

FOREIGN.

SOUTH AMERICA.

Buenos Ayres.—The Agent of the American Board in New-York has received a letter from Mr. Brigham, dated Jan. 1, from which we have been kindly permitted to make an extract. Mr. B. states that the population of Buenos Ayres is about half that of New-York, (60,000) though the city is more extensive.

"I find a climate as good as the city's name imports, and a country round it beautiful and luxuriant beyond all I have before seen—a country where an indulgent providence has done every thing for men, but where they make but ungrateful returns. Indolence, with its legitimate offspring vice, bigotry, and ignorance abound, tho' since the revolution they are all less common, and the country is every day assuming a more happy aspect. There is here more intelligence among individuals than I anticipated, and more families of genuine worth; but they stand like beautiful lilies in a wild offensive marsh. They have now in this city four public papers—one daily, two semi-weekly, and one weekly. A medical journal has also just been commenced. There is a public library which is large and accessible by all who wish to enjoy its advantages. Few books are yet printed here, and there is a lamentable want of taste in the public to read what they have."

Colombia.—By an arrival at Baltimore from Lagaira, we learn that a French consul had arrived at that port, in a national vessel of France, and that the English commissioners to the Republic of Colombia, Colonels Hamilton and Campbell, arrived with the Secretary of the mission, at Santa Martha, on the 31st of December. Mr. Watts, the English consul for Carthagena, was also on board, and proceeded the following day for Carthagena. On the 21st Jan. also arrived at the same port, the British Consul General, Mr. Henderson, with his family.

A paragraph in the Jamaica Courant, of the 19th ult. says—"As Mr. Henderson, his Britannic majesty's consul general to the Republic of Colombia, was proceeding by the river Magdalena to Bogota, accompanied by his family, on their arriving at Mompox, one of his sons, a fine promising youth, was induced to bathe, and in the act he was seized on by an alligator, and immediately disappeared. A dog that was swimming at the same time, met a similar fate."

Mexico.—On one night of the month of February, seven murders were committed in the city of Mexico. In one case, two persons having quarrelled, the aggressor plunged a dagger into the breast of the other, who drew it out instantly and buried it in the heart of his adversary. Both fell dead on the same spot.

Pelew Islands.—Capt. Clark, who lately arrived at New Bedford, from coast of Japan, states that Capt. Frederick Coffin (formerly of Nantucket,) of the English ship Syren, while off the Pelew Islands, about the last of March, 1823, getting refreshments, suffered about 20 of the natives to be on board his ship just as he had filled away to leave the coast, when the na-

tives rose upon him, killed two men, wounded Captain Coffin, mate, boat-steerer and several of his people. The crew at first fled to the shrouds but soon rallied and cleared the deck. He had his mizen shrouds cut away, and other damage done to his rigging. The natives seized the whale spades, which made them very powerful weapons. Capt. Coffin stated that the cook defended his castle alone, and drove off every attack with boiling water.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

Monday, April 19.—The bill "to amend the several acts imposing duties on imports," (Tariff bill) was received from the House of R. and read. Mr. Dickerson moved for the second reading of the bill, at the present time. This was objected to by several members; and, consequently, the second reading cannot take place until to-morrow.

On motion of Mr. Macon, the resolution proposed by him, some days since, fixing a time for closing the present session of Congress, was taken up and decided in favor of filling it the 15th day of May—it was then passed to be engrossed and read the third time.

The bill "in addition to the acts relative to the election of President and Vice-President of the United States," was read the third time, passed, and sent to the House for concurrence.

Tuesday, April 20.—The bill from the other House, "to amend the several acts for imposing Duties on Imports," was taken up for a second reading, and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures.

The joint resolution, fixing the 15th day of May next, for the adjournment of the present session of Congress, was read the third time, passed, and sent to the other House for concurrence.

Wednesday, April 21.—Mr. Edwards presented the memorial of the Chamber of Commerce of the City of New-Haven, in the state of Connecticut, setting forth the unequal and unjust operation of the Tariff bill now before Congress; which was read and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures.

A message was received from the House of Representatives informing that the House had appointed a committee, to be joined by a committee on the part of the Senate, to report what business is necessary to be acted upon at the present session; and, also, at what time the two Houses may adjourn. The Senate concurred in the resolution and agreed to join the committee.

The bill from the House of Representatives, "to provide for making surveys for roads and canals," was taken up for consideration in committee of the whole. [On Thursday the bill was still under consideration; and, on Friday, it was ordered to a third reading.]

H. of REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, April 19.—The Speaker presented to the House a voluminous address from Ninian Edwards, of Illinois, lately appointed Minister to Mexico, which address was transmitted by the writer from Wheeling; and purporting to vindicate himself from certain allegations implicating his character, contained in a report lately made by the Secretary of the Treasury, in relation to government deposits in the Western Banks, of one

of which banks Mr. Edwards was a director.

Mr. Tucker, of Va. moved that the address and accompanying papers, be printed, desiring to see the whole truth whatever it might be.

Mr. Warfield called for the reading of the address, and the Clerk proceeded accordingly to read it. The reading had continued about half an hour, when, the address not having been gone more than half through, Mr. Warfield said he was satisfied as to the character of the paper, and did not wish the time of the House to be taken up with it longer, as it would obviously require considerable time.

Mr. Moore, of Alabama, required that the reading should proceed.

[The address embraces some 50 or 60 pages of manuscript, and concludes in the following words:]

"I regret to have it to say to your honorable body, that, both the state of my health, and the want of time, absolutely compel me, most reluctantly, to close this investigation of Mr. Crawford's well timed statement against me. In this situation, I beg leave to refer you, for further facts, of which I might under more favorable circumstances, fairly and successfully avail myself, to a few of the publications with the signature of 'A. B.' herewith transmitted.

"Avowing myself the author of these publications, and (with the exception of a few unimportant typographical errors, and a mere verbal inaccuracy, in regard to the time of a certain report being made,) re-asserting before your honorable body and the nation, that the facts they allege, are substantially true, I do most respectfully solicit, that they be taken as a part of, and be printed with this communication.

"In order to strengthen my claim to this indulgence, combining all the rights of defence, of accusation, and of asking for investigation, which can entitle me, as a citizen of the United States, or an officer of their government, to appear before your honorable body, I do expressly state—

"1st. That the Hon. William H. Crawford, Secretary of the Treasury, has mismanaged the National Funds:

"2nd. That he has received a large amount of uncurrent notes, from certain banks, in part discharge of their debts to the United States, contrary to the resolution of Congress of 1816:

"3d. That, being called on by a resolution of the House of Representatives, to state the amount of uncurrent notes which he received from those banks, he has misstated it, by making it less than it really was:

"4th. That he has, in his report to the House, misrepresented the obligations of those banks, or some one of them, at least, and predicated thereon an indefensible excuse for his conduct, in receiving those uncurrent notes:

"5th. That he has acted illegally, in a variety of instances, by making, and continuing, deposits of public money, in certain local banks without making report thereof to Congress, according to law:

"6th. That he has, in several instances, withheld information and letters, called for by the House, and which it was his duty to have communicated.

"His oath—let it speak for itself. For specifications of these statements, I offer the publication with the signature 'A. B.' above-mentioned, and this communication. And for proof I offer that which they respectively refer to.

"All this I do defensively; for, if the facts stated be true, no rational man can doubt that they must weaken, at least, the force of Mr. Crawford's statement against me.

"I will not charge him with bad intentions in any of those acts. It is more properly the duty of others to inquire into, and judge of that matter. I do not ask for an investigation of his conduct. Such a request ought more naturally to be looked for from himself. But I will say, that if, being an officer of the same government under which he holds his office, I have wilfully and maliciously misrepresented him in the six foregoing allegations, it is a misdemeanor that would prove me unworthy of the office I hold. I in-

voke him, or any of his friends, to make this charge against me, pledging myself, to waive all notice, and with all the disadvantages of absence, to submit to any investigation thereof, by either or by both Houses of Congress:—and to abide by the decision thereupon. If this proposition is declined, I trust we shall have no more canting about an 'A. B. plot.' As to myself, I fear not the consequences of any fair investigation, for I know I shall be able, whatever may be the result, to justify myself to the nation.

"And never having obtained any office by the slightest sacrifice of independence, I never will owe the holding of one, to reluctant forbearance; or the courtesy of my enemies. I will only add, that if any attempt should hereafter be made, meanly to take advantage of my absence, by those who have forborne to attack me, when I could have had an opportunity of defending myself, I must beg of your honorable body, and the nation, to suspend your opinions, and to be assured that there shall be no unavoidable delay in vindicating myself. I have in reserve much matter of defensive accusation, and should most certainly have invited your attention to the report concerning the Receiver of Public Monies at Huntsville, and other matters of not less importance, had time permitted."

The reading having been finished—

Mr. Tucker, of Va. said, he was free to declare, now that he had heard the memorial read, that the style and temper in which it was written, manifested so much personal and party feeling, that he should then withdraw his motion to print, but for one consideration. It is well known, he said, that the distinguished individual, whose character is assailed in that memorial, stands in a very peculiar relation to the public, and that every thing which concerns his character, in the smallest degree, will be regarded with the liveliest interest by the people of this country. Sir, we are bound to represent, not merely the interest of the people, but their feelings too; and they will not be satisfied if this accusation is prevented from going abroad to the world. This was all I meant, in saying I wished the whole truth, to come out. I was far from meaning to imply, that any gentleman was not willing to have a full investigation of the subject. Mr. Tucker remarked that, altho' that House ought not to be made the vehicle of private calumny and detraction, nor be the theatre on which individuals, however elevated they may be, should settle their controversies, yet, when it was recollected how sensitive, how tremblingly alive the people were to every thing which affected the characters of those who stood in the same relation to the public as the officer who was now accused, he thought the whole of the charges brought against him ought to be published. If these charges deserved the character of malignity imputed to them by his worthy colleague, (Mr. Floyd) and he was not now disposed to contest the matter, or to give any opinion on the subject, that the malignity would recoil upon its author. Mr. T. said he had as unshaken confidence in the character and integrity of the distinguished officer who had been thus attacked, and he had no doubt that on this, as on all former occasions, the accusations against him would prove to be false and unfounded. He must, however, persist in his motion for printing.

Mr. Webster observed, that, in the present delicate affair, the first duty of Congress was, to look to its own course, and preserve its own dignity. He had no idea that this House was to be converted into an arena on which prominent political men were to carry on their personal

contests; or a mere instrument, through its power to order papers to be printed, of giving publicity to any thing they might choose to write against each other. If the gentleman from Virginia, who made the motion to print, did not intend to follow up that motion by any other, he should certainly oppose it—as the only legitimate end of printing papers in this House was for the information of members of the House, and not to spread it through the nation. But, if any motion should be made for a committee of investigation, it should have his support; and if the present motion to print, was only preparatory to such a measure, he should not object to it, though he could not consider it very necessary.

Mr. Floyd, of Virginia, said that when he made the motion to lay the memorial on the table, he had done so, because it was the usual course with such papers; but, since it had been read, he was disposed to have it examined, not, he said, because it purported to be a defence, but because it contained specific charges against one of our officers. Mr. F. said he was opposed to the printing of the memorial, until it could be examined by a committee, and determined, on more reflection and investigation, what ought to be done. This was due to the charges made. As to the rest of the extraordinary production, said Mr. F. it cannot be animadverted upon in terms suitable to it. The charges appear to contain nothing but a reiteration of those made by the A. B. conspirators: nor did I think the author of that plot would have ever had the unblushing effrontery to acknowledge himself such. This Iago, however, has chosen to acknowledge the fact, and reiterates the charges formerly made, and seems to think that his late station as Senator, and his recent appointment by the President, as Minister Plenipotentiary to Mexico, will give a more imposing character to the plot, and that, under the sanction of his own name, with the authority of office, that may now be effectuated, which the anonymous writer failed to do.

Every member of the last Congress, said Mr. F. will recollect, that two several committees were appointed to investigate this matter; and every one then seemed to consider the attack as the most infamous conspiracy that was ever formed against the reputation of man. I am unwilling that this House should become the theatre for any political juggler, or the arena where individuals can come to adjust their disputes. I have too high a respect for the dignity of the House, and, I trust, for myself; but, as there is a specific charge that may be attended to, I am willing to investigate it; though I will not admit, that because he has been a Senator, is now a Minister to Mexico, and enjoying the confidence of the President, that, therefore, his statements are to be received as he would wish them. The writer has not justified himself nor defended himself from charges, which he says were made against him, but has cast imputations on all who seem to have been in the way of his original design, which has been pursued with pertinacious malignity.—Were this man's request allowed, and his calumnies printed by the House, would it not be right to receive and print also the defence of Mr. Dickins, or any other citizen? Why has he left the subject of his own defence to