

## General Intelligence.

From the New-York Times.

A correspondence between Commodore J. D. Elliott and Admiral Lobo of the Brazilian Navy, concerning his forcible blockade of the river La Plata, and a line of coast extending 30 degrees to the East of it, by a small poorly equipped force, was carried on between the 3d of April and 4th May last, in which Com. E. maintains in a series of spirited and forcible arguments, the nullity of a blockade where an efficient force is not placed before each interdicted port; and the principle, that under any other circumstances the U. States will not recognise or be governed by a proclaimed blockade.

The point that ships of war belonging to neutral powers shall not be considered as subject to a blockade, is also strongly urged, and European precedents are not admitted as binding upon the nations of the western hemisphere, and especially since the present is a principle established by the U. States at the expense of a long and bloody war. This may be considered as one of the subjects anticipated, which induced the call of the Congress at Panama, and it is most peculiarly incumbent upon the governments of North and South America, that those general and international principles which must be so often appealed to, in their intercourse with each other, should be established upon a firmer basis than the interested construction of opposing parties.

The subjoined extract from the log-book of the Cyane, sets forth, in a bold manner, the energetic support and decided resistance which would have resulted from an opposition to the lawful determination of her commander, and contrasts strongly with the pompous and shuffling conduct of the Brazilian admiral.

Extract from the Log-book United States' ship Cyane, April 3d, 1826.

"At 8 A. M. moderate pleasant weather; at 9 discovered the vessels at anchor ahead, to be the Brazilian blockading squadron. About 10 miles E. S. E. of the S. E. end of the Ortiz bank, at 9. 30 observed five vessels of war under weigh standing towards us, at 10 made them to be one frigate, one corvette and three brigs; prepared for battle and showed our colours—at 11 shortened sail to the top-sails, and hauled up for the Brazilian squadron under-weigh—at 11. 30. the frigate was on the lee beam at about 150 yards distance—two brigs, on the lee bow, the other a little on the weather quarter, and the corvette astern and to leeward—at 11. 40. hailed the frigate and asked her name, answered H. Imperial Majesty's frigate Maria de Gloria. The name of our ship was then asked, and given, succeeded by a demand that a boat should be sent—this demand was peremptorily refused by Capt. Elliott, adding that a boat should never be sent from his ship, although one would be received—observed the guns of the frigate trained and tom-pkins out; kept larboard guns on the main deck manned for the frigate and her consorts on the lee bow, and manned the starboard quarter deck guns for the brig on the weather quarter; observed the brig on weather quarter shortly after drop astern; at 11. 45. received a boat from the frigate and brig with two officers, who were introduced to Capt. Elliott in his cabin, by whom he was informed that the port of Buenos Ayres was blockaded, and he could not be permitted to proceed—to which he replied, that if even he were to admit their right to proclaim the blockade of an extent of coast against a civil marine, he could not against neutral vessels of war—that both English and French vessels of war, were in the habit of proceeding almost daily to and from Monte Video and Buenos Ayres, as instanced, both in the British and French corvettes Chasseur and Faucon—that he would allow him 30 minutes to deliberate on his future actions, and at the expiration of that time he would proceed, prepared to resist all consequences—that the flag he wore, carried under it the sovereignty of the soil it represented—that violated the soil became invaded—and that he should defend his ship to the last moment.

Capt. Elliott further observed to the officer, that he had a communication for Admiral Lobo, which was requested; Capt. Elliott declined given it to the officer, until he returned from his frigate and discovered her true character; at 12 the Brazilian boats left the ship. During all this time the weatherly position of the ship was maintained, and every other precaution taken to resist with effect an attack from the squadron which appeared to be meditated; at 12. 20. hailed the frigate, to know if they had any further communication to make, they answered by asking if Capt. Elliott would send the Admiral's letters and papers; yes, was the reply, if you will send a boat; at 12. 45. a boat came alongside for letters and papers for the admiral, with the compliments of the commanding officer, to Capt. Elliott, tendering every civility and offering any supplies he might be in want of, with his best wishes for a speedy and pleasant passage to Buenos Ayres; Capt. Elliott returned his compliments and thanks, adding that his ship was abundantly supplied with every necessary, and that all he wanted was a free and generous intercourse with all nations, concluding with an offer to be the bearer of any communication the commanding officer,

or any other in the squadron, might have to make with Buenos Ayres: at one the Brazilian boat departed; bore up, passed within hail of the Brazilian squadron along the line; made all sail for Buenos Ayres.

HAYTI.—Mr. Phineas Nixon, jr. who went out to Hayti, with the emigrants sent there by the Society of Friends, in this State, and whose embarkation from Beaufort, was mentioned in the Register of the 30th May last, passed through this City a few days since, on his return home. Mr. Nixon informs us, that before he left Hayti, the emigrants were comfortably settled, and very generally satisfied—the whole of them having gone into the country to live. Mr. N. says also, that the paragraph which has been going the rounds relative to the blockading of St. Domingo by a French Fleet, is incorrect, as he sailed from there on the 20th July, several days later than the vessel which brought the intelligence, and heard nothing of it.

As this Island is now an object of public attention, the following details will be probably acceptable to our readers. The soil is so fertile as to yield its products almost without labor. Coffee and Sugar are the staple commodities, though Corn and other articles are generally raised. Our Sweet Potatoes flourish well there, and form part of the food for their horses and cattle.—Guinea Grass, however, is principally used for horse-feed—they plant it once in every three or four years; for having no frost to kill it, it sprouts forth spontaneously, and grows to a great height.

The highest office of the Island is a President, who is elected by the Senate; his office is for life, and his revenue is 200,000 francs per year. He has the right to nominate his successor, in a letter addressed to the Senate; but that body is free to reject the nomination. The President possesses the Executive power—he is the fountain of all honor, and appoints to all employments. The Legislative power is divided between the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, and the Chamber is composed of Deputies one sent from each parish, and two from the town; they must be land owners, and must be 25 years of age—they are elected for five years. Any elector who may sell his vote, is excluded forever, from all employment under the government. The Deputies meet on the 1st April, annually, at Port-au-Prince, and remain together three months. The Senate is composed of 24 members, who are elected for nine years by the Chamber of Deputies—no Deputy being eligible. To be a Senator, a person must be 30 years of age, and no one can be re-elected until after three years. The Senate is particularly charged with all that relates to the Administration, and each Senator receives an annual salary of 8000 francs. The laws most resemble those of France—the French Civil Code being the basis of them. There is a Court of Cassation, Court of Appeals and Inferior Courts. Establishments have been formed for teaching the first elements of the Sciences—there are four National Schools, and in each Parish a Schoolmaster is maintained by the government. There is also a University, and a Surgical School, which has a French Instructor. The Catholic is the prevailing religion, the Archbishop's seat is at St. Domingo, the former Capital of Hayti. *Ral. Register.*

North American Geography.—The Great Bear Lake, at the south-western end of which Capt. Franklin's Expedition was stationed, (in lat. 65 deg. 10 min., long. 123 deg. 33 min. W.) is above 150 miles in length, and abounds in deep bays and arms, one of which runs to within about 70 miles of the Coppermine River, where that stream is not more than from 85 to 90 miles from the Arctic Sea. It is calculated that the extent of coast between the mouths of the Coppermine and Mackenzie Rivers is not 500 miles in a direct line; but it is supposed that a high and mountainous cape or headland runs far into the sea between them, which must have a great effect on the formation and detention of ice.

It appears from paragraphs in the London papers, that the mercantile tonnage of the United States is rapidly approaching an equality with the British. Mr. Baring states it at between sixteen and seventeen hundred thousand; that of the British at little more than 2,500,000. But then it must be taken into calculation, that in 1789, we possessed a tonnage of only 279,583, scarcely 1-6th of the present amount; while, since the same period, the British tonnage has grown only one-half. The English Journalists are not very well pleased at this rapid approximation; but they try to reconcile themselves to a result which they say is inevitable.

Burying Societies.—At Basle in Switzerland, there are several societies, the members of which pay an annual subscription for the purpose of defraying the expense of burying themselves and their families. It is remarkable, that one of these societies, composed of 46 families, comprehending 191 members, has lost but one of its members by death, during the last two years. When, as in this instance, the mortality is inconsiderable, the superfluity of the funds, notwithstanding the lugubrious nature of the society, is expended in a party of pleasure; the

members of the society enjoy the good things of this life at a fraternal banquet, in expectation, however, that ere long a sad duty will assemble them around the grave of one their number.

Curious Scruples.—Dundee.—There is now no hope of pardon for the unhappy Bal-four; and preparations are making for the melancholy scene, which will close his days in this world. The finisher of the law has arrived, and will be at his post on Friday. The old gibbet, from its long disuse, is in very bad condition, and orders have been given for having it repaired; but we understand that it is doubtful whether it may be got ready by the time appointed, as all the contractor's workmen, from superstitious feelings, refuse to work at it; even his apprentices have run away, willing to pay the penalty in their indentures, rather than assist at a work so hateful to them.

Scottish paper.

The style displayed by the candidates at the elections in England, is entirely unknown in our experience in America. The following extract is part of an account of the Dover election, June 20.

"The successful and unsuccessful candidates severally addressed the freemen at some length, and then joined their respective processions.

"Mr. Wilbraham's carriage had six beautiful grey horses, richly caparisoned, the riders in jockey caps and jackets of purple and yellow; the carriage was preceded by the town band and many elegant flags, and followed by a highly respectable body of freemen.

"Mr. Thompson's carriage was drawn by four horses, the drivers in jockey caps and jackets of blue, white, and pink,—band, and a great many flags. Procession quite of a motley description.

"Mr. Butterworth's carriage was drawn by four horses, the riders in blue sashes. A fine band and several handsome banners preceded it, and it was followed by the small circle of friends who had handsomely stuck by him.

"Mr. Halcomb's procession consisted of forty horsemen, who followed behind the band and colours; then came his carriage, drawn by four beautiful black horses, which were literally bedecked with ribbons of red and blue, the riders in jockey caps.—His carriage was followed by a coach and six, and four carriages and four, with the gentlemen of his committee and others; behind which was a train of his friends—respectable tradesmen, pilots, and others—extending about half a mile."

The Louisiana has arrived at New York from New-Orleans, bringing papers from that city to the 20th July inclusive. An affair of honor took place on the 18th, between two of the citizens, growing out of a private misunderstanding. One fire was exchanged with pistols, but no effect being produced, they had recourse, according to agreement, to the small sword. The affair ended in the death of one of the parties, he having received his antagonist's sword into his vitals. The names of the parties were Theodore Preval, aged nineteen years, and Zephir Canonge, and originated in an affront having been offered to the father of the former by Canonge. The following notice of the death of Preval is published in the New Orleans papers:

"The friends of the family of Mr. Preval, the friends of virtue and of justice are informed that Mr. Theodore Preval, aged nineteen years, terminated his career yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock, by a frightful fatality. His corpse will be exposed at Mr. B. Marigny's, fauxbourg Marigny, from whence the convey will start for the church."

Over the grave of young Preval, a discourse was pronounced by Mr. Pierre Landreaux, who alluded, in warm language, to the bravery and filial piety of the youth, who "felt his blood heated with indignation at the sight of his father being cruelly outraged by a despicable man dishonored for a long time in the public opinion." The address was concluded by the following anathema upon Preval's murderer, which the Louisiana Courier observes was unanimously repeated by all persons present:

"For us, gentlemen, who sigh over this grave, in which the remains of our young friend repose, let us all swear, in parting with him, to burthen forever his murderer with the weight of our contempt, to exclude him forever from the bosom of our society, and to abandon him without pity to the torment of remorse—I swear it!"

A letter at New-Orleans from Vera Cruz, says:—"Commodore Porter is commander-in-chief of the Mexican navy. His pay and emoluments are equal to \$24,000 per annum!"

The Editor of the Louisiana Gazette says, under date of July 11th—

"We conversed last evening with a gentleman from Bayou Sarah, which place he left on Sunday. From him we learn, that on Thursday last, a personal rencontre took place between two young gentlemen, Mr. Owens and Mr. Bradshar, in the town of St. Francisville, in which the latter was killed. We feel gratified in being able to state, that the difficulties between the parties, did not arise from any political consideration."

"We also learn, that during the past week a personal rencontre took place between two young men at Woodville, Mississippi, in which one of them was killed.

"These are melancholy articles for a newspaper, and should only be told because they are true."

The National Crisis (Cincinnati) of the 27th ult. gives the following account of an assassination at St. Louis:

"Horatio Cozens, Esq. a distinguished member of the bar of St. Louis, was assassinated in that place on the 13th inst. by Mr. French Strother. The Editor of this paper, who was there at the time, understood the circumstances to be as follows: Mr. Cozens was engaged as counsel against Mr. Strother; and the latter finding the cause was going against him, asked the former to step aside, as he wished to speak to him. Mr. Cozens complied with this request, and Mr. S. stabbed him two or three times in the breast, and once in the neck with a dirk, and killed him instantly. Mr. Strother was committed to prison."

Is it not time to put a stop to this kind of assassination, by making it highly penal to carry a dirk, or any thing of the kind? (Editors.)

SCENES OF THE WEST.—Almost every mail from the west, brings some tale of horror. The following atrocious acts have been perpetrated within the last month:

More horrors.—We have to add to the list of the many murders that have been committed in Kentucky, that of Michael Coffman and George W. Courtney, who were shot with rifle guns on Friday evening the 14th inst. These men, it is stated, were returning home, from the house of Thos. James, Esq. near the Beach fork, in this county. It is supposed they were way laid by some two or more persons, and shot. They were found on Sunday morning the 16th instant: A coroner's inquest was held over the bodies of the deceased persons, who found a verdict of murder, by some persons unknown. Coffman was shot in the breast and fell dead, it is supposed, in the road; his body had been removed about twenty-five yards, and thrown behind a large log. Courtney was shot in the back, supposed to have run from the road into the woods, where he was found. We forbear to make any comments upon this murder, or the circumstances that have led to the apprehension of five persons, viz. James Watson, William Watson, Isaac Watson, Doctor Watson, and John Watson, who were charged with the murder, and committed to jail for examination and trial. *St. Louis Gaz.*

A letter from Enfield, in Halifax Co. to a gentleman in Warren, published in the last Reporter, states that on the Friday night preceding, the wife of Ricks Fort was shot dead in his own house, by some prowling assassin. Mr. Fort and two of his children were in the porch, his wife came in, passed through the house with a candle in her hand, went into the back room on the left side, had taken some clothes out of a trunk; and just as she had risen, a gun was discharged through the window, and she fell and instantly expired. It is thought the person who did it mistook his object. It was the room in which Mr. Fort generally sleeps; his life had been threatened—he was apprehensive of danger and was so prudent as not to carry a light into the room when he went to bed.—*Ral. Reg.*

Shocking Effects of Intemperance.—An instance of the horrid effects of this beastly sin, has recently occurred in this county. We are informed that on Thursday last, a man named Walter Downs, an habitual drunkard, residing in Petoboro, went to his house in a state of partial inebriation. A little child whose breath he had already poisoned by feeding it with the intoxicating liquor, approached him, crying for whiskey. The monster, under a pretence of curing an appetite which his inhuman hand had created and cherished, administered nearly a pint of the liquor, from the effects of which the child never recovered, but died in the course of the day following, and even before the father was sufficiently recovered from intoxication to realize the fatal effect of his crime. A coroner's jury reported that the death of the child was occasioned by whiskey administered by his father.

The examination of the father took place on Saturday, but we have not heard the result. If our information is correct, (and we had it from a gentleman who saw the child on a bed by the side of its drunken father, in perfect stupor) he was undoubtedly committed to prison, to have his trial for manslaughter. *Cazenovia (N. Y.) Monitor.*

Earthquakes.—The Richmond Compiler of Friday the 11th inst. says that two shocks of an earthquake have been felt in that city: the first, on Wednesday night about nine o'clock, was noticed by several persons without any communication with each other: the other on Thursday about 12 o'clock. The last was not perhaps as generally noticed, from the circumstance of persons being more actively employed, and not so sedentary and still in the day time, as they are early in the night.

Mr. Randolph.—The newspapers contain a letter of Mr. Randolph, from Liverpool, addressed to a friend of that gentleman, in which he accuses Capt. Baldwin, of the ship Alexander, of rudeness towards him on a particular occasion.—We trust that no impression will be admitted by the public, of a nature unfavorable to the Captain; at least until he has had an opportunity of replying to the charge. No one could have pursued a line of conduct, as the commander of such a vessel, more exemplary than his had uniformly been—he had won the esteem of all who sailed with him. We have seen conclusive testimony of the dissatisfaction of all Mr. Randolph's fellow passengers with his own conduct: it has been stated to us, on good authority, that, as soon as they learned that he had selected a particular inn at Liverpool, they came to an agreement to choose another for themselves, not wishing to enjoy the fellowship of the senator any longer. *National Gazette.*

A letter from a warm personal friend of Commodore Porter to Mr. Niles, says, "Do not be surprised that Com. Porter, whose aspiring mind caused him, in a moment of excitement, to infringe the barriers of discipline in his own country, should, at the head of the allied navies of Mexico and Colombia, become the terror of the Spanish Coast. If I err not, it is his destiny to exact from the mother country, by the brilliancy of his achievements, an acknowledgment of the Southern Republics."

OLD POINT COMFORT.—The works which protect this Point, are now in such a state of forwardness as to present a definite character; and embracing as they do, an area of 52 acres, not only exhibit a specimen, novel to us, of scientific fortification, but one on the largest and most imposing scale. The constructions at the Rip Raps, for which quarries of stone have been exhausted, and whose foundations lie 21 feet below the tide, though less complete, are not less curious. The garrison, which consists of 600 men and now encamped at no great distance, will soon return to quarters. *Balt. Pat.*

The New-York papers announce the arrival there on the 6th inst., of a Company of Boston Light Infantry, upon a military visit. They were encamped on Brooklyn Heights, in 45 minutes after they reached the ground. Their discipline, and the elegance of their equipments, and the personal respectability of the individuals composing the corps, are highly spoken of. *Nat. Journal.*

The *Winyaw Intelligencer* of the 9th inst. says—"A letter has been received in this town, from a gentleman at Waccamaw, stating that he had distinctly seen the Sea Serpent, near the beach of Long Bay, and supposes it to be about 50 feet in length."

The *Georgetown Gazette* says—"The Sea Serpent was seen off Long Bay on Friday last, by a number of people who live on the Sea-shore. It was apparently 50 feet long."

Desha.—The *Kentucky Reporter* of the 24th ult. states that Isaac B. Desha has nearly recovered from the wound which he inflicted on his throat.

The papers of Sandusky and Cleveland, Ohio, present us with a "Marine List," of from 12 to 20 weekly arrivals, and as many departures, of steam boats and schooners, employed in the lake trade. We shall soon have great cities to the north of us. Already the papers of the towns on the borders of Lake Erie are very respectable in point of size and execution, and present in their advertising columns, the appearance of extensive business.

The "Sandusky Clarion" of the 22d July, has the following paragraph:

"Speedy Conveyance.—The Onondaga Journal, dated July 12th, was received at this office on the 15th; it having been carried 150 miles by land, and 250 by water, in three days!"

What a change in the state of affairs about Sandusky, since the war of 1812! *Pittsburg Gaz.*

The Congress of the State of Vera Cruz, by a decree dated June 15, 1823, offered a reward of \$100,000 to the individual who discovers a specific or preventive for the fever known by the name of the Black Vomit.

A Fanatic.—A fanatic lately preaching in a street in Philadelphia, catching a glimpse of the Delaware exclaimed, "there is the river Jordan," and immediately ran full tilt and jumped into it.—His congregation kept up the race at his heels, till he leapt from the wharf, but there they halted. They afforded him assistance, and he was willing, on second thoughts, to live a little longer.

The Last Man.—A lady, a few evenings ago, after having for some time attentively read Mrs. Shelly's novel, entitled "The Last man," threw down the book, and emphatically exclaimed, "The last man! Bless me! if such a thing were ever to happen, what would become of the women!"