

# THE WEEKLY REGISTER.

VOL. I.]

BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1811.

[No. 3.]

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

Shakespeare—HENRY VIII.

Printed and published by H. NILES, Water-street, near the Merchants' Coffee-House, at \$5 per annum.

## President and Little Belt.

[The affair (every thing is an "affair" now a-days) of the *President* and *Little Belt*, appearing to assume great importance in England, we have thought proper to record the official papers relative to it; so that, at once, our readers may see the whole nature of the contention, giving credit where credit shall appear to be due.]

Copy of a letter from commodore RODGERS to the secretary of the navy.

U. S. FRIGATE *PRESIDENT*.

Off *Sandy Hook*, May 23, 1811.

Sir—I regret extremely being under the necessity of representing to you an event that occurred on the night of the 16th inst. between the ship under my command and his Britannic majesty's ship of war the *Little Belt*, commanded by captain Bingham: the result of which has given me much pain, as well on account of the injury she sustained, as that I should have been compelled to the measure that produced it, by a vessel of her inferior force.—The circumstances are as follow: On the 16th inst. at twenty five minutes past meridian, in seventeen fathom water, Cape Henry bearing S. W. distant fourteen or fifteen leagues, a sail was discovered from our mast head in the east, standing towards us under a press of sail. At half past one the symmetry of her upper sails, which were at this time distinguishable from our deck) and her making signals shewed her to be a man of war. At forty-five minutes past one P. M. hoisted our ensign and pendant: when finding her signals not answered, she wore and stood to the southward. Being desirous of speaking her, and of ascertaining what she was, I now made sail in chase; and by half past three P. M. found we were coming up with her; as, by this time, the upper part of her stern began to shew itself above the horizon. The wind now began, and continued gradually to decrease, so as to prevent my being able to approach her sufficiently before sun-set, to discover her actual force, (which the position she preserved during the chase was calculated to conceal) or to judge even to what nation she belonged; as she appeared studiously to decline shewing her colors. At fifteen or twenty minutes past seven P. M. the chase took in her studding sails, and soon after hauled up her courses, and hauled by the wind on the starboard tack; she at the same time hoisted an ensign or flag at her mizen peak, but it was too dark for me to discover what nation it represented; now for the first time her broadside was presented to our view; but night had so far progressed, that although her appearance indicated she was a frigate, I was unable to determine her actual force.

At fifteen minutes before eight P. M. being about a mile and half from her, the wind at the time very light, I directed captain Ludlow to take a position to windward of her and on the same tack, within

short speaking distance. This, however the commander of the chase appeared, from his manœuvres, to be anxious to prevent, as he wore and hauled by the wind on different tacks four times successively, between this period and the time of our arriving at the position, which I had ordered to be taken. At fifteen or twenty minutes past eight, being a little forward of her weather beam and distant from seventy to a hundred yards, hailed "what ships that?" to this enquiry no answer was given, but I was hailed by her commander, and asked "what ships that?" Having asked the first question, I, of course considered myself entitled, by the common rules of politeness, to the first answer; after a pause of fifteen or twenty seconds, I reiterated my first enquiry of "what ship is that?" and before I had time to take the trumpet from my mouth, was answered by a shot, that cut off one of our main top backstays and went into our mainmast—at this instant captain Caldwell (of marines) who was standing very near me on the gangway, having observed "sir, she has fired at us," caused me to pause for a moment, just as I was in the act of giving an order to fire a shot in return; and before I had time to resume the repetition of the intended order, a shot was actually fired from the second division of this ship, and was scarcely out of the gun before it was answered from our assumed enemy by three others in quick succession, and soon after the rest of his broadside and musquetry. When the first shot was fired, being under an impression that it might possibly have proceeded from accident, and without the orders of the commander, I had determined at the moment to fire only a single shot in return, but the immediate repetition of the previous unprovoked outrage induced me to believe that the insult was premeditated, and that from our adversary being, at that time as ignorant of our real force as I was of his, he thought this, perhaps a favorable opportunity of acquiring promotion, although at the expence of violating our neutrality, and insulting our flag; I accordingly with that degree of repugnance incident to feeling equally determined neither to be the aggressor, or suffer the flag of my country to be insulted with impunity, gave a general order to fire; the effect of which in from four to six minutes, as near as I can judge, having produced a partial silence of his guns, I gave orders to cease firing, discovering by the feeble opposition that it must be a ship of very inferior force to what I had supposed, or that some untoward accident had happened to her.

My orders in this instance however (although they proceeded alone from motives of humanity and a determination not to spill a drop of blood unnecessarily) I had in less than four minutes, some reason to regret, as he renewed his fire, of which two 32 pound shot cut off one of our fore shrouds and injured our fore mast. It was now that I found myself under the painful necessity of giving orders

for a repetition of our fire against a force which my forbearance alone had enabled to do us any injury of moment; our fire was accordingly renewed and continued from three to five minutes longer, when, perceiving our opponent's gaff and colors down, his maintop-sail yard upon the cap, and his firesilenced, although it was so dark that I could not discern any other particular injury we had done, or how far he was in a situation to do us further harm, I nevertheless embraced the earliest moment to stop our fire and prevent the further effusion of blood. Here a pause of half a minute or more took place, at the end of which our adversary not shewing a further disposition to fire, I hailed again, and asked "what ship is that?" I learned, for the first time, that it was a ship of his Britannic majesty; but owing to its blowing rather fresher than it had done, I was unable to learn her name.

After having informed her commander of the name of this ship, I gave orders to wear, run under his lee and haul by the wind on the starboard tack, and heave too under topsails and repair what little injury we had sustained in our rigging; which was accordingly executed, and we continued lying too on different tacks with a number of lights displayed, in order that our adversary might the better discern our position and command our assistance, in case he found it necessary during the night. At day-break on the 17th she was discovered several miles to leeward, when I gave orders to bear up and run down to him under easy sail; after hailing him I sent a boat on board with lieutenant Creighton, to learn the names of the ship and her commander, with directions to ascertain the damages she had sustained, and to inform her commander how much I regretted the necessity on my part which had led to such an unhappy result; at the same time to offer all the assistance that the ship under my command afforded, in repairing the damage his had sustained. At 9 A. M. lieutenant Creighton returned with information, that it was his Britannic majesty's ship *Little Belt*, captain Bingham; who in a polite manner declined the acceptance of any assistance; saying at the same time, that he had on board all the necessary requisites to repair the damages sufficient to enable him to return to Halifax.

This, however, was not the most unpleasant part of captain Bingham's communication to lieutenant Creighton, as he informed him, that, in addition to the injury his ship had sustained, between 20 and 30 of his crew had been killed and wounded.

The regret that this information caused me was such, you may be sure, as a man might expect to feel, whose greatest pride is to prove, without ostentation, by every public as well as private act, that he possesses a humane and generous heart; and with these sentiments, believe me, sir, that such a communication would cause me the most acute pain during the remainder of my life, had I not the consolation to know, there was no alternative left me between such a sacrifice, and one which would have been still greater, namely, to have remained a passive spectator of insult to the flag of my country, while it was couched to my protection—and I would have you to be convinced, sir, that how ever much individually I may previously have had reason to feel incensed at the repeated outrages committed on our flag by British ships of war, neither my passions nor prejudices had any agency in this affair.

To my country I am well convinced of the importance of the transaction, which has imposed upon me the necessity of making you this communication; I must, therefore, from motives of delicacy, connect

ed with personal considerations, solicit that you will be pleased to request the president to authorise a formal enquiry to be instituted into all the circumstances, as well as into every part of my conduct connected with the same.

The injury sustained by the ship under my command, is very trifling, except to the fore and main-masts, which I before mentioned; no person killed, and but one (a boy) wounded.

For further particulars, I refer you to captain Caldwell, who is charged with the delivery of this communication. I have the honor to be, with great respect, sir, your obedient servant,

[Signed] JOHN RODGERS.

Honorable PAUL HAMILTON,  
Secretary of the Navy

(LONDON) Admiralty Office, July 16.

Copy of a letter from rear admiral Sawyer, commander in chief of his majesty's ships and vessels on the coast of North America, to John Wilson Crocker, esq. dated on board the *Africa*, at Bermuda, the 11th of June, 1811.

SIR,—Enclosed I transmit to you, for the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, a copy of a letter from capt. Arthur Batt Bingham, commander of his majesty's sloop *Little Belt*, received this day from lord James Townsend, captain of his majesty's ship *Æolus*, and senior officer at Halifax; by which their lordships will perceive he was attacked on the evening of the 16th of May last, when cruising between Cape Henry and Cape Hatteras, by the United States frigate the President of forty-four guns, commanded by commodore Rodgers; and that after a close action of three quarters of an hour the American ship made sail from him.

Captain Bingham's modest, but full and clear statement, renders any comment from me unnecessary, and I have only to admire the extraordinary bravery and firmness with which himself, his officers, and ship's company, supported the honor of the British flag, when opposed to such an immense superiority of force. I have, however, deeply to lament the number of valuable British seamen and royal marines who have been either killed or wounded on this unexampled occasion: a list of whose names is also enclosed, together with a copy of my order under which captain Bingham was cruising.

I have the honor to be, &c.

H. SAWYER, Rear-Admiral.

*His majesty's sloop Little Belt. May 21, 1811, lat 36, 53, N. long. 71, 49, W. Cape Charles, bearing W. 48 miles.*

SIR—I beg leave to acquaint you, that in pursuance of your orders to join H. M. ship *Guerriere*, and being on my return from the Northward, not having fallen in with her—that about 11 A. M. May 16th, saw a strange sail, to which I immediately gave chase. At 1 P. M. discovered her to be a man of war, apparently a frigate, standing to the eastward who when he made us but edged away for us, and set his royals. Made the signal 275, and finding it not answered, concluded she was an American frigate, as she had a commodore's blue pendant flying at the main. Hoisted the colors and made all sail south, the course I intended steering round Cape Hatteras; the stranger edging away, but not making any more sail. At 3, 30, he made sail in chase, when I made a private signal, which was not answered. At 6, 30, finding he gained so considerably on us as not to be able to elude him during the night, being within gun shot, and clearly

discerning the stars in his broad pendant, I imagined the most prudent method was to bring too, and hoist the colours, that no mistake might arise, and that he might see what we were. The ship was therefore brought too, her colours hoisted, her guns double shotted, and every preparation made in case of a surprise. By his manner of steering down, he evidently wished to lay his ship in a position for raking, which I frustrated by wearing three times. About 8, 15, he came within hail—I hailed, and asked what ship it was? He again repeated my words, and fired a broad-side, which I instantly returned. The action then became general, and continued so for three quarters of an hour, when he ceased firing, and appeared to be on fire about the main hatch-way. He then filled—I was obliged to desist from firing, as, the ship falling off, no gun would bear, and had no after sail to keep her too. All the rigging and sails cut to pieces; not a brace nor a bowline left. He hailed and asked what ship this was? I told him—He then asked me if I had struck my colours? My answer, No, and asked what ship it was? As plain as I could understand (he having shot some distance at this time) he answered—the United States frigate. He fired no more guns, but stood from us, giving no reason for his most extraordinary conduct.

At day light in the morning saw a ship to windward, when having made out well what we were, bore up and passed within hail, fully prepared for action. About 8 o'clock he hailed, and said if I pleased he would send a boat on board: I replied in the affirmative, and a boat accordingly came with an officer, and a message from commodore Rodgers of the President, of the United States, to say that he lamented much the unfortunate affair (as he termed it) that had happened, and that *had he known our force was so much inferior he would not have fired at me.* I asked his motives for firing at all? His reply was, that "*we fired the first gun at him,*" which was positively not the case. I cautioned both the officers and men, to be particularly careful, and not suffer more than one man to be at a gun. Nor is it probable that a sloop of war within pistol shot of a large 44 gun frigate should commence hostilities. He offered me every assistance I stood in need of, and submitted to me that I had better put into some port of the United States; which I immediately declined.

By the manner in which he apologised it appeared evident to me that had he fallen in with a British frigate, he would certainly have brought her to action. And what further confirms me in that opinion is, that his guns were not only loaded with round and grape shot, but with every scrap of iron that could be collected.

I have to lament the loss of 32 men killed and wounded, among whom is the master.

His majesty's ship is much damaged in her masts, sails, rigging and hull, and as there are many shot through between wind and water, and many shot still remain inside, and upper works all shot away, starboard pump also, I have thought proper to proceed to Halifax, which will I hope meet with your approbation.

I cannot speak in too high terms of the officers and men I have the honor to command, for their steady and active conduct throughout the whole of this business, who had much to do, as a gale of wind came on the second night after the action. I have to request, sir, that you will be pleased to recommend to the notice of my lords commissioners of the admiralty, my first lieutenant, Mr. John Molony, who is, in every respect, a most excellent

officer, and afforded me very great assistance in stopping the leaks, himself, in the gale, securing the masts, and doing every thing in his power. It would be the greatest injustice was I not also to speak most highly of lieut. Lovell, second lieut. of Mr. M-Queen, master, who as I have before stated, was wounded in the right arm, in nearly the middle of the action, and Mr. Wilson, master's mate; indeed the conduct of every officer and man was so good that it is impossible for me to discriminate.

I beg leave to enclose a list of 32 men killed and wounded; most of them, mortally, I fear.

I hope, sir, in this affair, I shall appear to have done my duty, and conducted myself as I ought to have done against so superior a force, and that the honor of the British colors was well supported.

I have the honor to be, &c.

A. B. BINGHAM, Capt.

To Herbert Sawyer, Esq.

Rear Admiral of the Red.

*Return of officers, petty officers, seamen and marines, killed and wounded on board his majesty's sloop Little Belt, Arthur Batt Bingham, esq. commander, in an action with the American frigate President, on the 16th of May, 1811.*

KILLED.—Mr. Samuel Woodward, midshipman; Christ. Bennet, captain of the fore-top; Jacob Greaves, carpenter's crew; Thomas Shippard, gunner's mate; George Wilson, able seaman; Robert Liversage, able seaman; James Gray, ordinary seaman; Robert Howard, ordinary seaman; John Pardee, private mariner.

WOUNDED.—Daniel Kilham, landman, dangerously, died ten hours after the action; Richard Coody, ordinary seaman, died twenty hours after the action; John Randall, able seaman, dangerously; Nicholas Manager, gunner's crew, do; James M-Queen, acting master, severely; James Donu, 2nd captain of the maintop, do; James Lawrence, able seaman, do; John Richards, able seaman, do; Thomas Ives, able seaman, do; Michael Skinners, landman, do; William Fern, boy, do; David Dawd, marine, do; William Harold, marine, do; Mr. James Franklin, boatswain, slightly; Mr. Benjamin Angle, carpenter, do; Peter M-Caskell, captain of the mast, do; William Weston, boy, do; Edward Graham, able seaman, do; George Delany, able seaman, do; George Roberts, boy, do; George Shoard, marine, do; Daniel Long, marine, do.

(Signed)

A. B. BINGHAM, Captain.

W. TURNER, (2) Surgeon.

By Herbert Sawyer, Esq. rear admiral of the red, and commander in chief of his majesty's ships and vessels employed, and to be employed, in the river St. Lawrence, along the coast of Nova Scotia, the islands of Anticosti, Madeline, and St. Johns, and Cape Brown, the Bay of Fonda, and at or about the island of Bermuda, or Somers Island.

You are hereby required and directed to put to sea in his majesty's sloop under your command, and proceed without loss of time off Charleston where you may expect to meet captain Pechell, in the Guerriere, to whom you will deliver the packet you herewith receive; and follow his orders for your farther proceedings. Should you not meet the Guerriere, off Charleston, you will stand for the northward, and use your utmost endeavors to join him off the Capes of Virginia, or off New York; and in the event of not meeting the Guerriere, you will cruise as long as your provisions and

water will last, and then repair to Halifax for farther orders. You are to pay due regard to protecting the trade of his majesty's subjects, and the capture or destruction of the ships of the enemy. You are to be particularly careful not to give any just cause of offence to the government or subjects of the United States of America, and to give very particular orders to this effect to the officers you may have occasion to send on board ships under the American flag. You are not to anchor in any of the American ports, but in case of absolute necessity, and then put to sea again as soon as possible.

Given under my hand at Bermuda, this 19th of April, 1811. HERBERT SAWYER.

To Arthur Batt Bingham, Esq.  
commander of his majesty's sloop Little Belt.

By command of the rear admiral,

H. N. SOMERVILLE.

NEW-YORK, September 13.

*Court of Enquiry.*—The court of enquiry on the conduct of commodore Rodgers, in the action between the President and Little Belt, closed the testimony in the case on Thursday.

The court, as heretofore stated, consisted of commodore Stephen Decatur, president.—capt. Charles Stewart, capt. Isaac Chauncey—and the honorable William Paulding, jun. esq. judge advocate.

Of the evidence furnished to this court on the oaths of the several witnesses, we present the following brief outline, in the order it was adduced and leave the public in a case where doubt is impossible, and conviction irresistible, to make its own comments.—[*Columbian.*]

The first witness examined was

CHARLES LUDLOW,

Master commandant and acting captain of the President.

He was on board the ship at the time of the action with the Little Belt, on the night of the 16th of May last. The Little Belt had her top-sail aback; from his position he was uncertain who fired the first gun; but the second was from the President, and was instantly followed by three cannon and musketry from the Little Belt.

Com. Rodgers ordered to fire low and with round and grape shot.—After a short pause the Belt recommenced firing as did the President.—The Belt soon appeared ungovernable, and lay bow on towards the President, when com. R. observed that some accident must have happened to her, and ceased firing.—Her gaff was down and her main-top sail yard on the cap, and mizen too, he thinks. The action continued 14 or 15 minutes, including the interval. There was nothing but round and grape shot fired, or on deck on board the President. The ship was not on fire, in any part of her, and did not sheer off after the action. Another broadside would probably have sunk the Little Belt. Did not know or believe that any part of the commodore's official letter was untrue or incorrect.

John Orde Creighton, first lieutenant.

Was stationed at the 4th division of guns on the upper deck. Com. Rodgers, hailed first, then a second time, when a shot was fired, as he believes, from the Little Belt, no gun having been fired or provocation given, on board the President. The order of com. R. was, to keep the guns upon half cock, and guard against accidents. After receiving the Little Belt's broad side, was ordered to fire. The Belt was silenced in five minutes, and the President ceased. The Belt renewed the fire, and commodore Rodgers returned it, and silenced her again in five minutes. Boarding the Belt the next morning,

commodore Rodgers sent a friendly message expressing regret for the occurrence, and offers of assistance. Captain Bingham said he took the President for a Frenchman. President was not on fire, and did not sheer off; nothing but round and grape shot was fired, or on deck; another broadside would probably have sunk the Belt.—Commodore's statement confirmed.

Henry Caldwell, commandant of marines.—Heard the hailing; was looking at the Little Belt, and saw the first shot proceed from her; on which commodore Rodgers said "what is that?" and he answered, "she has fired into us." Orders were then given to fire. Belt silenced in five minutes. Commodore Rodgers was anxious to stop his fire, and did so. The Belt renewed the action, and in six or seven minutes was silenced again, when commodore Rodgers was anxious to prevent mischief, and stopped his fire. No fire or sheering off. Commodore's account confirmed.

Raymond H. Y. Perry, junior, lieutenant and signal officer.—Was on the quarter deck, near commodore Rodgers' elbow. The commodore hailed, got no reply—hailed a second time, and got none. Heard a gun and was looking at the Belt, which fired it, previous to any gun or provocation from the President. The Belt was silenced in five minutes, and orders were sent to every division of guns on board the President to cease. The Belt renewed the fire, and the President also. In six minutes the Belt ceased firing again, and the commodore was very anxious to stop the fire on board the President. No fire or sheering off. The Belt was in a very dangerous situation, and would probably have been sunk by another broadside. Heard hailing from the Belt, and understood they said their colors were down, and so reported. Commodore Rodgers hailed, "have you struck your colors?" and was answered, "I have, and am in great distress." Lights were up on board the President during the night. Commodore's statement confirmed.

Andrew L. B. Madison, lieutenant of marines.—Was on the gangway. Heard the commodore hail first, then wait 15 or 18 seconds, time enough for reply, but got none, and hailed again; when the Little Belt fired a gun from her gangway. Saw the flash and heard the report; no gun or provocation had been offered by commodore Rodgers. In six seconds a gun was fired from the President, when instantly the Belt fired three guns, and then her broadside and musketry. Belt silenced in six or seven minutes. Firing stopped in the President. In two or three minutes the Belt renewed the action, and in four or five minutes was again silenced, when commodore Rodgers ordered his fire to cease, and appeared anxious to prevent damage. No fire or sheering off of the President. Commodore's report confirmed.

Captain Caldwell confirmed the account of the first and second guns, and broadside, as given by the other witnesses.

Jacob Mull, sailing master.—Was on the quarter-deck. Commodore Rodgers hailed and got no answer but "halloo." After sufficient time, hailed again, and got no reply but a shot, without provocation. In three or four seconds returned the shot, and got a general fire from the Little Belt. Thought the Belt a heavy frigate until next day. Action continued fourteen or fifteen minutes, including three or four minutes interval. Little Belt could not have fired again, but President could have sunk her.—Commodore's official account is true.

Lieutenant Creighton thought the Little Belt a frigate (excepting her feeble defence) until next day.



Captain Bingham told him the President's colors were not hoisted, but recollected the pendant. It is the usage as before stated by another witness, for the President to be prepared for action on coming along side of any armed vessel. Thought the Little Belt displayed bad management or want of conduct in her defence.

*Joseph Smith, Midshipman, acting as Master's mate*—Commanding fourth division of guns. Heard Commodore Rodgers hail, and no reply for five seconds. Heard second hail, and was looking at the Little Belt when the first gun was fired by her, before a shot or any provocation was given by the President. Then Commodore Rodgers fired a gun, then the Belt three, and action continued. Thought the Belt a frigate. The duration of the action, and orders to cease, as before stated. The last order to stop firing was received by three different officers. Commodore Rodgers' statement confirmed.

*Henry Dennison, acting Chaplain*—Was on the quarter deck. Little Belt was 70 or 80 yards distant. Heard Commodore Rodgers hail, and the reply,\* and the second hail—then a gun, he thinks from the Belt, as he felt no jar in the President—and no gun or provocation had been given by Commodore Rodgers. Account of Commodore Rodgers confirmed.

*Michael Roberts, Boatswain*—Was on the fore castle—saw the flash and heard the gun from the Little Belt, before any provocation had been given from the President. Had not seen the Commodore's account.

*Richard Carson, Midshipman*—Was on the fore castle and gangways. Commodore Rodgers hailed, and was answered by repeating his words; second hail was answered by a shot. Was looking at the Little Belt, and saw and heard the gun before any provocation from Commodore R.—gun from the President was followed by the Belt's broadside, as stated by others. Commodore's account confirmed.

*Matthew Perry, Midshipman*—Was on the quarter. Heard hail, reply, second hail and gun from the Belt, before any gun or provocation from President, followed by fire from Little Belt. Statement of Commodore Rodgers confirmed.

*Silas Duncan, Midshipman*—Was in the foretop. Heard Commodore R. hail, reply, and second hail; then two guns in quick succession, and believes the first from the Belt, but could not swear, as he was behind the foretop-sail. Commodore's statement confirmed.

*John McClack, Midshipman*—Was in the mizen top. Heard first hail, no reply, and second hail as stated. Thought the Belt fired first, as he felt no jar at first shot, but did at second. Confirms Commodore R's report.

*Thomas Gamble, second Lieutenant*—Commanded the first division of guns. Commodore Rodgers hailed "ship ahoy!" Was answered, "halloo." Asked "what ship is that?"—Received his own words repeated in reply. Hailed again, "what ship is that?" Then a gun from the Belt. Heard no gun or provocation from the President—swears no gun was fired from his division. Nothing but round and grape shot fired after action commenced. Com-

modore's orders as before stated. Belt was in a favorable position for firing, but another broadside would probably have sunk the Belt. Saw no colors on the Belt, and took her for a frigate of 36 or 38 guns. No fire on board, or sheering off by the President. Commodore Rodgers' account confirmed.

*Alexander James Dallas, third Lieutenant*—Commanded third division of guns. Heard first hail, and second, and question repeated back from Little Belt; then third hail and gun. Was looking at the Belt when she fired, when no gun or provocation had been given from the President. Was in the bridle port, when the Belt fired, and after the shot was received got into the port and fired a gun in return, from general orders, without particular direction. A broadside from the Belt immediately succeeded. None but round and grape shot used in his division—and no fire or sheering off. A broadside more would probably have sunk the Belt. Commodore Rodgers was very anxious to stop the firing. The Commodore's statement confirmed.

*John M. Funck, 4th Lieutenant*—Com. third division, gun deck. Heard hail, reply, second hail and gun from Belt, as before. Heard no gun or provocation from President, and certainly was none from his division. Gun from Belt returned from President in five or six seconds, and broadside from Belt ensued. Orders of Commodore Rodgers as before. Round and grape only fired. No fire or sheering off. Another broadside would have sunk the Belt. Commodore Rodgers exerted himself to stop the firing. Commodore's official account confirmed.

*Peter Gamble, Midshipman*—Was on gun deck, at second division. Heard first shot from Little Belt, and felt no jar on board the President. No gun or provocation from Commodore Rodgers.—Confirms the official account.

*Edward Babbet, Midshipman*—Was on gun deck, third division. Was looking at the Belt, and saw and heard the first gun from her. No gun or provocation had been given by the President. Commodore Rodgers' account confirmed.

*Lieutenant Creighton* testified that lights were hoisted on board the President the night after the action.

*Mr. Mull* testified that the damage on board the President was one boy wounded, a shot in the mainmast, and another in the foremast, with some of the back stays cut away; but not a single shot of any kind from the Little Belt struck the hull of the President.

*Edward Rutledge Sherrick, Midshipman*—Was forward on gun-deck, at first division. Was looking at the Belt, and saw and heard the first fire from her, before any gun or provocation from the President, and confirms the Commodore's account.

*Philip Dickerson Spencer, Midshipman*—Was on the gun deck, at third division. Was confident the first shot came from the Little Belt. No gun had fired from his division, or provocation had been given by Commodore Rodgers. Heard no hail from the Belt. Confirms the Commodore's statement.

*Breasted Barnes, Carpenter*—Was on gun deck, to attend pumps, and looking at the Belt when she fired the first shot, before a gun or provocation from Commodore Rodgers. The President did not receive a shot of any sort, in the hull, but one in her mainmast and another in her foremast.

*John Nese, Captain of first gun*, in the first division on the gun deck, was looking at the Little Belt, and saw and heard her fire first.

*Elihalett Carr*, gun No. 2, gun deck, testifies exactly the same as Nese.

\* Some landmen (like the reporter) might mistake the manner of hailing which was thus:

President, The ship ahoy? L. Belt, halloo.

President, What ship is that?

Little Belt, What ship is that?

President, What ship is that?

Little Belt, Answers by a gun!

John Jones (capt. absent) was at gun No. 3, and testifies the same.

James Beach, captain No. 4, testifies the same.

Trophemus Davis, captain No. 5, testifies the same.

John Layfield, captain No. 6, testifies the same.

Benjamin Brown, (1st and 2d captains absent) was at No. 7, and testifies the same.

Edward Fitzgerald, captain No. 8, testifies the same.

James Cornwall, captain No. 9, says Little Belt fired first to the best of his knowledge.

John Fitch, captain No. 10, was looking at the Belt, and saw and heard the first gun come from her.

Richard Thompson, (captain absent) was at No. 11, and saw the Belt fire first.

John Mason, captain No. 12, testifies the same.

James Thompson, captain No. 13, testifies the same.

David Lawson, captain No. 14, testifies the same.

James Lee, captain No. 15, declares the same.

Edward Walker, captain 1st gun 4th division, fore-castle; from hearing the report and feeling no jar, believed the first shot came from the Belt.

Moses Dunbar, 2d capt. (1st absent) 2d gun, 4th division, was looking at the Little Belt and saw her fire first.

George Simmons, 2d capt. (1st absent) 3d gun, 4th division, declared precisely the same.

William Campbell, capt. 1st gun 4th division quarter-deck, declares the same.

Thomas Taylor, captain 2d gun, quarter-deck, saw Little Belt fire 6 seconds first.

Philip Warner, captain 3d gun, quarter-deck, was looking at the Little Belt and saw her fire first.

Samuel Brown, 2d captain (1st absent) 4th division, quarter deck, declares the same.

Richard Cockle, 2d captain (1st absent) 5th gun, quarter deck, saw the Little Belt fire 3 or 4 seconds first.

Edward Patterson, captain 6th gun, quarter-deck, declares the same.

John Anderson, captain 7th gun, quarter-deck declares the same.

James Welch, capt. 8th gun, quarter-deck, declares the same.

Lieutenant Creighton, testified further, that when the Belt was silenced the second time, she luffed up towards the commodore, instead of keeping away, as she should have done to fire at the President, and would have done if her rudder had been free. Commodore Rodgers expressed much humanity and anxiety to stop the firing.

Mr. Moll, testified that the commodore displayed great humanity.

Lieutenant Dallas heard two reports, one the shot against the President's mast, and the other the report of the gun from the Belt.

Silas H. Stringham, midshipman, saw the Belt fire first.

James H. Ludlow, midshipman, saw the same.

David G. Ingraham, midshipman, saw the same.

Lieutenant Creighton, testified to the offers of assistance from commodore Rodgers to the Belt the next morning.

Here the examination closed, having as we understand, embraced every deck officer, as well as captains of guns now on board the President, who were present during the action.—The hours when the chase and actions took place, with the course steered, and some technical sea terms, are omitted as unessential to the material objects of enquiry.

From the above it appears that every particular of commodore Rodgers' official statement is strictly correct; and, in general that made by captain Bingham, shewn to be false and scandalous—ever the place where the action ensued was 130 or 140 miles distant from where he described it. Every officer on board the President was examined, and all declared upon oath that the Little Belt fired the first gun. Had the captain suffered for his insolence instead of his crew, it would have been better. We hope there will be no more *Cheapeake* business: and he who refuses to support Rodgers and the honor of the American flag, must have feelings very different from those we possess on the subject.

It is lamentable that some amongst us (and persons of high standing too) were disposed to give implicit credit to Bingham's statement, and deny that made by Rodgers *in toto*. Rather to believe an unknown impertinent fellow, corrected for his insolence, and probable intoxication, than a man born of ourselves, of known reputation and unsullied character, whose honor is as unimpeachable as his courage is unquestioned. But the host of testimony will not overcome the prejudices of some, and the defence made by Rodgers will be construed into a crime!

Neither the government or its officer want justification. If Rodgers had not resisted, who would not have despised him? Will any man say that Great Britain would suffer our ships or hover on her coasts, impress her seamen, murder her subjects in the very mouths of her harbors, and capture her ships as they enter to leave her ports?—CERTAINLY NOT. And, if commodore Rodgers had received positive instructions to clear the coasts of these overbearing "lords of the ocean," the government would be supported in giving them—but it appears no such orders were issued, and that Bingham, *entirely*, brought on himself the chastisement he deserved.

The following extracts from late London papers may shew the feelings of the ministerial party on this event. The *London Gazette* is the official organ of the government—the *Courier* is understood to be immediately controlled by Perceval, Wellesley & Co. The British regard with particular tenacity all things relating to their navy; and the "affair" will probably form an important item in the matters submitted for negotiation, if negotiation is thought necessary.

"We have now the word of honor of captain Bingham, that the firing was commenced by Rodgers; and who will put the veracity of an American captain in competition with that of an honorable British officer!" [*London Gazette*].

"The American government having made such haste to publish Rodgers' account of his action with the Little Belt, as if they were anxious to shew their desire to shut the door against all negotiation, explanation and adjustment, our government have felt it their duty not to withhold captain Bingham's account. It will be found that we published a correct sketch of it in the *Courier*, of the 4th instant, and that the account given by the American is any thing but the true one. Captain Bingham knew her to be an American frigate by her colors; Rodgers, therefore, must have known that the Little Belt was but a sloop, and as our colors were hoisted, that she was a British sloop. But he came down upon us with an evident hostile intention, attempting to lay his ship in a position to rake ours. He did not hail us first as he asserted, following up

that impudent falsehood with a lecture upon the "rules of politeness." We hailed the first and second time, receiving each time only a repetition of our question. There was no single gun fired by us or on either side. But the American, the moment after he had hailed the second time, poured a broadside into our sloop, which of course was immediately returned, and an action took place; not of five minutes only, as the *Buccaneer* stated, but of three quarters of an hour—18 British guns against 44 American! And we never struck our colors! This is placed beyond a doubt by the *Buccaneer's* question and captain Bingham's answer. The next day the American sent a boat on board to express his regret "for the unfortunate affair," to tell a direct lie that he did not know our force to be so inferior, and to follow it up with another falsehood, that we fired the first gun.—"This," says captain Bingham, "was positively not the case," and if we had not the sacred word of a British officer, we still should have said how wholly improbable it was that a sloop of war should commence hostilities within pistol shot of a large 44 gun frigate.

"There is however one point of captain Bingham's letter in which we do not agree with him. He says, "by the manner he apologised, it appeared to me evident, that had he fallen in with a British frigate he would certainly have brought her to action." No, no: the man who could begin hostilities by attacking a vessel of so inferior force would have shrunk from a contest with a ship of equal force. However, we hope he will "fall in with a British frigate, and bring her to action."

"The American government having published *Rodgers's* account, and approved of his conduct, thereby precluding all negotiation; captain Bingham's letter having placed it beyond a doubt that the hostile conduct of the American was unprovoked, and that letter being coupled with admiral Sawyer's previous instructions, demonstrative of the anxiety of our government not to give the least provocation or cause of offence to the United States, there is but one course left for us to pursue. The blood of our murdered countrymen must be revenged, and war must ensue. The conduct of America leaves us no alternative; and therefore it is idle, if not worse, to treat the subject as if it were "an inconvenient dilemma which ministers," according to the opposition, have solely to attribute to their own folly, in not confirming Mr. *Erskine's* sensible arrangement." Of Mr. *Erskine's* sensible arrangement we have so often expressed our opinion, that it were unnecessary to repeat it. *We have behaved towards America with UNEXAMPLED FORBEARANCE; but that forbearance has produced INSOLENCE, AND THAT INSOLENCE MUST BE PUNISHED!!*"

[*Courier.*]

## French Statistics.

GENERAL RESULTS, FROM MANY AUTHORITIES.

*The chief of the items to be particularly noticed hereafter.*

### POPULATION.

The Parisian board of longitude give the following statement of the population of the French empire, 1811, distinguishing the inhabitants by the language they speak, and excluding the military—

French language . . .	27,916,000
Italian . . .	4,922,000
Flemish or Dutch . . .	4,411,000
German . . .	4,160,000
Lower Brittany . . .	1,075,000

42,424,000

This comprehends the late additions, and includes the three departments of the Ems—to which add—

The Roman state—Italian . . .	875,000
Valais . . .	126,000

Total population of the EMPIRE . . . 43,425,000

Another statement gives the population thus:

In the 112 departments of

France . . .	36,060,104
Kingdom of Italy . . .	5,439,555
Holland . . .	1,881,880

Total . . .

\*42,381,438

If to the mighty aggregate we add the other tributary or dependent kingdoms and states, we may venture to assert, with tolerable correctness, that the "emperor of the French" presides over not less than sixty five millions of the human race.

The military establishment of France varies according to circumstances—it is believed there have been more than a million of men under arms, excluding the forces of her allies or dependencies—the present amount of French troops, in round numbers, is about,

Say, of Infantry of the line . . .	300,000
Light infantry . . .	140,000
Cavalry . . .	100,000
Artillery and Engineers . . .	50,000

565,000

Besides these there is an imperial guard whose number is . . . 8,500

The active force at the disposal of

France, at the beginning of the year 1807, consisting of armed men . . .	1,144,000
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[At present we are not sufficiently informed of the naval power of France to venture on a statement which shall, however, be published when we possess the facts necessary to it.]

### REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, &c.

Therevenue, as well as the expenditures of France, being chiefly, if not entirely, at the will of the emperor, renders it almost impossible to form an exact calculation, as what he receives from *exterior* means is not fully known—the receipts, however, of all denominations, have been estimated at from 800 to 900 millions of francs—from 150 millions to \$168,750,000—the disbursements about the same—but, as observed before, these estimates are very uncertain, and compared with the revenue and expenditure of Great Britain, would appear not to amount to one half of what we might expect them to be. For instance, the whole support of the French armies and their contingent expenses, are stated to be about 300 millions of francs (say 60 millions of dollars)—the British *army expenditures* for the last year amounted to more than 80 millions. A French army, however, is supported at a less cost than a British army: provisions, &c. being much cheaper. We give the facts as we find them.

\* This amount by adding the "Roman state" and Valais, is nearly the same as the preceding.

The revenues of the ancient monarchy of France were about 90 millions of dollars; and the expenses generally exceeded the income 8 or 10 millions—the interest of the national debt, at the commencement of the revolution, was about 30 millions; and the pensions paid amounted to 5 millions. The interest of the public debt, with a certain sum allotted for its redemption, and amount of pensions paid, is, at this time, stated to be about 90 millions of francs *per annum* (\$1,787,500.)

## CITIES.

Paris, according to a late census, contained 547,576 individuals—the following curious estimate of some of the articles consumed (annually) by them is worth recording: 193,271 head of horned cattle; 55,365 hogs; 400,000 sheep, 36,500 dozen pigeons, besides an immense quantity of fowls; 100,000 cwt. of salt water fish, fresh and salted; 1,000,000 dozen of oysters; the value of 1,082,000 francs (\$187,861) in fresh water fish; 76,000 cwt. of wine: the value of 42 millions of francs (\$7,870,000); brandy to the value of 6,400,000 francs (\$1,300,000); vinegar to the value of 460,000 francs (\$86,200); cider about the same; 206,788,224 pounds of bread; 107,000 quarters of oats, and 42,500 ditto of barley.

Paris is distant from Rome, 840 miles; Naples, 966; Leghorn, 612; Venice, 690; Genoa, 540; Milan, 465; Turin, 480; Constantinople, 1596; Basle, 300; St. Petersburg, 1483; Prague, 900; Vienna, 840; Berlin, 636; Dresden, 636; Amsterdam, 276; Stockholm, 912; Copenhagen, 720; London, 270; Cadiz, 1080; Lisbon, 1020; Madrid, 750.

Among the cities of the *French empire* containing more than 50,000 inhabitants, are the following: Amsterdam, 220,000; Venice, 200,000; Milan, 170,000; Rome, 160,000; Hamburg, 160,000; Marseilles, 102,217; Lyons, 109,041; Bordeaux, 112,800; Rouen, 87,000; Genoa, 75,801; Florence, 75,207; Nantes, 77,128; Brussels, 72,280; Turin, 65,100; Lisle, 59,724; Antwerp, 62,025; Grand, 57,329; Leghorn, 50,582; Ghent, 56,000; Leige, 50,100; Thoulouse, 51,000; Bologna, 74,000, and many others, of which, as well as those as low as twelve thousand we may have occasion to publish a complete list.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

In 1787, it was estimated that France had tons of shipping 2,007,761  
The exports in the same year were rated thus:

Product of the soil, *livres* 311,472,000 } \$118,141,740  
Industry 251,132,000 }

The internal improvements in France are fully commensurate with the mighty views of her ruler; we have a list with a concise description of the several canals, which we intend to publish—for the present will only observe, that, for internal improvements this year, the emperor has appropriated \$28,000,000

*Agriculture* furnishes for the internal trade of France, articles to the value of 1,820 millions of francs \$341,650,000

To wit, wine and bandy worth 350 millions; oil 60; corn 700; cattle 400; forage 60; wood and charcoal 140; wool 35; silk 25, and hemp and flax 60 millions.

\* The franc is rated at 18 3/4 cents.

The *mineral* substances of France are calculated to give employ to 1,100,790 heads of families, and to produce an annual value of 150,102,000 francs \$28,147,425  
The vineyards in France are stated to produce each year on an average,

*galls* 492,750,000  
France, (proper) contains square miles 186,232  
But with its additions since the revolution 295,110

There are to each square mile in France *persons* 112

France (proper) contains *acres* 131,722,293  
The ploughed lands are estimated at

*acres* 70,000,000

Vineyards *do.* 6,000,000

Woodlands *do.* 16,500,000

Pasturelands *do.* 14,000,000

Heath, and uncultivated lands, rivers, lakes, &c. about *do.* 25,000,000

The bank of France has notes in circulation to the amount of 120 millions of francs. \$22,500,000

—The foregoing may suffice for a *general view*; we have spared no pains to make it as correct as possible, by many references to the best authorities.

—When we shall enter upon the details, as we propose to do, we expect to present a great number of interesting facts not commonly known; and by which we shall be able to point out the material errors, if any there should appear to be, in the above.

## History

## Of the Invasion of Spain by Bonaparte.

ABRIDGED FROM THE MOST AUTHENTIC SOURCES.

## CHAPTER II.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27.)

General Savary was now announced as envoy from the emperor and obtained an audience in that capacity. He professed that he was sent merely to compliment Ferdinand, and to know whether his sentiments with respect to France were conformable to those of the king his father; if it were so, the emperor would forego all consideration of what had passed; would in no degree interfere with the interior concerns of the kingdom; and would immediately recognize him as king of Spain and of the Indies. To this the most satisfactory answer was given. It neither was nor could have been the intention of the prince's party to offend France; the only hope which they had hitherto entertained of regenerating their government, had been by allying themselves with Bonaparte, and availing themselves of his power. One of the charges against Godoy which were current among the people, was that of a secret understanding with the English, and that he intended to deliver Cuesta into their hands, and fly with all his treasures under their protection. Nothing could be desired more flattering than the language of Savary during this audience; and he concluded it by asserting that the emperor was already near Bayonne, and on his way to Madrid.

No sooner however had this envoy left the audience chamber, than he began, as if in his individual capacity, to execute the real object of his mission. It would be highly grateful and flattering to his imperial majesty, he said, if the king would meet him on the road and he asserted, repeatedly, and in the most positive terms, that his arrival might be expected every hour. So positive was he in asserting this

hood, and so urgent in pressing the advice, that Ferdinand, incapable of believing, as he needs must have been, that this envoy of an emperor was sent merely for the purpose of deceiving him, yielded to his solicitations, half tempted by his flattery, and at the same time afraid to refuse what was so earnestly required. It is mournful to transcribe the language in which he communicated this resolution to the president of the council. (Ap. 8) "He had received certain intelligence, that his faithful friend and mighty ally, the emperor of the French and king of Italy, was already arrived at Bayonne, with the joyful and salutary purpose of passing through this kingdom to the great satisfaction of himself, (the king) and to the great profit and advantage of his beloved subjects. His absence could last only a few days, during which he expected from the love and fidelity of his dear subjects, who had hitherto conducted themselves in so praise-worthy a manner, that they would continue to remain tranquil; that the good harmony between them and the French troops would still be maintained; and that those troops should be punctually supplied with every thing necessary for their maintenance." On the same day he appointed his uncle, the Infante Don Antonio, president of the high council of government, as well, it was said, on account of the ties of blood, as because of the distinguished qualities with which he was endowed, to transact all necessary and pressing business which might occur during his absence. In this decree he stated that he should go to Burgos, evidently implying an intention at that time not to go farther.

Accordingly on the morning of the 11th of April, Ferdinand began this unhappy journey. Savary, affecting the most zealous and assiduous attention, solicited the honor of accompanying him;—he had just, he said, received information of the emperor's approach, and it was not possible that they should proceed farther than Burgos before they met him. They reached Burgos and Bonaparte was not there, neither were there any tidings of his drawing near. Savary who had followed the young king in a separate carriage, urged him to proceed to Vittoria. Ferdinand hesitated: but the same flatteries and falsehoods on the part of the French envoy, and the same anxiety and secret fear which had induced him to come this far, made him again consent. At Vittoria, Ferdinand received intelligence that Bonaparte had reached Bordaueux, and was on his way to Bayonne. In consequence of this advice, the Infante Don Carlos, who had been waiting at Tolosa, proceeded to the latter place, whither the emperor had invited him: he reached that city some days before him.

Measures were soon resolved on. Savary who had proceeded to Bayonne, returned thither with a letter from Bonaparte to Ferdinand. It began by acknowledging the receipt of that letter which the prince had written respecting the projected marriage before the affair of the Escorial, and the receipt of which Bonaparte had formerly denied. "Your highness" said he,—for the title of king was carefully withheld, "will permit me, under the present circumstances, to address you with frankness and sincerity. I expected that on my arrival at Madrid, I should have persuaded my illustrious friend to make some necessary reforms in his dominions which would give considerable satisfaction to the public feeling. The removal of the Prince de la Paz appeared to be indispensable to his happiness and the interest of the people. I have frequently expressed my wishes that he should be removed; and if I did not persevere in my application, it was on account of my friendship for king Charles, and a wish if

possible not to see the weakness of his attachments. Oh wretchedness of human nature! imbecility and error! such is our lot. The events of the North retarded my journey, and the occurrences at Aranjuez have supervened. I do not constitute myself judge of those events: but it is very dangerous for kings to accustom their subjects to shed blood, and to take the administration of justice into their own hands. I pray God that your highness may not one day find it so. It would not be conformable to the interest of Spain to proceed severely against a prince who is united to one of the royal family, and has so long governed the kingdom. He has no longer any friends; as little will your royal highness find any *should you cease to be fortunate*—the people eagerly avenge themselves for the homage which they pay us."

This was the language of a tyrant who felt that he held his power by no other tenure than that of force, and reconciled himself to his own usurpation by a base philosophy,—thinking ill of human nature because he could not think well of himself. What followed was more remarkable. "How," said he, "could the Prince de la Paz be brought to trial without implicating the king and queen in the process of exciting seditious passions, the result of which might be fatal to your crown. Your royal highness has no other right to it than what you derive from your mother. *If the cause injures her honor, you destroy your own claims.* Do not give ear to weak and perfidious councils. You have no right to try the Prince de la Paz; his crimes, if any are imputed to him, merge in the prerogative of the crown. He may be banished from Spain, and I may offer him an asylum in France."

The reader, will at once perceive the meaning of the infamous insinuation which is here made against the legitimacy of Ferdinand; and it will excite sensations of a very solemn character to reflect on the degradation of feeling which could not be roused at the bare suspicion. In what light soever the character of the prince may have been viewed through the dubious vista in which it has hitherto been concealed, here is an act which is stripped of all mystery, doubt or denial. That a man should tamely listen to such an accusation against his mother—that a king—a Spanish king, should thus be deterred from the punishment of "his bitterest enemies," the author of all his countries woes, and the man who had compelled him to sign a confession that he had conspired against the life of his father, can scarcely be credited by men who are alive to the slightest sensations of honor. But Ferdinand had resigned the sword of Francis I. and he wished to retain the crown of Spain.

With respect to the abdication, Bonaparte said, that as that event had taken place when his armies were in Spain, it might appear in the eyes of Europe and of posterity, as if he had sent those troops merely to expel a friend and ally from his throne. As a neighboring sovereign it became him, therefore, to inform himself of all the circumstances, before he acknowledged it. He added, "I declare to your royal highness, to the Spaniards, and to the whole world, if the abdication of king Charles be voluntary, and has not been forced upon him by the insurrection and tumults at Aranjuez, I have no difficulty in regarding and acknowledging your royal highness as king of Spain. I am therefore anxious to have some conversation with you on this subject. The circumstance which I have observed upon this point ought to convince you of the support you will find in me, should it ever happen that factions of any kind should disturb you on

your throne. When king Charles informed me of the affair of the Escorial, it gave me the greatest pain, and I flatter myself that I contributed to its happy termination. Your royal highness is not altogether free from blame; of this, the letter which you wrote to me, and which I have always wished to forget, is a sufficient proof. When you are king, you will know how sacred are the rights of the throne. Every application of an hereditary prince to a foreign sovereign is criminal." This letter seems to show that Ferdinand's letter related to something more than the proposal of marriage. That marriage, Bonaparte said, accorded, in his opinion with the interests of his people, and he regarded it as a circumstance which would unite him by new ties to a house whose conduct he had every reason to praise since he had ascended the throne.

After a threat about the consequences of any popular commotion, Bonaparte assured the young king that he had laid open the inmost sentiments of his heart, and that, under all circumstances, he should conduct himself towards him in the same manner as he had done towards the king, his father; and he concluded with this hypocritical form:—"my Cousin, I pray God to take you into his high and holy keeping."

Such a letter might well have alarmed Ferdinand, but he had advanced too far to recede, and the French troops in the neighborhood of Vittoria surrounded him, ready, no doubt, to intercept his retreat if he should attempt it. Cevallos and his other councillors, and the people of Vittoria, besought him not to advance. On the other hand general Savary assured him, with the most vehement protestations, that the emperor took the greatest interest in his welfare, and he offered to pledge his life, that within a few minutes after his arrival at Bayonne, he would be recognised as king of Spain and the Indies. The emperor, he said, to preserve his own consistency, would begin by giving him the title of highness; but he would presently give him that of majesty, &c. in three days every thing would be settled; and he might immediately return to Spain. Confused, terrified, feeling himself in the power of Bonaparte, the only ease he could find was in yielding implicit belief to those representations. By those who will pardon him for submitting to the disgraceful imputations on his birth, his credulity can hardly be condemned. The treachery was too complicated, too monstrous, to be suspected. Centuries had elapsed since any act of similar perfidy had stained the history of Europe.

He proceeded and crossed the stream which divides the two kingdoms. Scarcely had he set foot on the French territory, before he remarked, that no one came to receive him; a neglect more striking, as he had travelled so far to meet the emperor. At St. Jean de Luz, however, the mayor made his appearance, attended by the municipality. Too humble to be informed of Bonaparte's designs, and probably too honest to suspect them, he came to the carriage and addressed Ferdinand, expressing in the most lively manner the joy he felt at having the honor of being the first person to receive a sovereign friend and ally of France. Shortly afterwards he was met by the grandees, who had been sent to compliment the emperor: their account was sufficiently discouraging; but he was now near Bayonne, and it was too late to turn back. The prince of Neuchâtel (Berthier) and Duroc, the marshal of the palace, came out to meet him, and conduct him to the place which had been appointed for his residence—a place so little suited to such a guest that

he could not for a moment conceal from himself that it marked an intentional disrespect. Before he had recovered from this ominous feeling which such a reception occasioned, Bonaparte, accompanied by many of his generals, paid him a visit. Ferdinand went down to the street door to receive him; and they embraced with every token of friendship. The interview was short, and merely complimentary; Bonaparte again embraced him at parting.

Ferdinand was not long suffered to remain uncertain of his fate. Bonaparte, as if to prove to the world the callousness of his heart, as if he derived an unnatural pleasure in acting the part of a deceiver, invited him to dinner—sent his carriage for him,—came to the coach steps to receive him—again embraced him and led him in by the hand. Ferdinand sat at the same table with him as a friend, a guest and an ally; and no sooner had he returned to his residence than general Savary, the same man who by his persuasions and solemn protestations, had led him on from Madrid, came to inform him of the emperor's irrevocable determination, that the Bourbon dynasty should no longer reign in Spain; that it was to be succeeded by the Bonapartes; and therefore Ferdinand was required in his own name, and that of all his family, to renounce the crown of Spain and of the Indies in their favor.

Some danger had undoubtedly been anticipated by Cevallos, the duke del Infantado, and Escoiquiz, when they protested so urgently against his advancing from Vittoria; and he himself could not have been without misgivings. They might have apprehended, that the abdication should not immediately be acknowledged, or that it might have even been set aside: perhaps that a cession of territory might be demanded. But their gloomy forebodings had never imagined anything like this unrivalled villainy. Astonished as they were and completely at the mercy of the tyrant, who, by such repeated falsehoods, had decoyed them into his hands, they did not lose their courage. And when Cevallos, on the following day, was summoned to the palace, to discuss the terms of the renunciation with M. Champagny, the minister of foreign affairs, he complained of the perfidy which had been practised, protested, in Ferdinand's name, against the violence done to his person in not permitting him to return to Spain: and as a categorical and final answer to the emperor's demand, declared that the king neither could nor would renounce his crown; he could not do a prejudice to the individuals of his own family, who were called to the succession by the fundamental laws of the kingdom: and still less could he consent to the establishment of another dynasty, it being the right of the Spanish nation to elect another family, whenever the present should become extinct.

M. Champagny replied to this by insisting on the necessity of the renunciation, and contending that the abdication of Charles had not been voluntary. Of this assertion, which was as ill-timed as it was irrelevant, Cevallos readily availed himself, expressing his surprise that, while they condemned the abdication of Charles, as not having been his own free act, they, at the same time, were endeavoring to extort a renunciation from Ferdinand.—He then entered into details designed to prove that no violence had been done to the father-king, either by the people, the prince or any other person, and that he had retired from government by his own unbiassed will. But Cevallos protested against acknowledging the smallest authority in the emperor to intermeddle in matters which were purely domestic, and exclusively belonged to the Spanish

government, following, he said in this respect, the example of the cabinet of Paris, which rejected as inadmissible, the applications of the king of Spain in behalf of his ally and kinsman, Louis XVI. It was of little consequence that Ferdinand's minister triumphed in argument. M. Champagny abruptly turned the subject, by saying that the emperor never could be sure of Spain while it was governed by the Bourbon dynasty; for that family must necessarily regret to see its elder branch expelled from France. Cevallos answered, that in a regular system of things, family prepossessions never prevailed over political interests, of which the whole conduct of Charles IV. since the treaty of Basle, was a proof. Every reason of policy induced Spain to maintain a perpetual peace with France, and there were reasons why the continuance of that system was not of less consequence to the emperor. The generosity and loyalty of the Spaniards are proverbial; from that loyalty they had submitted to the caprices of despotism; and the same principle, if they saw their independence and the security of their sovereign violated, would call forth their well known valor.—If so atrocious an insult were committed, France would lose the most faithful and useful of her allies, and the emperor, by the artifices and falsehoods with which he entrapped the king to Bayonne, in order there to despoil him of his crown, would have so effectually stained his own character, that no confidence could hereafter be placed in treaties with him; and wars with him could be concluded by no other means than that of total destruction and extermination.

Bonaparte was listening to this conference. He lost all patience now, and ordering Cevallos into his own cabinet, the violence of his temper broke out. He called that minister traitor, for continuing to serve the son in the same situation which he had held under his father; he accused him of having maintained, in an official interview with general Moutheon, that Ferdinand's right to the crown stood in no need of his recognition, though it might be necessary to the continuance of his relations with France; and he reproached him still more angrily for having said to a foreign minister at Madrid, that, if the French army offered any violation of the integrity and independence of the Spanish sovereignty, 300,000 men would convince them that a brave and generous nation was not to be insulted with impunity. The emperor then entered upon the business of the renunciation, which he was determined should be made; and finding that Cevallos still insisted upon the rights of his master, the reigning dynasty, and the people of Spain, he concluded the conversation by these remarkable and characteristic words:—"I have a system of policy of my own: you ought to adopt more liberal ideas: to be less susceptible on the point of honor; and not sacrifice the prosperity of Spain to the interest of the Bourbon family."

Having found Cevallos so little inclined to yield, Ferdinand was informed that he must appoint another person to carry on the negotiation. While he was deliberating whom to choose, one of the French agents insinuated himself into the confidence of E. Coiquiz, and persuaded him to pay a visit to Champagny, from whom he received the propositions of Bonaparte in writing. These which were to be considered as the emperor's definitive demands from which he would not recede, and which were the most favorable that he would grant, declared his irrevocable determination that the Bourbon dynasty should no longer reign in Spain, and that one of his brothers should possess the throne. The com-

plete integrity of that kingdom and all its colonies was to be guaranteed, together with the preservation of liberty and property. If Ferdinand agreed to renounce his rights in his own name, and that of his family, the crown of Etruria should be conferred upon him according to the Salique law; and the emperor's niece be given him in marriage immediately, if he chose to demand her, upon the execution of the treaty. If he refused, he should remain without compensation, and the emperor would carry his purposes into effect by force. When Ferdinand had received these demands, he invested Don Pedro de Labrador, honorary counsellor of state, in whose talents he had great reliance, with full powers, instructing him to present them to the French minister or foreign affairs, and to demand his full powers, in return, that the proposals of Bonaparte might be communicated in an authentic manner. (Ap. 27.) The instructions given him which were drawn up by Cevallos, were to ask M. Champagny if king Ferdinand was at full liberty? if he were so, he would return to his dominions, and there give audience to the plenipotentiary whom the emperor might depute: if he were not, all acts at Bayonne were nugatory, and could have no other effect than to stain the reputation of Bonaparte before the whole world. Ferdinand he was charged to say, was resolved not to yield to the emperor's demand; neither his own honor, nor his duty to his subjects, permitting him. He could not compel them to accept of the Bonaparte dynasty, much less, could he deprive them of their rights to elect another family to the throne, when the reigning one should be extinct. It was not less repugnant to his feelings to accept of the throne of Etruria as a compensation; that country was under the authority of its lawful sovereign whom he would not prejudice, and he was contented with the kingdom which providence had given him.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

## Geography. MEXICO, OR NEW SPAIN.

(Continued from page 30.)

The *intendancy of Puebla*, bounded on the west by that of Mexico, has a surface of 2,696 square leagues, and 813,000 inhabitants—its greatest length is 118 leagues, and its greatest breadth 50 leagues. The general appearance of the country is similar to that of Mexico, already described. At the village of Atlixco is a famous cypress tree 73 feet in circumference—it is hollow. The greater part of the inhabitants of this intendancy are Indians; the descendants of the ancient republic of Tlaxcala, who greatly assisted Cortez in his operations against Mexico, still enjoying some trifling privileges.

The progress of improvement has been very slow in this intendancy, the greater part of the land belonging to the monks and priests, or chapters, corporations and hospitals.

*La Puebla de los Angeles*, the capital, standing on a plain about 7500 feet above the level of the sea, is one of the most wealthy and populous cities in America, containing 70,000 inhabitants. *Cholula*, a flourishing place, with 16,000 inhabitants. *Tlaxcala*, reduced from its ancient grandeur and great population, has not more than 4000 inhabitants. The other towns are inconsiderable. The mines in this intendancy, never very productive, are nearly abandoned.

The *intendancy of Guanaxtato* contains 911 square

leagues, and 517,300 inhabitants—being the best peopled of any district of New Spain. It is wholly situated on a ridge of mountains—rich in agricultural and mineral productions. The capital of the same name, is elevated nearly 7009 feet above the level of the sea, and, including the persons residing at the mines in its immediate neighborhood, may be said to have 70,000 inhabitants. There are several other flourishing places in this intendancy.

The intendancy of *Valladolid*, has a surface of 4,446 square leagues, and contains 376,400 inhabitants. It is bounded on the north by the *Rio de Lerma*, which, further east, takes the name of *Rio Grande de Santiago*; on the east it joins the intendancy of Mexico, on the north, Guanaxuato, on the west Guadalupe. It has 38 leagues of coast on the south sea.

This province is healthy, enjoying a mild and temperate climate. It has some high mountains; but the most remarkable mountain of the world is in this district, called *Volcan de Jorullo*, which rose out of the earth in the night of September 29, 1759—it is 1,695 feet higher than the level of the adjoining plains, and about 46 leagues distant from any other volcano. Our author reached its crater on the 19th of September, 1803. The rising of this mountain is one of the most remarkable phenomena recorded in history. A beautiful plain in this district, containing fields of sugar cane and indigo, carefully watered by artificial means, and in the highest state of cultivation, has become desert. In June 1759, subterranean noises were heard, and frequent earthquakes succeeded each other for the space of 50 or 60 days—then all things became tranquil; but on the night between the 28th and 29th of September the horrible subterranean noise recommenced—the affrighted Indians fled to the mountains of *Aguascalco*—a tract of ground, several miles in extent, “which goes by the name of *Malpays*, rose up in the shape of a bladder”—all the concomitants of a terrible volcano followed, and so it remains to this day. The surrounding plain for a great distance being unproductive and uninhabited from the excessive heat which prevails. Our author’s speculations on these events are curious, but foreign to our subject.

*Valladolid de Mechoacan*, the capital, enjoys a delightful climate, being seated 6,500 feet above the level of the sea. It is the residence of a bishop, and is supplied with excellent water from the neighboring mountains. Its population is about 18,000. *Panuco*, on the banks of a picturesque lake of the same name, is still venerated by the Indians, after the lapse of two and a half centuries, as containing the ashes of the famous *Vasco de Quiroga*, the first bishop of Mechoacan, whose labors in their behalf, though not more zealous were happily more successful, than those of the celebrated *Jus Casas*, bishop of Chiapa. The population is 6000.

This intendancy contains several mines.

The intendancy of *Guadalajara* contains 9,612 square leagues, and 630,500 inhabitants. It is bounded on the north by *Senora* and *Durango*, on the east by *Zacatecas* and *Guanajuato*, on the south by *Pachuca*, and on the west by the Pacific ocean. The country is crossed by the *Rio de Santiago*, that communicates with the lake of Chapala, and which one day may become highly interesting for interior navigation. The maritime regions abound with fine timber for ship building, but the country is not healthy. The interior enjoys a temperate climate. The agricultural productions of this intendancy (in 1802) were valued at \$2,600,000—of its

manufacturing industry, at 3,302,200. It has several mines, and a considerable volcano.

*Guadalajara*, on the left bank of the *Rio de Santiago*, is the residence of the intendant, the bishop, and the high court of justice (*Audiencia*.) It has a population of 19,500 souls. At *San Blas* are the dock yards—it is an unhealthy place. The other towns are unworthy of remark.

The intendancy of *Zacatecas*, having 2,355 square leagues, and 153,300 inhabitants, is a mountainous and arid tract of country. The table land of *Zacatecas* is generally 6,500 feet above the level of the sea. Some of the best mines of New Spain are in this intendancy. *Zacatecas*, a celebrated mining place, having nine small salt lakes in its vicinity, contains 38,000 inhabitants. The mine of the *Veta Negra de Sombrerete* exhibits an example of a seam of the greatest wealth yet discovered.

The intendancy of *Oaxaca* has 534,800 inhabitants on a surface of 4,447 square leagues, and is one of the most delightful countries on the globe, having a salubrious climate and very fruitful soil. It is bounded on the north by *Vera Cruz*, on the east by the kingdom of *Gualimaila*, on the west by *Puebla*, and on the north by the Pacific ocean. It is high and mountainous land, abounding with the plains before described. The inhabitants of this country consider the *Cerro de Senpualtepec*, near *Vilalta*, from which both seas are visible, as the most elevated of their mountains. Vegetation is beautiful throughout this intendancy—near the village of *Santa Maria del Tule*, there is a cypress tree 118 feet in circumference. *Oaxaca* is rich in Indian antiquities. In the ruins of *Milla* there are six porphyry columns, placed in the midst of a vast hall, to support the roof. Their height is equal to six diameters—the total height 16 feet 4 inches. The ruins of palaces, temples and sepulchres are numerous.

In this department is gathered the major part of the cochineal collected in Mexico. In it, also, is the residence of the family of *Cortez*, the chief of which, with title of Marquis, has a patrimony with 17,700 inhabitants.

*Oaxaca*, the capital, by the census of 1792, was found to have 24,000 inhabitants. *Tehuantepec* is the chief port of the intendancy—*San Antonio de los Ceus* is a populous place and celebrated for its remains of ancient Mexican fortifications. There are several mines worked in *Oaxaca*.

The intendancy of *Merida*, in 1803, had a population of 465,800 souls on a surface of 5,977 square leagues, and comprehends the great peninsula of *Yucatan*, situate between the bays of *Campeche* and *Honduras*. This district “is one of the warmest and yet one of the healthiest of equinoctial America;” but on the whole coast is not to be found one spring of fresh water—“on the northern coast, at the mouth of the *Rio Lagartos*, 1,300 feet from the shore, springs of fresh water shoot up from amidst the salt water.”

This country was never subject to the Mexican emperors—the first conquerors found houses built with stones cemented with lime, fields enclosed with hedges, and the people clothed and highly civilized. The Indian tribes inhabiting the mountainous districts still preserve their independence.

European grain does not grow in this province, the surface of the earth being too low—for it appears that under the torrid zone at an elevation of less than 4000 feet, wheat, &c. will not flourish. The chief trade from *Merida* is in *Campeche* wood.

*Merida*, the capital, about thirty miles from the sea coast, has 10,000 inhabitants. *Campeche* the



chief emporium of trade, has a population of about 6,000 souls.

The intendancy of *Veracruz* has 156,000 inhabitants, scattered over a surface of 4141 square leagues. It extends along the Mexican gulf, and includes a very considerable part of the eastern coast of New Spain. It lies under the burning sun of the tropics, and the plains are extremely fatal to life, though the mountainous parts, whose peaks are covered with eternal snow, are healthy. Here are felt all climates in a day's journey up or down the mountains. This province is enriched by nature with the most precious productions—among them are vanilla, myrtle, cocoa, tobacco, cotton, sugar, sarsaparilla, &c. The tobacco raised in this province yields a revenue of almost three millions and a half of dollars per annum.

This district appears to have suffered more than any other from the ravages of the Spaniards—many of the most fruitful plains have become deserts for the want of an Indian population, the climate being fatal to the whites.

In the northern part of the intendancy is a pyramidal edifice of great antiquity, situate in the midst of a thick forest. It was unknown to the first conquerors of the country, but accidentally discovered by some Spanish hunters about thirty years ago; the Indians concealing it as long as they could, as an object of veneration. It is built of stone, some of which are of an enormous size, covered with hieroglyphics, among which are serpents and crocodiles; the stones are highly polished, and cemented together with mortar. The base is 82 feet in length, and the height about 60 feet. This monument is composed of several stages; six are still distinguishable. A great stair of 57 steps conducts to the truncated top where human sacrifices were offered.

*Veracruz*, the capital, is the residence of the intendant, and the centre of the commerce of Mexico. This city is regularly built, and the police of late years represented to be very good. The fortress of San Juan Uina was constructed according to vulgar tradition, at the enormous expense of about 45 millions of dollars. This city is situated on an arid plain, destitute of running water, on which the north winds blow with so great impetuosity from October till April, as to form great hills of moving sand, from 25 to 35 feet high. Intermittent fevers and the yellow fever, (*vomito prieto*) rage here exceedingly. All the edifices of *Veracruz* are constructed of materials drawn up from the bottom of the sea, for no stone is to be found in its environs. Water is found at the depth of a few feet by digging in the sands; but this water proceeds from the filtrations of the marshes, and is of a bad quality. The rich drink rain water only, which they collect and preserve in cisterns. Many projects have been formed to supply this important place with wholesome water, and enormous expenses incurred,—none of which have proved successful. The population of *Veracruz* is about 16,000 souls. Cortez landed here on Good Friday, 1518. Xalapa, situate at the foot of a mountain, presents an eligible retreat for the rich merchants of *Veracruz*, who have their country houses here. It is elevated 4250 feet above the level of the sea, and its population is said to be 13,000. *Perote*, *Cordoba*, *Orizaba*, and *Tlaxiumpam* are the other chief places in this intendancy; which has no metallic mines of importance.

The intendancy of *San Luis Potosi* comprehends the whole of the north east part of New Spain—its northern limits are hardly determined, being covered either by desert countries, or districts inhabited by wandering tribes of Indians—it, however, is said

to contain 27,821 square leagues, and to have a population of only 334,900. The intendancy is again subdivided, 1. The province of *San Luis*, which contains the important mines of *Charcas*, *Potosi*, *Ramos*, and *Catorce*. 2. The new kingdom of *Leon*. 3. The colony of *New Santander*. 4. The province of *Cohahuila*. 5. The province of *Texas*, which borders on Louisiana.

This great tract of country is spoken of as generally fertile and salubrious; but with these advantages and having besides such valuable mines, it is thinly populated. It has 230 leagues of sea coast, but the trade is insignificant, and there is not a single good port. Through this intendancy passes the great road from New Orleans to Mexico, 540 leagues. Travelling is difficult from the want of water and habitations.

*San Luis Potosi*, the residence of the intendant, situate on the declivity of the table land of Anahuac, to the west of the sources of the Rio de Panuca, has a population of 1200. *Neuvo Santander*, is a sea port, but will not admit the entry of vessels drawing more than seven feet water. In the vicinity of this place the country is so desert that in 1802, "ten or twelve square leagues were sold for ten or twelve francs." *Charcas* is the seat of a deputation of the mines. At *Catorce* is one of the richest mines in New Spain, yielding annually about three millions of dollars. *Monterey*, is the seat of a bishop in the small kingdom of *Leon*. *Linuere*, *Manclava* and *San Antonio de Bejar* are all the other places of the intendancy worth naming.

(To be concluded in our next.)

## Manufactures.

Information concerning wool suitable for the cheapest supply of very strong and useful woollens and worsteds.

In the late experiments to procure *homemade* articles of military clothing for the United States, the success was greater than could have been expected, in the present unperfected and untried state of American manufactures. In regard to all goods made of cotton, for purposes requiring strength or neat uniform appearance, the present capacity of this country was manifested, on this occasion to be far greater than our actual or probable wants require. In this valuable class of cotton goods are included strong neat shirting and sheeting, cotton (and half-cotton) hose, cotton drilling for vests, pantaloons, gaiters, bedsacks, working frocks and trousers, rifle-frocks and overalls, knapsacks and haversacks, sewing cotton, and various small but necessary articles.

In the woollen branch offers were abundant, and the finer the goods or the materials proposed the more ready the disposition, abundant the quantity in proportion to the demand and moderate the prices. The best cloths, suitable for the commissioned officers, were offered upon terms the least advanced above the European prices, owing to the spreading of the merino sheep. The cloths for the non-commissioned officers and privates, were offered upon terms advanced upon the next degree of moderation above the European prices, because the great body of our native or old stock of sheep produce wool, which after picking out a little coarse and a good deal of fine, will do well for cloths suitable for these two purposes. But it is a substantial fact well worthy of observation and consideration, that the inferior qualities of strong heavy goods, though most easy to make (requiring no nicety of color, dressing, or finishing) were the most advanced

above the European goods of the same kinds, in the terms on which they were offered. The reason of this clearly appears to be, that a sufficient number of our sheep are not of the breed which yield great quantities of coarse wool. The description of goods made out of this sort of wool in England, are as follows :

Kendall woollen cloths (usually called Kendall cottons) in pieces of twenty yards, 27 and 28 inches wide, for nineteen or twenty four shillings sterling, undyed, used these ten or twelve years for vest backs.—White stoved twilled Kerseys for overalls, of the same widths, in 30 yard pieces, at 45 shillings and 6 pence to 48 shillings and 6 pence sterling, per piece. Undyed Bocking Baizes, 5 to 6 quarters wide, at 2 shillings to 2 shillings 2 pence sterling per yard. White stoved swanskins for vests, untwilled or plain, raised, about 7 8 of a yard wide, at 2 shillings per yard, and Blankets for the private men at 2 shillings to 2 shillings 4 pence sterling per pound.

It is plain, that there is not the least difficulty to procure an abundance of wool for these and all other purposes of the army, navy and hospitals. But it is certain they require a quality of wool inferior to what our sheep produce. It has therefore appeared to be a duty to bring these facts before the public, in order that our farmers may consider the propriety of breeding sheep, which are great bearers of long, coarse wool, the longer part of which is necessary for combing, and the shorter part of which will make Kendalls, Kerseys, bocking baize, drapey baize, Welch plains, and the best of this coarse wool is the kind fit for common point blankets. It is well understood, that in making this last mentioned important article, if the coarse wool be too long, the manufacturers in England chop it with an axe, that it may be the better raised by the card, after the blankets have been wove.

It is well known, that there are sufficient numbers of these heavy fleeced sheep in the country, for breeders. They ought to be taken great care of and used to get up a sufficient stock of common wool. In England, they breed both kinds (besides Merinos) and keep the breeds and flocks carefully separated. It is to be observed, that these heavy fleeces would be in weight, more than double the light ones, yet they will sell within ten per cent. or, perhaps, five per cent. in price, of the good common wool.

The manufacture of the coarser hosiery and coatings and cheapest wool hats and carpets, require these cheap and heavy fleeces.

It is well known, that no nation has ever assisted their manufactures and business in general so effectually as the English, by breeding animals suitable to the various objects and purposes. As we are to hold competition with them we must do the same.

It is believed, on repeated examination and consideration, that these ideas about heavy fleeces of coarse wool are founded in absolute truth, and highly important to our manufactures of strong, useful and coarse woollens, and especially of all worsted stuffs and worsted hosiery, as this wool can, nearly all, be prepared by the comb—not by the card. Callimancoes, shalloons, rattinets, durans, tammies, camblets, marcens, bombazets, bombazines, worsted hosiery, caps and mittens, and other useful goods, can only be made of wool long enough to be combed. The merino and other fine wool cannot be combed. It must be carded, and is fit only for woollen, not worsted goods.

Democratic Press.

## Miscellaneous Intelligence.

### Literary, Political, Philosophical, &c.

ITALY.—Indigo.—Doctor Victor Micheliotti has communicated to the academy of sciences of Turin, a new mode of extracting indigo from the plants, the *isatis* and the *pastel*.

The *isatis* is called by the Piedmontese *Fond*: the leaves of it are boiled to obtain the fecula by filtration:—this fecula which is composed of a green matter, of wax and of the indigo, must be thoroughly washed with clear water, and at length dissolved in a solution of caustic pot ash, the whole being boiled together. By a new filtration a very obscure liquor is obtained, which concentrated and calcined by the same process as is used to the blood employed in making Prussian blue, yields a good Prussian ley for the preparation of the color. Afterwards a great quantity of water must be poured on to the greenish matter which remains on the filtre. This matter is the indigo: the presence of which is manifested by the edges becoming blue, mingled with the greenish matter and the wax. The action of the air completes the blue color of the whole. [The allusion of Prussian blue in this process, derived from a vegetable substance, will appear interesting to those who are acquainted with the theory of that color.]

Cultivation of Cotton.—Turin, March 18.—The extraordinary rains of last autumn were the only cause that hindered the cultivators of cotton from gathering the fruits of their labors. It is now—at this season of the year, proper to suppose that the periodical return of the former temperature of the departments beyond the Alps, will at length crown the efforts of all those who see in the cultivation of this plant an additional mean of prosperity for this country. The cotton has become naturalized to the climate; and has vanquished in great part the obstacles presented by nature. It is therefore necessary to continue an undertaking of which the success, hitherto eventual, cannot fail of becoming certain, with the favorable influence of the seasons. Government has sent a supply of seed, which may be attained by all who are willing to extend this cultivation.

Improvements.—Rome, January 1.—All the streets leading out of the Piazza St. Petri, will be cleared down to the Tiber; by this improvement, that spacious square, the finest in the world, hitherto completely concealed, will be seen from the bridge St. Angelo, and all the banks of the Tiber. *Antiquities*.—Treviso, February 18.—A large building ornamented with columns, has been recently discovered at Pompeia; it appears to have been a public place. With the exception of a few vases it contained nothing remarkable.

The excavations at Ostia have been suspended for some time; when they are resumed, it is probable that some important discoveries will reward the labor, as Ostia, formerly a rich and extensive city, was suddenly overwhelmed by an inundation of the Tiber. The little of the ancient city which has been discovered, shows that it was built in the same style and manner as Pompeia. The Temple of Neptune only, situated on a rising ground, is completely cleared and accessible. That of Mercury, in which that divinity is seen with a purse in his hand, is only half cleared. A beautiful Venus has been found, perfectly preserved, and entirely similar to that of the capital.

PRUSSIA.—Berlin, February 14.—English goods. We daily see pass a great number of waggons laden with English goods, seized at Koningsburg and going to Magdeburgh. The King being unable to

send cash to France, *remits* these as part payment of his obligations. They are estimated at six or seven millions of Prussian crowns in value.

SPAIN. Madrid, January 20.—*Paper currency.* All paper money has lost much of its currency; but the vales of Ferdinand are worth 8 per cent. more than those of Joseph.

SWITZERLAND.—*Land recovered from inundation.* The river of Linth, which descends from the Alps of the canton of Glaris, had, in less than 50 years raised its bed 18 feet. This elevation of the soil stopped the course of the Maag, which was the outlet of the lake of Wallerstein: hence arose an augmentation of the waters of the lake, and frequent inundations of the towns of Wallerstein and Wesen, and the whole country covered with stagnated water, became extremely unwholesome. M. Escher of Zurich, a celebrated mineralogist, at the head of a company, undertook to remedy these evils and has succeeded. He has constructed a mole of rock stones, in length 15,000 feet: has formed a new canal for the Linth, in length 50,000 feet, with roadways on the sides; and has recovered so much ground from the waters that it has become security for 4,000 shares of the undertaking, at 200 francs per share, with a certainty of the expences being covered.

SAXONY.—*Extraordinary expences.* Leipsic, Feb. 15. The estimate of extraordinary expences for the ensuing six years is now submitted to the diet. It amounts to 11,606,000 Saxon crowns; and with those now current makes 21 millions of crowns, exclusive of 5 millions or more which may be required to finish the fortress of Torgau.

Commerce. The ukase of the emperor of Russia that prohibits the entrance of foreign manufactures, has hurt our commerce. At our fairs we were accustomed to see every year, a great number of Russian traders and Jews, who made considerable purchases.

PORTUGAL.—*Bread.* The Portuguese papers recommend the general adoption of bread formed of a mixture of flour and potatoes. They observe that the excellence of it has been proved by experience and if generally used there would be no want of bread, as they have abundance of potatoes: and that by thus turning to advantage the produce of their own country large sums would be spared which are now sent abroad for wheat.

*Amount of provisions which entered the port of Lisbon in the month of February last.* 5,792 bushels, 17 alquiers, 462 sacks, 1200 barrels, and 3000 quintals of wheat—757 bushels, 37 alquiers, and 3000 sacks of barley: 2,436 bushels, 35 alquiers, 1,260 sacks, and 200 barrels of maize; 231 bushels, 115 sacks, and 20 barrels of harricores; 5 bushels of peas, 220 tons, 80 sacks, and 72 chests of potatoes; 3,899 casks, and 1,085 sacks of flour; 729 casks of flour of maize; 4,532 quintals, and 200 casks of salted cod fish; 390 barrels of salmon, 4,701 casks of butter; 5,650 barrels of beef; 400 chests of cheese; 317 pipes of olive oil; 933 pipes of wine; 103 pipes and 3 barrels of brandy; 40 casks of dried figs.

GREAT BRITAIN.—*Broad Cloth.* The Bath Chronicle states, on the authority of circular letters transmitted by two of the most respectable manufacturers in that neighborhood, the following reduction in the best superfine broad cloths per yard:

	Credit.	Cash.
Common colors	25s.	21s.
Greens, blacks, &c.	24	22
Blues	27	25
Double mill'd Kersymeres	11	10
Single do.	10	9

*Excessive prodigality.*—The late duke of Queensbury's Tokay fetched only £84 per dozen quarts, or £7 per bottle! More than that: the Noyau, sold at £16 4s. per dozen, had been but a short time purchased from the manufactory in London at 6 guineas per dozen. Such is the efficacy of a title.

*Military allowance for wine.* The prince regent has ordered an allowance to be made the military messes of all regiments in proportion to their strength, equivalent to the drawback of the duty on wine to the navy on board their ships. A regiment of ten companies will have an allowance of £250 per annum, and so in proportion to regiments under that number.

PRUSSIA. Berlin March 16. *Eminent chirurgial abilities honored.* The 5th of this month the physicians and surgeons of this capital, gave a dinner in honor of the professor in surgery, M. Marsinna, to celebrate the 50th year of his profession, and the services he has rendered his country. The operations performed by this most respectable man are innumerable:—he has restored sight to more than 900 individuals. The king honored him with a letter and present on this occasion.

GERMANY. *Tour of a century.* From Sultz in the kingdom of Wirttemberg, we have the following anecdote. "A workman who had left this town at the age of 20 years to make, what is called in Germany, 'his apprenticeship journey' [or travels from city to city, for the purpose of obtaining improvements in his art] has lately returned after an absence of one hundred years. He was in good health, but, as might be expected, he found great difficulty in explaining to whom he was related, and bringing himself to the recollection of his townsmen.

\* \* \* If this man is capable of writing his history during his hundred years travels for improvement, we should be glad to peruse his memoirs: the antiquity of some of his remarks would ensure their novelty.

HAMBURG.—*Births, marriages and deaths* in 1810, among the Lutheran inhabitants: births, 3841, deaths 4806, marriages, 1667.

HOLLAND.—*Amsterdam*—Deaths in 1810, 7804—baptisms in the Lutheran and Calvinist parishes, 4454—marriages 2131—Catholics, Jews and other sects, not included in this enumeration.

NEW HOLLAND.—A safe and commodious harbor has been lately discovered, about 70 miles N. W. of Kongaroo Island, on the western coast of New-Holland. It is represented as capable of containing any number of ships of the largest size completely sheltered.

EAST-INDIES.—*Singular occurrence.* Berampore, May 22, 1810.—The only news which I have to communicate to you is an extraordinary event which took place here a few days ago. The water in our Tank, which I have known these 34 years, changed suddenly to the color of dark green, and an immense quantity of fish, many of whom weighing from 10 to 18 seers, floated dead on the surface of it. Some few were taken out by the natives and carried away—the remainder were transported by hackney loads and buried, or applied to the purpose of manure. This strange occurrence is attributed by most people to the recent earthquakes, which I understand were felt in Calcutta.

It is stated that the emperor of Russia, has presented Dr. RUSN, of Philadelphia, a very elegant and valuable ring, as a mark of respect for his writing upon pestilential diseases.

## The Chronicle.

Baltimore, September 21, 1811.

The papers continue barren of intelligence.—London dates to the 2nd of August have been received at Boston. The king was then alive.—British vessels are said to be admitted freely into the Russian ports—the Turks have been obliged since their defeat, mentioned in our last to cross the Danube—a peace was expected.—Various rumors are afloat as to a new coalition between Sweden, Denmark, Russia and England against France, but we consider them unworthy of the least credit.—affairs in Spain and Portugal have not assumed a different aspect since our last notice of them—but it is said the Spaniards are jealous of the English, and have refused to admit a large body of their troops into Cadiz. 20,000 men were expected to arrive at Lisbon, from England, about the 10th of August.

*Senate of Maryland.*—The electoral college of Maryland met at Annapolis for the purpose of choosing senators, on Monday last. The following gentlemen, all republicans, were chosen :

Wm. Pinkney and Levi Hollinsworth, Baltimore; Wm. McCreery, Baltimore county; John Williams, Worcester; Solomon Frazier, Dorchester; Frederick Holbrook, Caroline; Edward Lloyd, Talbot; James Brown, Q. Anne; William Hollingsworth, Cecil; Elijah Davis, Hartford; Upton Bruce, Alleghany; Wm. Thomas, St. Mary's; Lloyd Dorsey, A. Arundel; Moses Tabbs, Washington; Thomas Hawkins, Frederick.

The city of Charleston was visited by a dreadful tornado on Tuesday the 10th instant. It came on at the S. E. point of the city, overturning, destroying or greatly damaging, in its progress many houses and outbuildings, trees, fences, &c. it is computed that the loss of this city is little short of that experienced by the great fire in October last—besides, several valuable lives were lost.

The tornado appears to have been about one hundred yards wide; it passed through the city from S. E. to N. W. unroofing most of the houses, casting down their chimneys, or literally prostrating them to the ground. Ten persons are mentioned as killed—it was supposed there were several others not reported, and a great many had their limbs broken, bruised, &c.

"This dreadful visitation, (says the writer of the account in the Charleston paper,) is more afflicting than even the ravages of conflagration. The tornado struck suddenly; passed through the city with the rapidity of lightning, and in an instant involved in destruction and death both the habitations and inhabitants. No notice of the approaching danger was given and before friendship and humanity could fly to the relief of the sufferers, all was involved in ruin. It was preceded by a momentary deceitful calm, and was attended by a steady rumbling noise, resembling that of a carriage rattling over a pavement." [A particular account in our next.]

The mayor of New-York has issued a proclamation forbidding all intercourse with the city of Amborg, in New Jersey, being informed of the prevalence of an infectious or pestilential disease in that city.

Governor Harrison of the Indian territory, has ordered a detachment of the United States troops to march and break up the *Shawnee* association, and a party of volunteers from Kentucky were about starting to join them. It is to be regretted that the Indians, in listening to the councils of the wretches who have always deceived them, should provoke

their own extermination, and, perhaps, render it necessary. The general conduct of the British in Canada, from lord *Dorchester* down to the humblest officer in "his majesty's" service, has been base, inhuman and detestable: and must be checked.

*THE POPE.*—In a *Cadiz* paper of June 29, is the following notice of the Pope: "The public papers announce, that the holy father has been carried by order of Bonaparte, from Savona to Tortona, a fortress of Piedmont. The coincidence of this occurrence with the assembling of the Italian and French cardinals and Bishops at Paris, by order of Bonaparte, gives occasion to many conjectures."

In *St. Domingo*—"Henry I. king of Hayti," appears to have established his power in the north part of this island—the south is divided between the rival chiefs, Petion and Rigaud, by turns at war with each other and the king.

The famed *Francisco de Miranda*, is general in chief of the patriot armies of Caracas. On the 7th of August, he reduced New Valencia, a tory district of the new republic. The European Spaniards, loath to give up their supposed superiority and accustomed influences, have made many attempts to provoke insurrection.

We learn from various sources, that Miranda is suspected of aiming at supreme power, civil and military—and that he is closely watched by the people, jealous of their new-born liberty.

Intending to have published an extra *REGISTER* this week, but which, at a late hour, we were disappointed in doing, some articles intended for this number, have been unavoidably omitted; and others, of necessity, inserted, we would rather have deferred for our next. In the ensuing week the design shall be accomplished, and every exertion made to keep pace with the increase of our patronage.

As no important political discussion is at present before the people of the United States, we continue silent; but when the proper time arrives intend to fulfil our engagements, with impartiality.

The editor again has the pleasure to present his thanks to more than one hundred new subscribers, obtained during the week, and is highly gratified to learn the favorable reception the *REGISTER* has generally received. He begs information as to irregularities or omissions—that they may be rectified, well knowing that at the commencement of a work like this, (when in the departments under his own immediate control, he is unable, as yet, to arrange his matters as he wishes them) it is almost impossible that such things should not occur.

It is proper to observe that the account of the proceedings of the court of enquiry inserted in this number, is not official: it is copied from the New-York *Columbian*, but doubtless, substantially correct—should it appear otherwise, the official account will be published as soon as received. We may also remark that captain Bingham's statement has been confirmed by three or four persons on board his ship. At the request of several gentlemen, who wish to have all the facts before them at one view, and to preserve them, we shall in a future number insert the official papers connected with the attack on the *Cherapeake*.

On hand, prepared for the press, an analytical review of the essay on the principle of population, by T. R. Malthus: and several other valuable articles, which shall be disposed of as speedily as possible.