, one of the representatives from that state."

The bill for the relief of disabled and superannuated officers and soldiers, was read the third time; and on the question being put "shall the bill pass its third reading?" it was opposed by Messrs. Stow, Alston and Rhea, and supported by Messrs. Gold, Wright and Dawson. Mr. Tallmadge spoke in favor of the bill generally; but objected to certain parts of the details. On which account, Mr. Gold moved to recommit the bill. This motion was negatived 50 to 37; and afterwards the bill was lost 57 to 47.

The bill authorizing a detachment of militia; the bill for the relief of captain Selah Benton; the bill to establish a land district in the Illinois Territory, east of the district of Kaskaskia, and to attach certain lands to the district of Jeffersonville; and the bill to ascertain and establish the western boundary of a tract of land reserved for settling the military bounties allowed to the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line on the continental establishment; were read the third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. M'Kee, the house again resolved itself into a committee, Mr. Bassett in the chair, on the report of a select committee on certain petitions in relation to the affair on the Wabash; when Mr. Jennings's amendment, which proposed allowing the widows, &c. of the slain officers and soldiers, bounties in land, instead of money, was negatived. The resolutions allowing the bounties, pensions, &c. as recommended by the select committee, were all agreed to. The report of the committee of the whole was concurred in by the house, and a bill ordered to be reported accordingly.

Tuesday, Feb. 11.—Mr. Newton, from the committee of commerce and manufactures, to whom was referred the bill respecting steam-boats, reported the bill without amendment, which was committed.

Mr. Williams, from the committee on military affairs, in pursuance of the direction of the house, reported a bill for arming the militia of the United States, which was twice read and committed.

Mr. W. was also directed by the same committee to offer the following resolution for adoption, which was agreed to:

"Resolved, That the committee appointed on so much of the message of the President as relates to military affairs, be directed to enquire into the expediency of authorising an enlargement of the

agencies of the United States, and the establishment of an additional number, and to report by bill or otherwise."

On motion of Mr. Gholson, the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Breckenridge in the chair, on a report of the committee of claims recommending certain claims, (including the different species of liquidated claims) to be exempted from the operation of the statute of limitation. It was found that the committee of the whole had agreed to this resolution; but that there was another in the following words, referred to the same committee, not acted upon.

"Resolved, That the committee of Claims be instructed to enquire into the merits of all claims which may be referred to them, which originated during the revolutionary war, notwithstanding such claims may be barred by the statute of limitation, and that they report their opinion thereon to the house."

The committee took this resolution into consideration, and after considerable debate, in which Messrs. Gholson, Clay, Wright, Fisk and Gold supported, and Messrs. Stanford, Smilie, Alston, Boyd and Robert opposed the resolution, it was carried, 53 votes being for it.

The committee rose and reported the resolution to the house; but no decision was taken upon it before the house adjourned.

Wednesday, Feb. 12.—Mr. Troup laid before the house certain resolutions of the legislature of Georgia, expressive of their approbation of the measures of the general government, and their determination to support them in such ulterior measures as they may determine upon. Referred to the committee on foreign relations.

Mr. Burwell offered the following resolution, which was agreed to:

"Resolved, that the secretary of war be directed to lay before this house, a list of the persons on the pension list, the state or territory in which they live, and the amount allowed to each person by law."

The amendment of the bill from the senate for the more convenient taking the affidavits and recognition in civil cases depending in the courts of the United States—was agreed to.

UNITED STATES BANK NOTES.

On motion of Mr. Bacon, the house went into a committee of the whole, Mr. Blackledge in the chair, on the bill to repeal the 10th section of the act establishing the bank of the United States.

Mr. B. said, the committee of ways and means had thought it necessary to bring forward this bill, in consequence of a decision which had been made in the circuit court of Virginia, that the notes issued by the bank of the United States are still a tender in payments to the collectors and other officers of the United States. The committee do not know on what ground this opinion was given; they had conceived that as the limitation of the law had expired, no part of it could still have force. But, as this opinion has been given by the chief justice of the United States, it produces great inconvenience to the officers of the United States as the notes of the several branches, say Charleston, Savannah, New Orleans, &c, will not be paid only at the branches from which they issue.

Some irregular debate took place on the propriety of passing the bill at all. It was contended that the whole law having expired, it was altogether unnecessary, not to say improper, to pass a bill to repeal a section of that law. It was replied by the chairman of the committee of ways and means, and others, that as the passing of the bill would prevent

any further trouble to the public officers, and it could have no influence on any thing which had heretofore taken place, its passage was desirable.

The committee rose and the house ordered the bill to a third reading.

SALARIES OF OFFICERS.—On motion of Mr. Bacon, the house went into a committee, Mr. Mason in the chair, on the bill to continue in force for a limited time the salaries of certain officers of government therein mentioned.

Mr. B. stated that this bill was intended to continue in force a law passed in 1799, for increasing the salaries of the heads of departments and other officers of the government, which had been continued from time to time ever since. Mr. B. stated what the several salaries were before this law passed, and what they had been since, and left it for the committee to decide on the propriety of passing the bill.

Mr. Stanford disliked the phraseology of the limitation clause to this bill, which was "for three years and to the end of the next session of congress thereafter." He said the bill might as well be made for four years at once. He made two unsuccessful attempts to amend the bill in this respect.

Mr. S. then moved to amend the bill, by adding to the salary of the postmaster-general (over and above the augmentation included in the bill) 500 dollars per annum; and to the first assistant postmaster-general 300 dollars.

A division of the motion was called for, and the addition to the postmaster general, was carried 38 to 24.

But the question being put on adding 300 dollars to the salary of the first assistant postmaster-general, it was opposed by Messrs. Bassett and Lacock, and supported by Mr. Tallmadge. On motion of Mr. King, who thought it would be well to take a longer time to consider the subject, the committee rose and obtained leave to sit again.

Scarcity in Europe.

We learn that American flour is selling at from 18 to 20 dollars per barrel in Bordenaux, and from 20 to 22 dollars per barrel in Liverpool.

For some years past it has been the policy of that amazing genius who directs the destinies of France, to supply his enemy, Great Britain, with bread; by which he accomplished a double purpose: obtained a market for the surplus productions of his own people, and, by a constant drain of specie from the country supplied, naturally effected a mighty depreciation* of the value of its paper currency, on which its exertions so materially depends. It is said that Bonaparte is, himself, possessed of a greater quantity of English guineas than there are in all the world beside. This is mere supposition; but possibly true, from his known partiality for this kind of money, and the means he has had to obtain it; the balance being against England to the amount of many millions per annum, which found its way to France, in a manner, direct or indirect, most pleasing to her emperor.

From the present scarcity in France considerable revolutions in the present posture of human affairs in Europe may be anticipated. To use a vulgar saying "there is no joking with the belly"—it has no ears, and will not be reasoned with. The emperor must withdraw his armies from Spain, or

*Of the 27 1/2 per centum. See Weekly Register page 408.

prohibit the exportation of grain to *England*. If these alternatives only present themselves, the export of grain from France will be prohibited; as he has already sufficiently shaken the paper credit of his enemy, and the maintenance of his armies is a matter of the first importance. In this case Great Britain, hitherto dependent on the continent of Europe for so much of her bread-stuffs must look to the United States of America for aid; admitting the present state of things to continue, it may at least be expected, that the price of grain and flour in *England*, *Spain* and *Portugal* will be unprecedented.

The Chronicle, &c.

BALTIMORE, February 15 1812.

Since our last we have various scraps of intelligence from South America; the general appearance of things is highly favorable to the cause of the patriots. The congress of the province of *New-Grenada* were to assemble at the city of *Ybaque*, [probably, sometimes called *St. Jacini de Yaguache*] which is to be the seat of the new government, in December last. The expeditions that sailed from *Porto Rico* for *Caracas* have failed; many of the vessels were lost and others taken. At *Santa Fe* the public enthusiasm seems to have reached a great height—a letter from that place says, that having received the news of the independence of *Venezuela*, all was bustle and joy, and the streets resounded with the cries of “*long live Caracas and absolute independence—death to Ferdinand the VIIIth, the government of old Spain, and all its partizans.*” The funds of these new governments appear ample, as well from their natural resources as the liberal donations of the people. The ladies at *Buenos Ayres* offered to perform military duty in that city while the troops were sent against the tories in fort *St. Fernando*.

We have a translation of a letter from don *Joseph Manuel de Goyeneche*, a royal general, who, from his own relation (which is about as modest as capt. *Babadi*'s account of himself) defeated the patriots of *Peru*, on 20th June last. He states that all the artillery and munitions of war, with 200 prisoners fell into his hands, that the war is terminated, [which we do not believe] and that he was about to march against the *Buenos Ayreans*.

Accounts from *Quito* announce, in general terms the complete success of the patriots, after several very hard fought battles.

The *Buenos Ayreans*, by the peace with *Montevideo* have 12,000 men at leisure to meet don *Goyeneche*.

From *Montevideo* we learn that a peace has been patched up between the whigs and tories. Five thousand troops arrived to assist the *Montevideans* from *Brazil* after peace was made; they demanded payment for their loyal services, which being denied, they threatened to attack the town and indemnify themselves. The assault was hourly expected when our last advice came away.

A letter from *Havana*, dated the 16th ult. notices the arrival at that port of a 74 gunship, and a number of transports from old Spain, 5,400 of which are destined for *Vera Cruz* to maintain the royal authority in *Mexico*. There is reason to believe that the patriots have possession of *Vera Cruz*, or, at least, are in great force in its immediate neighborhood; and some hopes may be entertained that the royal force will arrive just in time to—be *Burgoyne*d.

A proclamation, by the president of the United States.

WHEREAS information has been received that a number of individuals, who have deserted from the army of the United States, have become sensible of their offence, and are desirous of returning to their duty—

A full pardon is hereby granted and proclaimed to each and all such individuals as shall, within four months from the date hereof, surrender themselves to the commanding officer of any military post within the United States, or the territories thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents, and signed the same with my hand.

Done at the city of Washington, the 7th day of February, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and twelve, and of the independence of the United States the thirty-sixth. JAMES MADISON.

By the president,

JAMES MONROE, Sec'y of State.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Thursday, Feb. 13.—The speaker laid before the house a communication from Mr. Tucker, the treasurer, containing a statement of the accounts of that office from Oct. 1, 1810, to Oct. 1, 1811; also the accounts of that office with the war and navy department, for the same time. Laid on the table.

Leave was granted on motion of Mr. Bacon, to the committee of ways and means to set during the sitting of the house, the sooner to complete their revenue plans.

On motion of Mr. Poindexter the house proceeded to consider the resolution some time since offered by him, directing the committee of ways and means to enquire into the expediency of preventing the corporation of the city of New-Orleans laying a tax on boats descending the Mississippi laden with articles of the growth, produce or manufacture of the United States. After a short debate, in which the resolution was opposed by Mr. Troup, it was carried.

Mr. Lacock took the chair, in committee of the whole, on the bill for arming the whole body of the militia of the United States.

Mr. Williams spoke some time in favor of the bill. The committee of the whole rose and reported the bill without amendment.

The house immediately proceeded to consider it. Mr. Roberts moved to amend the bill so as to leave the distribution of the arms to the legislatures of the several states.

Mr. Sturges demanded the yeas and nays on this question.

Mr. Tallmadge spoke in favour of the amendment.

Mr. Randolph spoke in favor of the bill generally. The amendment was carried by ayes and noes; ayes 70, noes 41.

Mr. Milnor and Mr. Nelson spoke against the severity of the punishment for not furnishing lost arms or paying twenty dollars for them: the person so offending being liable to imprisonment till the money was paid, which might be for life. On motion of Mr. Nelson, the duration was made not to exceed three months.

The house adjourned without disposing of the bill.

43 With a view to the close of the present volume, we have given less variety to this number than was desirable—but its contents are interesting.