

To ROBERT WALSH, ESQUIRE.

KINGSTON, U. C. 13th Jan. 1820.

SIR, I am one of those who read, with great satisfaction, your excellent letter on the genius and dispositions of the French Government. I admired it, as a work eloquent in composition and correct in its reasonings, and which few writers of the present day could equal, or surpass. Had proofs been wanting that Americans were capable of excelling in any literary pursuit in which they diligently engaged, this work was decisive; for it shewed, that on political questions such luminous views could be given as to invite comparisons, without fear, with the best writers in foreign nations; and what is still more rare in such discussions, a manliness of sentiment and uprightness of principle pervaded the whole. With impressions so favourable, I looked further than the Author, and imbibed an interest for the man. When a periodical publication was soon after undertaken by the same hand, I looked for the most interesting details of domestic policy, and manners, and habits—and a vigilant and fearless correction of the erroneous conceptions of Foreigners, respecting North America, in language piercing, but neither coarse nor illiberal. My expectations were not disappointed in what was yours, of the few numbers that were published of the American Review, and, notwithstanding the strange apathy of your countrymen in regard to native periodical works, had there been a greater number of original articles and no voluminous state papers, the work would have been supported.

Your failure in this attempt did not lower you in my estimation, either as an author, or a man; and I looked anxiously for the time when some original work, worthy of your talents, would issue from the American press. A work of yours has indeed appeared, but alas! how different from what I looked for! how injurious to the reputation of its author, and the morals of nations!

You are pleased to be offended with England—that is you are desirous—but I divine not motives—let them rest. You have written a massy volume which few will ever read, or it would become its own antidote—but though very few will ever peruse the work itself, it will become a storehouse, or magazine of calumnies and misrepresented facts, to which all the demagogues will have recourse. Hence the hatred of your country will, if possible, be increased against Great Britain. If this be your desire, you will certainly obtain its gratification. It is not my intention to add fuel to the flame, I will endeavour to extinguish it, while I present you, as a melancholy example of perverted talents—talents capable of the noblest efforts, but which are now employed in pandering to vice, and sowing the seeds of future discord and misery.

THE PREFACE.

You tell us in your preface that you have undertaken to prepare for the press a survey of the institutions and resources of the American republic, and of the real character and condition of the American people. But finding that such a work would take up some time, you fall upon the plan of making up in the interval a preliminary volume, which should embrace a review of the dispositions and conduct of Great Britain towards your country, from the earliest period, and a collateral retaliation for her continued injustice and invective. After indulging in a vehement diatribe against Great Britain, you condescend to point out the cause of your anger.

1st. The Edinburgh and Quarterly Reviews. It is I believe the first time that these two celebrated works were ever associated together, in promoting or defending the same principles. They have always been supposed to be in opposition to each other, and to be the organs of the two great parties which contend with one another for the administration of the country, and it will not fail to be a matter of great astonishment to the readers of the first of these Journals, to be informed, that Mr. Walsh denounces it as a vehicle of calumny on the United States. For it seems that the Edinburgh Review, after praising America in almost every number, begins to find it necessary, in order to preserve some semblance of honesty and fairness, to qualify its commendations, and to admit, that the proofs which this young empire has lately given of ambition and cruelty, deserve some gentle castigation; and, gentle as it has been given, you take fire, and considering it impossible that your native country can do wrong, you turn upon your old friends with implacable hostility.

It is less surprising that you should be displeased with the Quarterly Review, as that celebrated Journal has never flattered the States by disparaging Great Britain, or concealed its opinions on the Machiavelian policy pursued by this new Republic, which young in years, surpasses in hypocrisy, in contempt of truth and in rapacity, all contemporary governments.

In reviewing the books before them, the writers of the Quarterly Review reasoned from facts, and, not having the advantage of your knowledge, they have been so presumptuous as to draw some logical inferences from their premises. They cannot pass in silence the systematic industry of the ruling party of the United States, to inspire the rising generation with hatred to Great Britain; and

with a manliness and discrimination worthy of their learning and abilities, they frequently contrast the situation of the two countries—and it is a misfortune, which it is to be feared your huge volume cannot remedy, that such contrasts are not much in favour of the United States.

You affect, Sir, great sorrow at being obliged thus to come forward in favour of your country, and to repel the contumelious language of British writers, and most truly say, that national antipathies are to be deprecated in themselves—and that to excite them wantonly is an offence against humanity and religion. In this I agree with you. But I accuse you of acting exactly in opposition to this maxim, and of having most wantonly offended against humanity and religion in the work, which we are now examining. In proof we might proceed immediately to show, that the two Reviews are not more severe on the United States, than they are upon other governments, even on that of their own country—nor more severe upon the writers across the Atlantic, than upon their own. But as we shall meet this subject more in detail in the eighth and ninth sections of the book, we proceed to the second head of offence, mentioned in the Preface.

It is the custom at Westminster School, one of the principal Seminaries of Education in the British Empire, to exhibit a Latin play annually, (in the autumn) of which the characters are filled by the Senior Students, about to be translated to the Universities. A Latin Prologue and Epilogue, serving as specimens of Scholarship, usually accompany this play. In an exhibition of this kind which took place in the autumn of 1814, the subject chosen for the Epilogue was Emigration to the United States. It seems this *jeu d'esprit* was full of expressions disagreeable to the people of the United States, and you draw the notable inference that our youth are educated in sentiments of the most sarcastic and rancorous hostility towards America, and after giving the translation of the Epilogue you adopt some very sage remarks from the Editor of the Port Folio, which concluded with threatening, that if we educate our children with such virulence against the United States, they will bring up their children with sentiments of enmity against Great Britain.

Nothing can be more ridiculous than bringing forward in this grave manner, an exercise which was admired only in respect to its latinity, and the matter of which is scarcely ever thought of, but for its terseness and wit. There is besides an unfairness in the manner of introducing this Epilogue. You say that it was recited about the conclusion of the American war. Now it was in October 1814, when there was not the smallest expectation of Peace. What is likewise worthy of remark, almost every part, deemed offensive in this Epilogue, is taken from Morse's Geography. I dare say the poor wight, who composed this offensive production, hardly ever thought of America, and had no other view than pleasing his learned auditors with the excellence of his verses. Had you given yourself time to reflect, you would have discovered that Education is a sore and dangerous subject. You have only to look over the school books used throughout the United States, and you will find them full of invectives against Great Britain. The children, in joining words of two syllables, are sucking in hatred against the land of their fathers. Read the lessons in Mr. Webster's school books, so popular through the States, and you will find the greater number are extracted from 4th of July Speeches.

Besides, Sir, you know well that there is one day set apart every year for execrating Great Britain—a day when an Orator is appointed to calumniate England and Englishmen, and the coarser the slander, the more popular the speaker. Have we any thing like this in England? Will twenty years circulation of the Reviews, were they full of invectives, sow as much hatred as one day of Independence?

KINGSTON, Upper Canada. Diocese of Quebec, Jan. 12, 1820.

The Kingston Auxiliary Bible and Common Prayer Book Society, having been this day dissolved (as it existed under its original name and form) with the view of giving it a form more acceptable to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and agreeably to the instruction of the Bishop of the Diocese, as intimated in his Lordship's letter from England upon that subject,

The Hon. ALLAN MACLEAN being called to the Chair, and the Society's statement of the object of its District Committee being read,

Resolved, That the sanction of the Lord Bishop having been virtually obtained, a District Committee be now established for Upper Canada, (being the Department of a Bishop's Official) in conformity with the rules and orders of the Society, and under the following local regulations:— Regulation 1st.—That this Committee, consisting of such persons as are or presently shall be members of the Society, shall be further open, as permitted by the Rules of the Society, only to such other persons who subscribe at least half a guinea to the use of the District, and are members of the Established Church.

2d.—That this Committee do meet on the 1st Wednesday of January, April, July and October, at 12 o'clock precisely; but that if three members be not present, the Committee adjourn and notice be sent to the several members of an

adjourned meeting to be held on the following Wednesday at the same hour and place.

3d.—That there be a general meeting on the second Wednesday in January, annually, at which two Vice Presidents, two Secretaries, and a Treasurer, be nominated for the year ensuing; and in case any vacancy happens within the year, the same shall be supplied at the next Quarterly or Special Meeting, notice of such meeting being previously given by the Secretary.

4th.—That the President, or Vice President, or any two members of the Committee, have power to call a special meeting, giving three days notice of such meeting, and of the object of it.

5th.—That the accounts of the Treasurer and Secretaries be open to inspection at all general Meetings, and be audited at the quarterly meeting in January.

6th.—That a local Depository of Books for the use of the District and Members of the Society, be formed in Kingston, under the direction and at the disposal of the Committee, by the appropriation of all monies over and above one third of all Subscriptions and Donations, which third is due to the Society.

7th.—That the Books be placed under the care of the Treasurer, who shall, without reference to the Committee, comply with the request of any member of the Society for Books, upon the terms of the Society, and report the same at the next general meeting, provided that such requests, exceeding in value £1:10 at any one time or £3. in one year, be previously transmitted to the General Board in London for approval; and that all monies received for such books, so issued belong wholly to the fund of the District.

8th.—That an account of the state of the local Depository be regularly kept and laid before the Committee at every General Meeting.

Resolved, That His Excellency Sir P. Maitland be respectfully requested to continue his patronage to this new form of the institution. That the Lord Bishop of Quebec be respectfully requested to become President. That the Hon. Allan MacLean and Thomas Maitland be Vice Presidents. That the Rev. Official Stuart and the Rev. John Wilson be Secretaries, & that Mr. Robert Richardson be Treasurer.

SUBSCRIPTIONS & DONATIONS to the DISTRICT COMMITTEE of the SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE, established at Kingston, for the Department of the Bishop's Official of Upper Canada;—with the names and subscriptions of such as propose to become Members of the Society.

Table with 3 columns: Name, Subs. to Society, Subs. to Committee. Includes names like Hon. Allan MacLean, Thos. Markland, J. Lamprey, etc.

FOR THE KINGSTON CHRONICLE.

Messrs. Editors,

There being a difference of £49:10:2½ between the result of Tiro's solution of J. M's question and the answer which I guessed at. I hope that I may be permitted to guess at the cause of the difference. I guess that the whole difference is made in the calculation of the circle, and I think it evident from the following "plain mathematical investigation."

Let r = circumference in shillings. Then r x .07958 x 20 = r per condition of [the question].

6272640 s. d. £ s. d. & r = 3941090.8½ = 197054.10.8½. But if we admit Tiro's decimal, viz. .0796 instead of .07958, in the above equation, then 1 x .0796 x 20 = r;

6272640 s. d. £ s. d. and r = 3940100.6 = £197005.0.6. Hence, we have 197054.10.8½ - 197005.0.6 = £49.10.2½.

Therefore, by using .0796 instead of .07958, Tiro lessens the value of the circle £49.10.2½, but if that acute and penetrating genius will convince me that the decimal .079577525 ought to be contracted to .0796 and not to .07958. I may perhaps doubt the correctness of my guessing.

Yours, &c. &c. J. S. M. D. January 25, 1820.

FOREIGN NEWS.

From the Evening Post. Remarks on Morris Birkbeck's three Letters.

Morris Birkbeck, the strenuous advocate for emigration to the W. States, has, at length in Letters, dated Jan. 31st and July 13th, attempted to repel a series of charges, which a number of writers have brought against him; and in a Letter of the 31st of July, he has entered the ring and taken the gauntlet thrown down by William Cobbett, who loses no opportunity to avow himself the champion for the interests of mankind. When two characters as notorious as Mr.

Cobbett and Mr. Birkbeck, enter the field of contest, the result is looked for with as much interest, as the Greeks and Trojans could feel, whilst awaiting the termination of the conflict between Hector and Achilles. How far either has succeeded, the public must decide; but, those who have been drawn to those Elysian fields, must be considered most competent to judge. Such is the writer of these remarks; and as far as an Englishman, who has visited those regions, can determine, Mr. Birkbeck certainly must yield the palm of victory. These conclusions are not drawn through any similarity of political sentiment.

Mr. Birkbeck, in his Letters, dated January, says, "it became my duty to publish"; and then asks the question, "and who apologises for the performance of a duty?" If he alludes to the duty he owed to his own interest & that of his own family, no apology is requisite. He has unquestionably done what he could to execute this high demand. But, if we take a wider field, & ask, has he faithfully discharged the duty he owed to himself, to the public, & to posterity, the answer must be the reverse—Universally his descriptions are too high-coloured & glowing; & he who forms his & ideas expectations from these writings, will feel himself as much disappointed, as they who allow the romantic writings of the age to be the guide of their hopes & expectations. If Mr. B. has told some truths, he has not told the whole truth. To state the dangers and difficulties attendant on emigrating to the West, would scarcely answer his ends. He has never properly represented the savage state of society in those regions; it consisted of a population formed of the dregs of the community. Though Mr. Birkbeck concluded his Letter of the 31st Jan. by saying, "no quarrels of any importance have occurred between the hunting tribe and those who have lately ploughed about here," perhaps he will not be able to deny, that Mr. Hobson, store-keeper, at the English settlement, having refused these characters drink, they discharged two rifles at him, whilst in his log cabin. Such, says the gentleman, are "no quarrels of importance." Perhaps he can tell us why these acts were never brought before a court. Mr. Birkbeck goes on to state: "as to dissensions and immorality, if instances of the former have occurred, it is because the latter is the object of our abhorrence." It may be presumed, the immorality he alludes to, rests with an individual who accompanied Mr. B. when he first visited the Illinois. The person, although a man who had left a wife and family behind him, thought it perfectly right, in defiance of those sacred ties, to marry himself to a female of the party; and the act received the sanction and countenance of this very Mr. Birkbeck, who now tells us, "as to dissensions and immorality, if instances of the former have occurred, it is because the latter is the object of our abhorrence." It is in vain for Mr. B. to attempt to throw this load from his shoulders, and strive to wash the stain from his hands, it will remain in spite of his strongest efforts. He likewise acknowledges, "I have been deemed a foe to religion," and goes on to inform us, that his creed impels him to no pursuits but what reason approves. Can reason approve of cricket playing, hunting and shooting on the Sabbath day? If Mr. Birkbeck feels no respect for this particular day himself, his politeness should at least make him have a respect for the feelings of

others. Mr. Birkbeck has never represented to the public the actual advantages of the prairies in the Illinois. True it is, that state abounds with prairie land of great fertility, and requires no expense or labour to clear it: but here, alas! the beauties terminated. This section of country is naturally flat, consequently is ill watered and utterly destitute of springs.—Prairie lands form at least two thirds of the state of Illinois, and, from the luxuriance of the soil, they are covered, in the fall of the year, with a rank grass, from four to eight feet in height.—In consequence of the want of good water, and the decay of this excessive quantity of vegetable matter, the air becomes impregnated with putrid exhalations, and bilious fevers and ague become general throughout the country.

Another very serious evil, which every emigrant must feel, (the labouring man who has a family excepted) is the difficulty of obtaining labour, and when procured, the excessive demand made for the services rendered. If the labourer performs ever so indifferently or sluggishly, it must be accepted without a remonstrance.—He must be seated at the same table and partake of the same refreshments as yourselves; intrude himself on your company, without ceremony, at all hours, and familiarize himself with an effrontery truly repugnant to sense and modesty. In fine, all those nice distinctions which render society pleasing, are treated with careless indifference, and too often totally disregarded. The nearest market where produce, to any extent, could be disposed of, is New-Orleans, distant, eleven hundred miles. The expense of transporting, the price of labour, the rigours of a fluctuating market, added to the above inconveniences, may well induce Mr. Birkbeck to remark "that the capitalist is looking around him undecided as to the course he shall pursue."—To conclude, he tells us "the substantial good that has already been effected, affords ample compensation." Without a doubt, the vendors of medicines in that district, and the profits which Mr. B. has derived from the sale of certain portions of his land, is what he alludes to. Who else has realized the substantial good besides himself and these dealers, it is difficult to discover.

That Mr. Birkbeck's enthusiasm should have led him astray, is not to be wondered at; but when he knows his error, and obstinately justifies his miscalculations, his conduct is unworthy a man of sense and ability. If, however, he should still obstinately support the statements he has given to the world, it will be difficult to say whether "the fine free domain which lies smiling around" him, or the public, will smile most, in derision of his folly.

WILLIAM CORRIE. New York, Dec. 11, 1819.

P. S. I am, at this very time, possessed of a good title to upwards of 9000 acres of lands in Illinois.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in South America to his friend in Virginia, dated

Santiago, de Chili, Aug. 4, 1819.

Political affairs, at present, bear a good aspect—things having assumed that character of order and consistency which guarantees durability. This State is completely free from Spain, essentially independent, and the government is in the full exercise of all the prerogatives of sovereignty. It has quiet possession from the desert of Alicama to the South bank of the river Bio Bio, and from the Andes to the Pacific Ocean.

All the mild colonial system of Spain, together with the enlightening charms of the holy inquisition, and the liberality of exclusive monopoly have been sacrificed upon the altar of emancipation; and the homage and love for former transmarine rulers, most ungratefully extinguished.

The revolution will shortly travel into Peru, where the spirit exists and has sometimes assumed an unequivocal form.

The Squadron of Chili, under command of Rear Admiral Lord Cochrane, will sail in a few days provided with Congreve Rockets, to destroy the Spanish fleet at Callao, and with troops to occupy such ports upon the coast of Peru as it may be deemed eligible to hold.

Perfect harmony happily exists between this government and that of Buenos Ayres, and it is necessary to great political results and efficient warlike combinations; for Buenos Ayres is on the other side of the Andes, what Chili is on this, the fleet anchor of independence in South America. The Buenos Ayreans were the fathers of the revolution, and with intelligent strangers are now the soul of it.

A Spanish Expedition is spoken of, but does not create alarm among thinking people, they knowing that Spain has neither friends nor money, nor credit, and that she is inadequate without assistance to fit out an expedition—an expedition would be serviceable to the cause of South America, for by producing a common design, it would induce union, develop the resources and repulsive faculties of the nation, and destroy faction.

A Military expedition of 6 or 8000 men will be sent into Peru, if necessary—but I apprehend it will be unnecessary upon the ground that the Peruvians, with little encouragement from those troops to be stationed upon the coast, will liberate themselves.

From the Baltimore Patriot.

Important operations in New-Grenada and Venezuela.

General Bolivar was on the 30th of October at Guasguadalo, with about 5500 men, and on his march for Caracas. Arimendi had quitted Anguara to take command of the army of the east, (i. e. of Cumana and Barcelona) and expected to collect 6000 troops to co operate with the other divisions. The evacuation of San Fernando, by Morillo is confirmed; and the reason will soon appear; for, Soubllette has beaten La Torre most decisively, and occupied the town and valley of Cucuta. "In short, says one of our correspondents, the jig is fairly up with the Spaniards, and I expect this very voyage, or certainly the next, (from St. Thomas,) to proceed to La Guayra. Poor Colonel Rooke died of his wounds, and you will see a grateful notice of him in the Correo."

General Bolivar had made proposals to Somano the vice roy of New Grenada, for an exchange of prisoners, as follows:— 1st. The officers and soldiers taken at Porto Bello.

2d. Officers and soldiers at Carthagena and Santa Martha.

3d. Citizens, serving in their armies.

4th. Those in the presidios, &c. - This proposition, especially the first article of it, is highly politic, and creditable of his humanity and magnanimity.

From the Correo del Orinoco of the 20th October, it appears, "His Excellency the Vice President has just received official accounts from the commander in chief of the army of the west, Jose Antonio Paez, in which he communicates his intention of commencing his operations according to instructions previously received. Also of his receiving intelligence that General Soubllette had occupied the capital of Cucuta. As the General refers to the dispatch sent directly to the government, but which has not yet been received, we are ignorant of the details of that valley, where the enemy was so advantageously posted, where he had united to large an army, and supposed himself so strongly secured—nay, where he expected to repair his immense losses. Here we have the solution of his precipitate evacuation of San Fernando, which cost him so much time, expense, and trouble in fortifying, and which the enemy considered as the Gibraltar of the plains. San Fernando was evacuated on the 15th, and General Paez found in it all the guns, which were not even spiked, with a con-