

Owing to a disarrangement of the mails, consequent on the new contracts going into operation, the last northern mail brought not a single letter beyond Salisbury, and only two papers—one from Hillsborough and another from Milton. Our columns are consequently barren of intelligence.

Although we have a direct mail from this place to Fayetteville, yet the papers from the latter place are very irregularly received. The Observer and Journal due last week, have not yet come to hand; and it is seldom they are both received at the proper time.

General Assembly.—We learn that Bartlett Yancey was elected Speaker of the Senate, and John Stanley Speaker of the House of Commons; and that the old officers generally, were re-elected. This is all the intelligence we have received from Raleigh since the Legislature has been in session. The Governor's Message, if it have no other recommendation, will have that of age, when it reaches us.

The failure of the mail has enabled us to spread entire before our readers Mr. CLAY's letter to Mr. Gallatin on the subject of the West-India trade, and the recent British Order in Council closing it to our ships. We hope its length will deter no one from reading it—it will well reward an attentive perusal.

Hamilton Fulton.—In the Senate of Georgia, the subjoined resolution was offered on the 13th ultimo; and the editor of the Georgia Statesman says he is informed it "will pass by a large majority."

Whereas Hamilton Fulton, the Chief Engineer of this State, has practiced a gross fraud on the Board of Public Works, imposing on them as his own production, a report which he has most servilely copied from a scientific work of the day! And whereas this circumstance alone is convincing evidence of his incompetence to discharge the high, important and responsible duties of Civil Engineer—

Be it therefore resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly met, that his Excellency the Governor be recommended, and he is hereby recommended forthwith to discharge the said Hamilton Fulton from the service of the State.

Query.—Did this "efficient engineer" ever lambing our Board of Public Works in the manner set forth in the preamble to the above resolution? We hope some one who has access to his reports, will have the curiosity to ascertain. He received some forty thousand dollars from this state, for which he of course rendered some equivalent; and we should like to know whether that consists in his reports, or in something else as valuable.

The only article of news received by last mail, is the following—and it is news indeed. It unfortunately, however, lacks one essential attribute. Those acquainted with the Enquirer, will recollect its positive statements and assertions previous to the last election, and the veracious "letters from Washington" which so frequently burdened its columns—but all these "arts of able editors" availed nothing, as the event showed. The Enquirer's candidate came in hindmost.—Whether its present statements will be any nearer the truth, when the contest to which they relate shall be decided, time will determine. As a general remark, however, we believe it is true, that the odds of the Enquirer are very little worth.

From the Richmond-Enquirer.

We shall not at this time go into the next presidential election; but we have seen some late letters from Washington, which furnish the following speculations on this subject. They state that the fate of this administration is sealed. Pennsylvania is said to be fixed and immovable in opposition as the rock of ages—her governor's strange message and Mr. Barnard's election to the contrary notwithstanding. He is a decided Jacksonian. It is said that New-Jersey is no longer doubtful; and that even Kentucky will be against Mr. Adams, with the exception of Mr. Clay's own district. There are the strongest assurances that Louisiana is also against his re-election. With Georgia, then, the two Carolinas, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Missouri, Illinois, Louisiana,

of the substance of this despatch, or the substance of such part of it as you may not have anticipated in any answer to Mr. Canning's note, presented from yourself to the British Government, with the assurance that, notwithstanding their present decision, the Government of the United States, at all times hereafter, will be ready, at Washington or at London, to treat of the Colonial intercourse, whenever it may be their desire or inclination to negotiate on that subject.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

H. CLAY.

The letter from Mr. Gallatin to the Secretary of State, which we publish today, furnishes sufficient evidence of the propriety of the course hitherto pursued by the government of the United States, in endeavoring by negotiation to effect an accommodation of the differences existing with England, in relation to their Colonial trade. The provisions of the various acts of Parliament have so enveloped the whole subject in obscurity, and left so many points for difference of opinion, that in the absence of an explanation by that government, it will be impossible to understand what they mean, and unsafe for our own to act upon any construction which it may suppose to be the correct one. In the concluding paragraph of the extracts from Mr. Gallatin's letter, he says—

"It seems to me that the intricacy of these several acts of Parliament, and the difficulty of understanding their precise meaning, might have been considered by the Government of Great Britain as sufficient reason, why that of the United States might not have been disposed to accept the conditions on which, by those acts, the intercourse was opened with the British Colonies, without having previously, at least, come to an understanding of their true intent and meaning.—In point of fact, it was understood by the American Government, that one of those conditions was a prohibition to export goods in American vessels, from those Colonies, to any other country than the United States."

Nat. Journal.

From the Kentucky Reporter.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Ohio to the Editor.

"Our 'black list' has become a white one; the opposition had their ticket headed 'the people's ticket,' but the people beat their own ticket. Ohio would now give ten thousand majority for Adams, and daily increasing.—How stand affairs in Kentucky as to the administration?"

No candid man can we think doubt the popularity of the administration in this State. Its measures and course of policy are approved of by the great mass of the people, and the people of Kentucky are for measures and principles in preference to men. The opposition is personal and vindictive in its character; though the leaders are very active, their party rather declines than increases in strength. The eight members of Congress in favor of the Administration will undoubtedly be re-elected in their respective districts. Whether either of the four Opposition members will be re-chosen is more than we can venture to assert. All of them will not. The contest in their districts will be close, while the Administration members, if any opinion can now be formed on the subject, will be re-elected by large majorities, perhaps without opposition.

LOUISIANA.—The following facts are proof of great attention to education in Louisiana:

In 1811, the Legislature appropriated \$30,000 to the establishment of a college, and a school in each county.

By the same act \$3,000 was appropriated annually for the support of the college, and \$500 a year for each school.

In 1819, the allowance for the support of schools was increased to \$600, and in 1821 to \$800 a year each. Since which, \$5,000 a year has been appropriated for the support of another college, at Jacksonville, in the same State.

PETERSBURG, VA. DEC. 15.

Murder of Steve Thayer.—Within a day or two past, circumstances have been brought to light, which lend new horror to this most mysterious and shocking transaction. An individual has been taken up and committed to prison, charged as the perpetrator, who if he be proved to be guilty, the crime will stand almost alone in its unparalleled enormity. The precise nature of the evidence against this person, we have not been able to ascertain; and even if we knew, it would be improper, in the present stage of the business, to communicate it. However, we shall not fail to publish the result of the examination, which is expected to take place in a few days.—Intelligencer.

MACON, GA. DEC. 18.—A serious affair took place at the Penitentiary on Saturday evening. About sunset, as they were closing the prisons, the convicts rose upon the Keepers and Guard in a body, and succeeded in wresting several muskets from them. A skirmish then commenced, which lasted a considerable time, in which two of the convicts were killed, and a number wounded. The Principal Keeper and one of the Assistants dangerously wounded. None of the convicts escaped.—Telegraph.

franchise which it wishes to cultivate in all its relations with the United States, to declare, that, after having been compelled to apply to any country the interdict prescribed by the act of 1825, the British Government cannot hold itself bound to remove that interdict, as a matter of course, whenever it may happen to suit the convenience of the Foreign Government to reconsider the measures by which the application of that interdict was occasioned." The pretension referred to, is the exact counterpart of a similar pre-existing pretension contained in the act of Parliament of 1822. The British Government does not appear to have reflected, that its rejection of all negotiation on the subject, deprives it of the best of the only two modes of getting rid of the exceptionable restriction.

From what has now been advanced, it has been established, 1st. That the Colonial Trade was a fit subject for the adjustment, by friendly negotiation between the two Powers, of the condition on which it should be carried on; 2ndly, that it has been long, & often, in fact, a subject of negotiation between them; and 3dly, that the American Government was bound to conclude, from every thing which passed between the two Governments, that both parties entertained the expectation that it was to be arranged by negotiation, and only by negotiation. It was under this full conviction that your general instructions were prepared.

What may be the nature of the proposals which you were authorized to make, upon the renewal of the negotiation so confidently anticipated, it is not now proper should be communicated to the British Government. Respect for ourselves, no less than for that Government, forbids that we should obtrude upon their consideration proposals against which they have deemed it proper to shut their ears. It will be, however, no violation of that respect, to say, that they were of a character, on all the disputed points between the two Governments, authorizing us to believe that they would be satisfactory.

The Government of the United States is animated by the sincerest desire to maintain, with that of Great Britain, not merely the forms of courtesy and amity, but to cultivate a cordial and lasting friendship; to settle every controverted question between them upon principles of justice and reciprocity; and, by an enlarged liberality in their mutual intercourse, to advance the real prosperity of both. Entertaining this desire, it has learnt, with the most lively regret, the resolution of the British Government to close the door against those friendly explanations, and that frank and mutual exposition of the wishes and views of the parties, which are, or should be, the object of all negotiation. The harmony of nations requires that every avenue to such explanations should always be kept fully open. But such a free access, on all questions, appears to the Government of the United States to be especially desirable between two such nations as Great Britain and the United States, whose interests and happiness are intimately interwoven. By rejecting the ordinary mode of treating, through the established agency of accredited ministers, and substituting to it that of mutual legislation, which, after all, is but another, though less advantageous mode of negotiation, we deprive ourselves of many facilities. Congress and the British Parliament are numerous bodies, acting in different and distant spheres, and it is not derogating from their undoubted wisdom and superior intelligence, to suppose that their organization is not the best suited to the exercise of diplomatic functions in all cases.

A single word of explanation, an instantaneous suggestion of the modification of a proposal elicited in conference, may lead to the adjustment of a difference when ministers are treating face to face, which might not be settled for a long time in a negotiation conducted between two bodies, each composed of several hundred members, separated by the Atlantic ocean. We do not mean to bring forward any formal complaint against Great Britain, on account of her determination to exclude one of the means which experience has evinced to be best adapted to the accommodation of national differences. Our main purpose is to show that the United States are not justly chargeable with the consequences which may flow from that most unexpected decision.

As the only alternative which the course adopted by that Government has left, the President has determined to give a signal proof of his anxious wish to preserve a good understanding between the two Governments, by laying the whole of the correspondence, which has passed between them on this subject, including the instructions to our several Ministers at the Court of St. James, before Congress, at its next session. The wisdom of that body, in the actual state of things, is alone competent to decide whether the Colonial intercourse shall remain closed according to the pleasure of the British Government as manifested in the late Order in Council, and whether that portion of it left open by the Order shall remain open, or on what conditions, compatible with the interests of the People of the United States, Congress is willing the trade should be placed.

You will accompany the communication of the substance of this despatch, to declare, that, after having been compelled to apply to any country the interdict prescribed by the act of 1825, the British Government cannot hold itself bound to remove that interdict, as a matter of course, whenever it may happen to suit the convenience of the Foreign Government to reconsider the measures by which the application of that interdict was occasioned." The pretension referred to, is the exact counterpart of a similar pre-existing pretension contained in the act of Parliament of 1822. The British Government does not appear to have reflected, that its rejection of all negotiation on the subject, deprives it of the best of the only two modes of getting rid of the exceptionable restriction.

Concluded from fourth page. The duty of impost or tonnage, direct or indirect, whatsoever, other or higher than is levied upon the vessels and merchandise therein imported, belonging to the subjects or citizens of each of the said nations respectively."

Thus, therefore, to comply with the conditions of the act of Parliament, we must first have allowed British vessels to import into the United States the produce of any foreign country whatever, upon the payment of the alien duties, although, vessels of the United States are and should have remained prohibited to import into British ports like produce upon any terms whatever. And 2ndly, we must have abolished or suspended our discriminating duties, placing Great Britain upon the footing of the most favored nation, in whose behalf we had abolished or suspended them, although it now appears, from the avowal of Mr. Canning, that duties of at least an equal amount have been, since the adoption of the order in council, in the year 1825, and now are, levied upon American vessels and their cargoes in British Colonial ports.

So stood our law, and such must have been our compliance with the conditions of the Act of Parliament at the time of its passage. But we suppose it to have been the understanding of the British Government, that, if subsequent to that period, we should grant to any foreign nation still greater privileges than those above described, by treaty or otherwise, in consideration of equivalents or not, such more extensive privileges must have immediately accrued to the United Kingdom and its possessions abroad, upon the rule of the most favored nation, or we must have subjected ourselves to the forfeiture of the Colonial trade, denounced by the act of Parliament.

Now, subsequently to the date of that act, to wit, on the 6th December last, we concluded a treaty with the Republic of the Federation of the Centre of America, which, having been afterwards ratified by both parties, is now in full operation. By this treaty it is stipulated, that whatever can be exported from, or imported into, either country, in its own vessels, to or from any foreign place whatever, may, in like manner, be exported or imported in the vessels of the other country, the vessel and the cargo paying in both cases the same and no higher duties, and consequently neither paying the Alien Duties. If we had entitled ourselves by the fulfilment of the required conditions, to an intercourse with the British Colonies, we would now be obliged, in order to retain the right to that intercourse, to allow British vessels, both of the parent country and its possessions abroad, a liberty of exportation and importation coextensive with that of the vessels of the United States, although the interdict of the British law of navigation should remain in full operation on the vessels of the United States.

If we are mistaken in the extent of the concessions required by the British government, to place the United Kingdom and its possessions abroad, on the footing of the most favored nation, the best and most friendly mode of correcting our error would have been, to have accompanied an official communication of the Act of Parliament with a full and frank explanation of those conditions, the performance of which, on our part, would have satisfied that Government. By withholding all explanation, if the Congress of the United States had legislated on that subject at its last Session, it must have acted either 1st, upon the exposition of the condition of the tract of Parliament now given; or, 2ndly, upon the views of the British Government as disclosed in the negotiations of 1824. It could not have conformed to the conditions of the Act of Parliament, as we understand them, without a manifest sacrifice of the interests of the people of the United States, and an abandonment of those principles of reciprocity for which they have ever contended in all their negotiations with foreign Powers. It now appears that it would have been unavailing, if Congress had legislated in compliance with the views of the British Government, as presented in the negotiations of 1824. According to those views, that Government was then willing that the trade between the Colonies and the United States should continue restricted, as it then was, by the laws of the two countries, to the direct intercourse; that is to say, that a British vessel clearing from the United States for a Colonial port, should be bound to land its cargo in that port; and an American vessel clearing from the Colonies for the United States, should be bound to land its cargo in them. But without any intimation to us, through the regular diplomatic channels, of an alteration in their views, Great Britain has now changed them, and on the 11th September, 1826, for the first time, announces her determination not "to consent to enter into any renewed negotiation upon the intercourse between the United States and the British Colonies, so long as the pretension [the above restriction as to the direct intercourse] recorded in the act of 1825, and there applied to British Colonies, alone, remains part of the Law of the United States." And we are also given to understand, that the British Government further owes it to the spirit of

na, Indiana, and the largest proportion of Kentucky, there will be enough to defeat Mr. A. excluding 5 in Maryland, the whole of New-York, New-Jersey and Delaware. With New-York, it will be no contest; without her and Kentucky, and with New-Jersey, Delaware and five in Maryland, the same object will be accomplished.

As a counterpart to the above, we add the following, from another Richmond paper, the Whig. The correspondents of the two papers, it will be perceived, differ materially in their statements—the one affirming that "the fate of the administration is sealed;" the other, that it is "steadily advancing in public confidence." Both cannot be right. On which side the truth lies, let the reader decide for himself—if he can.

Extract of a letter from Washington, Dec 16:

"Mr. Randolph has not yet broken silence—he will probably speak on Mr. Holmes' resolutions and his own, presented at the last session. He is plainly in an awkward predicament—if he runs on in the wild, intemperate, and unconnected style of speaking which marked his last session's conduct, the Legislature may take it into their head to think him not possessing *stans mens in corpore sano*—if he draws in, he acknowledges one of two things, that the administration no longer deserves his abuse, or that his former abuse is deemed by himself improper. He is appointed to none of the Standing Committees, which, as he seldom or never attends a committee, is no loss to the public service.

"Gen. Jackson's prospects are believed to be next to desperate. The elections in New-Jersey, Ohio, New-York, Missouri, and in a supposed Jackson district in Kentucky, Shulze's message, the defeat of Ingham, the great diminution of Jackson votes in Pennsylvania, with many other indications in that State, show the steady advance of the administration in popular confidence. The message, too, gives no bones to chew. The opposition are down in the mouth. They will make a stand on the subject of the British Colonial Trade—but the correspondence between the two governments, so clearly puts the British in the wrong, that they will be easily driven from the ground."

FOR THE CATAWBA JOURNAL.

The labors and difficulties through which we have passed are pleasing to the recollection.

CICERO.

Mr. Editor: The individual whose genius and education enable him to take a clear retrospect of all the great events which have occurred since the earliest ages of the world, is agreeably astonished at the progress which has been made in Mental Philosophy, in the course of the last two or three hundred years. The gigantic mind of Aristotle performed wonders—His system of Logic bore sway over the minds of men for many centuries, and well it might, from its ingenuity. He was, without doubt, a man of no ordinary mind, and his great opportunities enabled him to go forward, unrestrained by penury. He was a disciple of Plato, and teacher of Alexander the Great, and was liberally patronized by his illustrious pupil. With these advantages, he persevered in a course of arduous study for twenty years! This may be at all times cited as an example of uncommon industry in literary pursuits, and is creditable to human nature. In later times, Descartes built up an ingenious system of Metaphysics, which was considered as infallible; although it, as well as that of Aristotle, has been set aside by the improvements of still more modern times.

Lord Bacon, Locke, Malebranche, &c. did much to shed light on Mental Philosophy, by shewing the inconsistency of certain speculations of the schoolmen, and deserve the gratitude and thanks of mankind for their valuable labors. But it seems to have been reserved for other writers to completely remove the rubbish which had held the human mind in obscurity for so many hundred years. This task has been admirably effected by Reid and Dugald Stewart, of the Edinburgh School. They have shown clearly the errors and inconsistencies of all their predecessors; and have established the most correct system of Metaphysics ever before known in the world. This system will enlighten the minds and exalt the faculties of unborn millions of human beings. How much, then, are we indebted to these illustrious benefactors of the human race.

Although it has been contended by some, that Mental Philosophy is an unimportant science, yet I am fully persuaded that no intelligent man will pre-