



The Tarborough Press,

BY GEORGE HOWARD,
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VARIETY.



The following lines are from the pen of the Hon. Robert Strange, late a member of the Senate from this State in the Congress of the United States:

From the Patriarch.
LINES
ACCOMPANYING THE PRESENT OF AN ALBUM—TO MY ONLY DAUGHTER.

Operations of the Branch Mint.—In a conversation a few days since with the Superintendent, in regard to the operations of the United States Branch Mint at this place...

As proof that no delay is permitted in the operations of the Mint, the last monthly record of deposits shows, that bullion deposited on the first of April, was received in coin by the depositor on the seventh...

These facts show great efficiency in the administration of the affairs of the Mint, and speak well for the industry and promptitude with which its officers discharge their respective duties.

Charlotte Mecklenburg Jeffersonian.

Coal on the Roanoke.—Dr. Baker, of this city, who has just returned from his plantation in Halifax, brought with him a fine specimen of bituminous coal, picked up on the bank of the river near his farm.

We are not prepared to judge of the different species of this combustible, except from description. We suppose, however, the specimen referred to, from its dark color, to contain bitumen, a mineral substance resembling tar or pitch in its properties and uses.

Ral. Star.

The Progress of Crime.—Every paper we take hold of is filled with details of robberies, forgeries swindling, swartwouting, &c. &c., and to their eternal disgrace be it said, Bank officers appear to be the principal perpetrators.

Business.—We have heard it remarked, that more goods are passing through this place for merchants in the interior, than at any previous time for the last three years.

"Burn Your Cotton Stalks."—Under this head we find it stated that a small straw colored bug has been found in many of last year's defective cotton stalks...

Arrest of the Hon. Charles F. Mitchell.—The Montreal Herald, of the 6th inst. states that Mitchell, the American forger and member of congress, has at last been captured by Capt. Comeau of the Montreal police.

circumstance which could not have benefited him.

A National Bank.—The Washington correspondent of the Charleston Courier says: "The Secretary of the Treasury has prepared a plan for a National Bank, which he intends to lay before Congress in his report, at the commencement of the coming session."

Fatal Duel at New Orleans.—The New Orleans Advertiser of 21st ultimo says: "Last evening at 3 o'clock, a duel was fought between Leroque Turgeau, eldest son of Mr. Turgeau, notary public, and a Mr. Talary. Turgeau fell in the conflict. Talary is an accomplished swordsman."

Texas.—The national debt of Texas, consisting of bonds, treasury notes, &c. is 7,000,000 dollars. The amount of one year's taxes is estimated at 1,000,000 dollars, and the expenses of the Government for the same period 500,000 dollars, par money.

West Indies.—We published a few days ago an account of the present condition of Havti, as described by an eye witness. The picture was that of a country fast lapsing into the savage wildness of nature; while the appearance and conduct of the people exhibited a mere caricature of civilization, in which the degradation produced by slothfulness and vice contrasted miserably with impotent pretences at something like an organized state of society.

The present condition and tendency of things in the British West India Islands augur a result no better there under the emancipation act of the British Parliament. It is no purpose that the zealous friends of that policy labor in its vindication by procuring and publishing the most favorable accounts that partial one-sided reports can exhibit of the condition of those islands.

These expedients have been quite ineffectual thus far; the downward tendency of things has not been arrested; on the contrary every year bears witness to the increasing embarrassments and distress of the British Islands.—Baltimore Amer.

Important from New Grenada.—By way of Havana we learn that on the 9th of January, Gen. Herran, commanding the Government troops of New Grenada, gained a decisive victory over a body of insurgent forces, represented to have been 2,000 strong, under Generals Gonzalez and Patria, at a place called Aratoca.

Murderers Discovered.—It is stated by a correspondent of the St. Louis Express, that the murderers of Baker and Weaver, that the murderers of Collier & Pettus, at St. Louis have been discovered.

A few days since, a free negro, in a drunken fit at Alton, disclosed that he knew all about it. He was taken possession of, and subsequently disclosed that the horrid deed was perpetrated by four negroes; one or two of them belong here, one to Cincinnati, and the other and leading spirit to New Orleans.

I understand that he says that Mr. Baker was killed by a blow upon the head

with a bar of iron struck by the slave from New Orleans. Weaver was struck upon the head several times with a bowie knife, but fought manfully, having discharged both his pistols without effect; finally, they got him down, and drove a marlin spike through his head, yet fearing that he was not dead, they struck his head with a crow-bar. After a great many fruitless efforts to get into the vault of the banking-house, they set fire to the house in various places and fled."

Revolution in Peru and Bolivia.—By way of Panama, the New York Journal of Commerce has advices from Peru to the 18th of February, in a letter dated

Callao, February 18, 1841. Since my last of the 5th ult. the anticipated political convulsion in Peru and Bolivia has taken place. Col. Vivanco has been proclaimed Supreme Chief in the departments of Cusco, Arequipa, Puno and Moquegua; and notwithstanding Gen. San Roman, who was placed in command of the former by Vivanco, has declared against him with about 1,000 men, yet he appears to be rapidly gaining ground, as the whole community is decidedly against the government of Gemoara, who has degraded the country to such an extent as to place it in the class of a Chilian colony, sustained by Chilian control.

On the 21st ult. a general rising took place in Bolivia, headed by Gen'l's Lara and Iripoyen, who have proclaimed Gen. Santa Cruz, Supreme Protector.

REPORT OF MR. POINSETT, ON TENDERING HIS RESIGNATION. War Department, March 2, 1841.

Sir: In tendering to you my resignation of the office of Secretary of War, I think it my duty to set forth briefly the condition of the Department which I have conducted for the last four years.

More than forty thousand Indians have been removed peacefully, and are happily settled beyond the frontiers of the Western States. Tranquility has been preserved and reigns throughout the whole of that border, and there exist no causes which are likely to lead to its disturbance.

The only exception to universal peace is the condition of the Indians in Florida. There too, I am happy to have it in my power to say, that hostilities are being rapidly brought to a close, by the successful interference of the Seminole chiefs who have been brought there from the West. Contented with their lot in their new residence beyond the Mississippi, they are anxious to persuade their brethren to abandon a hopeless contest, and join their kinsmen in the West.

The necessary employment of the militia of Florida during the late recess of Congress, will give rise to arrearages amounting to about \$661,816; but according to the experience of the Department in settling claims of this character not more than one-half of this sum will probably be found valid, which will have to be discharged from the appropriations that have been asked for the purpose.

The amounts due for pensions in the present month and until September next, have been set to the several pension agents, so that nothing is due on that account.

Immediately on the passage of the act authorizing the issue of Treasury notes, I directed that all the outstanding claims against the Department which were ready for settlement, and for which appropriation had been made, should be immediately liquidated.

For the other various objects entrusted to the Department, the unpaid claims are estimated to amount to not more than \$200,000, which have not been paid for a similar reason.

According to the reports of the different disbursing bureaus of the Department, the unliquidated claims in their respective bran-

ches of the service, at this time, are probably not so great, and certainly not greater than they were four years ago; so that the amount of payments made since I took charge of the Department, fully equals all its liabilities created within that period.

The army is in a high state of discipline, and is composed of 10,060 men, part in Florida, and the residue stationed along our extensive frontiers. Notwithstanding the many causes which have existed during the last four years, tending to increase the expenditures of the army, growing out of its increase in 1838, of its operations in Florida, and its employment in the removal of the Indians and along our Northern frontier; by the enforcement of a system of rigid economy and accountability, the relative expenditures have been considerably diminished.

The Ordnance Department has been rendered very efficient, and regulations adopted for its government, and for the better ordering of all matters connected with the foundries engaged in manufacturing cannon for Government.

The Engineer Office has been conducted in a manner to command my satisfaction. The forts have been, and continue to be as rapidly completed and repaired as the amounts appropriated for that purpose will permit.

The corps of Topographical Engineers is organized and employed so as to produce the most useful and beneficial results to the country.

The improvements introduced into the Medical Staff, render it equal to that of any service in the world.

The Quarter Master General's Department has discharged its duties in a manner to secure the most economical disbursement of the public funds committed to its charge.

Through the agents of the Commissary General of Subsistence, the army is abundantly supplied, at diminished cost, with rations of the best description.

The duties of the Commissary General of Purchases are likewise performed in a satisfactory manner, and the army is regularly furnished with substantial clothing of our domestic manufacture.

The army is regularly paid at stated intervals, in legal currency, and the extensive duties of this branch of the service have been performed during the last four years without any loss to Government.

The long contested claims arising out of Indian reservations under the Creek treaty, are very nearly brought to a close. More than three thousand have been decided by this Department since 1838, and those arising under the contract made by Government with Watsonson have been decided by the special commissioner appointed for that purpose, and await only the final action of the Department.

Having in many cases found that either the titles to the lands on which forts and fortifications are situated were incomplete, or the proper evidences of them did not exist in the Department, measures were promptly taken to remedy this deficiency.

The expenses of the Department have been gradually reduced, notwithstanding the cost of conducting hostilities in Florida. In 1837 and 1838 the gross amount of expenditures was between eighteen and twenty millions, owing chiefly to the profuse appropriations of those and the preceding years; in 1839 they were reduced to less than fifteen millions, and in 1840 to less than ten millions; being a reduction of more than eight millions in the annual expenditure, without injury to the service.

Very respectfully, Your most obedient servant, J. R. POINSETT. To the President of the United States;