

Military movement.

NATCHEZ, Jan. 14.—Monday last an express arrived at Cantonment Washington, with orders from general Hampton for the immediate movement of the army. Since that time the greatest activity has prevailed, and the troops descended the river last night. We have been told that this movement is made in consequence of information received by general Hampton from Fort Stoddard, that governor Polk is strengthening Mobile and drawing all the troops from Pensacola to that point.

We learn that governor Holmes has received a despatch from Port St. Stevens, which confirms the account of Polk's strengthening himself at Mobile. It is certainly extremely probable that the whole army will descend to N. Orleans, from whence it will be conveyed by water to the point in contention.

Extract from the Government paper of the Havana, dated January 5.

"An order having been issued by the Superior Government to collect all the American cheese imported into this city, with a view to prevent the dreadful consequences, which on repeated occasions, had arisen to different persons who had eaten it; a quantity was deposited in the public store, until the analysis committed to the care of the Royal College of Physicians were concluded. Upon opening the door of said store on the 31st December last, a number of rats were found dead which had eaten of the cheese; this new proof is a sufficient recommendation to the public, that too much precaution cannot be taken for the care of health."

Horrid Murder and Suicide!

NORFOLK, Jan. 28.—It is almost impossible for the imagination to conceive a more horrible and tragical event in a civilized community, than the one which we have now the disagreeable task of announcing, and in recounting of which the pen recoils with horror.

The particulars of this abominable deed we have from a young man who was a distant spectator of this shocking catastrophe, as given before the coroner's inquest. About one o'clock P. M. on Saturday last, a young man named David Frank, who was in the employ of Mrs. Collins, of this borough, was seen walking with Miss Ann Collins, the eldest daughter of his employer (a charming young girl of 14 years of age) on an island opposite her mother's residence, and on which some negroes were at work. They had not proceeded many paces during the witness' observation, when he perceived Frank encircle Miss C's waist with his arm, when she suddenly rushed from him, uttered a most violent shriek and instantly fell! upon which Frank immediately ran to the adjoining creek and threw himself into it, apparently with the intention of drowning himself, in which being baffled by the shallowness of the water, he returned to the shore, which he had no sooner regained, than he also fell. The witness, on perceiving these strange unaccountable proceedings, procured a canoe and crossed the creek, without delay, when on attempting to raise the young lady (little dreaming of her melancholy fate) perceived her throat cut from ear to ear!!! As soon as he recovered from the shock which so horrid a spectacle naturally produced, he approached the young man whom he found weltering in blood, and on examination he found his throat cut so effectually that his head was nearly severed from his body!!!—He was lifeless, but the detestable weapon with which he had rendered himself so, (a short butcher's knife) was unclenched in his hand.

Frank was a well conducted young man of about 21 years of age, and said to be of a respectable family in or contiguous to Richmond—but from the superscription of a one of his letters handed us this morning, supposed he is from Washington city. There are various and contradictory reports afloat as to the motives of his committing this diabolical act; but the one most prevalent is, that of being thwarted in his affection for the young innocent who fell a victim to his temerity.

WATERFORD, Dec. 21.—About two months ago a lady purchased a puppy in the streets, from a woman who was exposing it to sale, which was admired by every person that saw it for the peculiar beauty of its hair, and the fineness of its texture. A few days since poor Phillis was taken ill, and declined her food, all the female friends and old maids in the parish were constant in their inquiries after the health of the animal. After much suffering, the cause of the illness was discovered. As she grew larger her pain increased, when at length she was completely cured by the burr from an artificial skin of a dead dog, which had been taken from her, and the beautiful Phillis now appears in her proper person, and the next day and next night she was in the city.

at dimensions. These kettles should be fixed in a row, the smallest at one end, the middle sized next, and the largest at the other end.—When there is a quantity of sap collected, put as much in the largest kettle as can be conveniently boiled in it; then throw in as much lime or lye as may be deemed necessary to make the liquor granulate. Keep a moderate fire for some time, and as the foam rises, take it off with a skimmer; after the liquor is pretty clear, increase the fire and boil it briskly, till so much is evaporated, as that which remains may be boiled in the middle kettle; * into which the liquor must be strained through a blanket; under this kettle, keep a good fire, and take off the foam as it rises. As soon as the liquor is taken from the large, and put into the middle kettle, fresh sap must be put into the former, and treated as before directed, and so on, till all the sap is boiled.

When the liquor is sufficiently evaporated in the middle kettle, to admit its being boiled in the smallest, it must be put into the last, where it must be boiled, until it gets to a proper consistency to make sugar. When the liquor is taken from the middle kettle into the smallest, the former must be supplied, as before directed, from the largest, with fresh sap. The liquor, in the small kettle, must be boiled briskly, until it gets pretty thick, when the fire should be lessened, to prevent its burning. When the liquor rises in the kettle, a piece of butter or fat, the size of a hazle nut, may be thrown in; if this quantity does not make it boil flat, more should be added, until it answers the purpose, and this must be repeated as often as the liquor rises. When it is boiled enough, which may be known by the manner of its roping between the thumb and finger, it must be put into a cooler or tub, when the small kettle must be supplied with liquor from the middle sized one, that with more from the largest, and the large one with fresh sap, as before directed. When one third of the sap, that has been collected, is boiled and put into the cooler, it must be stirred briskly about with a stirring stick (which may be made like a small paddle) until it grains, when it may be left (if the business has been well done) until another third of the liquor is boiled, and put into the cooler: it must be then moved about with the stirring stick, until it is well mixed together—when the remainder of the liquor is boiled and put into the cooler, it must again be moved about with the stirring stick, until the whole is well mixed, when it must be put into moulds; earthen would be best; but wooden moulds may be made to answer the purpose, by nailing or pinning four boards together, so shaped as to make the mould one inch diameter at the bottom, and ten or twelve inches at the top; the length may be two feet, or two feet and an half—these moulds must be closely stopped at the small ends, with old coarse linen, or some such thing, and set up with something to stay them; the sugar must then be taken from the cooler, and poured into the moulds—next morning the stoppers must be taken out, and the moulds be put on troughs, or some vessel to drain their molasses. In the evening, the loaves must be pierced at the small ends, to make them run their syrup freely—this may be done by driving a wooden pin, (shaped like a marling spike) three or four inches up the loaf; after which they must be left to drain their molasses, which will be done in a shorter or longer time, according as the sugar has been boiled.

No part of the business requires greater attention than granulating or graining the sugar in the cooler, and afterwards frequently observing the state it is in—if too thick, it may be remedied by boiling the remaining liquor lower, than that which was boiled before—if too thin, by stirring the cooler again, and boiling the remainder of the liquor higher, or more.

A SUGAR BOILER.

The making of sugar is quite common and easy with a single kettle of any size.

* Some liquor should be left in the large kettle, if an iron one, otherwise there would be a danger of its splitting, upon putting in cold liquor.

† Dip a stick into the liquor, apply the thumb to it, and take part of what adheres to the stick, then draw it two or three times between the thumb and finger.

POTATOES.

From the very extraordinary produce of one potatoe planted whole, it is evident that the cultivation of that useful root in this country is merely in its infancy. In the latter end of June last, Mr. Frazer, Sloane-Square, planted in his garden a new species of potatoe, which, in the course of his botanical researches he brought last spring from the Alleghany mountains of North America, and by a peculiar mode of cultivation, there grew from the original parent upwards of one hundred stems, each measuring in length about sixty feet six inches. Two days ago

these stems were dug, when the produce weighed 23 pounds, whereas the seed potatoe did not weigh quite two ounces. Each of the potatoes on an average measured six inches in length and the same in circumference. It is of a red color, and is remarkably dry and mealy, and it is believed, had this potatoe been planted in March, that the produce would have been at least equal to three bushels. What a valuable discovery this is to the poor cottager.—London p.

From the RURAL VISITOR.

SOAP MAKING.

IT is customary with house-keepers, as well as professed soap-boilers, to mix lime with their ashes previous to drawing off the lye. The consideration of the office which is performed by the lime, viz. that of abstracting the fixed air, which would otherwise prevent the union of the fat and lye, has suggested the following experiment, which has proved satisfactory.

To a large kettle of lye, while on the fire, was added a quarter of a peck of quick lime; this was stirred till the whole was nearly boiling, and then poured into tubs to settle. The fat now being set over the fire and melted, the clear lye was gradually added, when an almost instantaneous union took place; the result of which was a soap of the finest quality. The whole process occupied about two hours.

N. B. It is supposed that soap is made with the greatest success in the increase of the moon. A multitude of well authenticated facts render it certain that the influence of the moon on vegetation, on the sinking of manure, &c. is very considerable. Does not this subject deserve philosophical investigation?

Anecdote.—A countryman from the wilds of Cumberland, several years ago, came to London on some business respecting his uncle's affairs, who had died intestate, and had left two young children without a guardian or executor. Before departing from home the man had got advice as to the mode of conducting himself, but not being much versed in the technical lore of the Inns of Court, had substituted in his mind expressions more familiar. On knocking at the door of the civilian to whom he had been recommended, the gentleman himself came to admit him; when the Cambrian accosted him as follows:—"Pray sir, does there a civil villain live here?"—"What?" says the other, "do you come to insult me?"—"Yes, sir," said the countryman, "I came on purpose; my uncle is dead detested; he has left two young infidels, and I am come to see if I can be their executioner!"

Bonaparte's Decree relative to Servants.

This last addition to the Code Napoleon, with many traits of novelty in it, is not perfectly original. The valets de place in Paris, were supposed, and the gondoliers in Venice were known to be the agents of their respective governments, and under the direct control of the police. The celebrated marquis d'Argens gives us a curious instance of the vigilance and industry of the latter in the discharge of their honorable office. A Frenchman being in a gondola, in company with a Venetian, who was a stranger to him, according to the laudable habit of his countrymen, says the marquis, began to expatiate upon the excellence of the government of France, including in his panegyric some severe strictures upon that of Venice. The stranger was silent, but the Frenchman persevered in his loquacity until they parted. The following night he was seized in his bed by the officers of the state inquisitors, and, suspecting the cause, while they were carrying him to prison, was pronouncing "curse, not loud but deep," against the perfidy of his late companion, whom he, naturally enough, supposed to be the informer. His astonishment, however, may be easily guessed, when upon being introduced into a large subterranean hall he saw the supposed informer hanging by the neck from the roof. While he was in momentary expectation of similar treatment, a voice, from above the vault, addressed him in the following terms:—"Let this be a caution to you, sir, how you meddle with the affairs of state. Your big-

ing a stranger is your only excuse, and to that circumstance you are indebted for your life. Your companion, however, had not that excuse, and ought, therefore to have anticipated the regular spies of the Republic. Let his fate be a warning to you." After this lecture, the prisoner was discharged, and although we are not informed of his subsequent behavior, it is fair enough to suppose that the hint, not "to meddle with the affairs of state," was not lost upon him.

Bad as such a system of espionage must be confessed to have been, the tyranny of it bears no proportion to that which the decree of the French Emperor has now established. A man was not obliged to hire a valet de place, or to go into a gondola; and when in the bosom of his family, might venture to speak with some degree of confidence. But, under the present regime, that is impossible. The sense of security which the domestic circle is calculated to inspire, is extinct, and a joke, an expression uttered in the moment of conviviality or passion, might be the occasion of his death.

The principle of universal espionage has been long acted upon by the French Emperor; but, until now, it was not embodied into a law. Even during his consulship, the severity of the system of police, by far exceeded that which was established, for a very different purpose, by the celebrated Monsieur de Sartine. This is proved by what happened to captain Auvergne, after his arrest and committal to the temple. Upon passing through one room to another, destined for the place of his confinement, he lay, lying on a straw bed, an emaciated wretch, who, upon his entrance, exclaimed, "Mon Dieu! un autre victime!" and then sunk down apparently exhausted. The Englishman's heart was affected, and he asked the jailer if he could procure him something to eat, giving him a guinea for the purpose. The jailer returned soon with a cold fowl and a bottle of wine, and offered the change of the guinea to captain Auvergne, which the latter desired him to keep for his trouble, at the same time requesting him, as a favor, to let the unfortunate prisoner in the next apartment come in to partake of the refreshment. The keeper of the prison was not entirely fit for his office. He looked at the captain for some moments in silence, but in a very significant manner. At length he uttered in a low tone of voice, "tenez vous tranquille, mon ami, c'est un moulin," and immediately quitted the apartment.

Upon inquiring afterwards as to the signification of the term "moulin," captain Auvergne was informed that it meant a description of spy, whose business it was, under pretence of being confined by government, to insinuate himself into the confidence of real prisoners, and to make a faithful report of whatever they might utter in the moments of irritation.

FROM THE UNITED STATES.

IMPORTANT!

BALTIMORE, Feb. 19.—From a source the most respectable we are informed, that Mr. Morier, British charge des affaires, has made known to our government, that the official information (made public) from Mr. Russell, that the French decrees are not revoked, will be fully credited by the British government—and that they will be compelled to consider a continuance of the non-intercourse against them exclusively, as a measure of hostility, demanding immediate steps to meet it.

Latest from Buenos Ayres.

February 17.—Captain Gardner, of the ship Fame, arrived below from Buenos Ayres, informs that when he sailed that port was blockaded by the Monte Video Squadron, consisting of two corvets, three brigs, one schooner and one felucca, Ad. De Courcy commanding the British Squadron on the Brazil station, had insisted on raising the blockade as respected English vessels; the Squadron gave way, at the same time the government of Monte Video protested against the conduct of the British Admiral. A certain number of days had been allowed to the neutral vessels at Buenos Ayres to complete their business, at the expiration of which it was expected they would be obliged to depart. The Junta at Buenos Ayres were employed in fitting some small armed vessels and recruiting an army, in which they succeeded rapidly. The whole interior of South America was said to be joining their cause. Chili had formed a Junta; the province of Cocho Bamba, one of the most warlike of South America, had deposed their governor and taken part with the people of Buenos Ayres.