

## COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE FREE PRESS.

Mr. Editor:

Altho' the Committee have labored hard and disingenuously it would seem, to exculpate Mr. Crawford, to palliate and to deny the charges of malversation in office exhibited against him by Mr. Edwards, yet I appeal to all unprejudiced and candid minds, and solemnly declare, if the declaration be necessary, that every charge made against Mr. Crawford in the memorial of Mr. Edwards has been distinctly proved, and admitted to be proved, by the committee themselves, and of this I put myself upon the country and fear not the issue—and I defy the whole legion of Mr. Crawford's advocates to deny it with any semblance of truth; but instead of argument to support them in their assertion they resort to the low and vulgar abuse of Mr. Edwards, no term of reproach is too gross for him; no argument if it was as sharp as a sword with them will avail, whilst they found their merit on false quotations, gross misrepresentations, and an eternal begging of the question.

"Destroy their fib, or sophistry—in vain—  
The creatures at their dirty work again."

How easily can the dirtiest beggar boy throw dirt on the clothes of a fine lady, as she scrapes by; especially in the dark: and how many malicious by-standers will applaud his courage, and deem his insolence wit. This disposition, it is to be lamented, is too prevalent, with writers of both sides of the present political question—& whether the pen of the future historian, if it mention at all will give the greatest honor or credit to Mr. Edwards or to Mr. Crawford, is quite disputable. But because Mr. Edwards has brought forth these charges, against Mr. Crawford, charges too that are important in our government for the people to know, the whole sty is in a roar against him; this sir, is tyranny with a vengeance—I had tho't, that our government was founded in public opinion, that no officer of government was too high, or exempt from public censure if he deserves it; I had thought that the liberty of speech and the liberty of the press were fundamental principles of our government; that the liberty of the press and the liberty of the people sink and rise together; that the liberty of speaking and the liberty of acting, have shared exactly the same fate. I had thought, that this was America, the land where Washington fought, and Henry spoke, and Jefferson wrote.

Those who are entrusted by the people with the management of the public concerns, let them by their talents and integrity, put it beyond the power of any public censor to injure them. High in virtue as high in honor let them solicit public inquiry; let them court the severest scrutiny, invulnerably honest, they will have an opportunity not only of confounding their revilers, but of displaying their own great capacity and virtue, which no calumny can reach, no malevolence defame; and thus, the people will be satisfied that the government is deposited in the very best hands, out of which they would be sorry it should be taken. But in a government like ours where the people is every thing, and the officers of

government their mere servants, to abuse a man for bringing forth charges of delinquencies as one of those public servants, is to me the height of folly, misrule and tyranny; which if indulged in these United States, we may in time see the day that we may have to weep over the triumphs of Columbus. Rome had her censors, whose inquisitions & lustrations corrected abuses, reformed manners, & purged the Senate itself of corrupt and unworthy members. For it may be taken as a safe maxim, that that government is strongest, which builds its security on public opinion, and whose virtue defies the censure of its enemies; for virtue is its own defence, as will as its own reward.

FABIUS.

Enfield, July 15, 1824.

## FOREIGN.

### ENGLAND.

London papers to the 20th June have been received.

The petition of the merchants of London, praying for the recognition of South American independence, had been presented in the House of Commons by Sir James Mackintosh. On this occasion, says the Liverpool Advertiser, Mr. Canning made a statement of the present views of Government with respect to South America, some parts of which were extremely satisfactory, while others were not very intelligible. One most important fact, however, he disclosed, namely, that ministers were at length of opinion that they had waited long enough for the example of Spain; that courtsey towards the mother country had no further claims upon us; and that Great Britain was now at full liberty to act on her own counsel. Mr. Canning's views on this subject are supposed to have met with some opposition in the cabinet, particularly from Chancellor Eldon, whose high tory notions are hostile to every thing savoring of liberal principles. The Manchester Chamber of Commerce had also petitioned in favor of recognizing South American liberty.

Information of the passage into a law of the Tariff Bill had reached England. "The high import rates, observes the Hull Advertiser, imposed on British goods by this absurd law will be severely felt in the manufacturing districts of the country; but we have no doubt it will be felt more injuriously in America.

Accounts from Galway, in Ireland, represent the western part of that county as in a state of "frightful distress" and that the condition of the country was so alarming, that, if the peasantry were not relieved, "starvation must be the inevitable consequence." The typhus fever had also set in, and several families were reduced to a scanty morsel once in twenty-four hours—There was a total want of employment.

### GREECE.

Letters from Greece convey the agreeable intelligence, that the Turks, who had affected a landing in Candia and Negropont, were repulsed at the first mentioned place, with great slaughter. The force of Ulysses at Negropont was considerable and it was fully expected that the utmost extent of the evil of the arrival of the Turkish troops would be to prolong the resistance of that fortress. The Turks are said to have aban-

doned all idea of invading the Morea this summer.

### SOUTH AMERICA.

It is stated by Captain Spring of the brig Julia, 20 days from Lagaira, that when he sailed 10,000 men were ordered to be raised to reinforce Bolivar's army in Peru.—They were ordered to rendezvous in the Valley of Aragua, from thence to proceed to Puerto Cabello, and embark for the Isthmus of Panama, and thence to Peru. All English officers in Caraccas were ordered to join the army, and all officers on parole were ordered to join their respective corps immediately.

Brazil newspapers to the 15th have been received. Among these we find a Proclamation of the Emperor, Don Pedro, to the Brazilians, dated 10th June, announcing the receipt of information that a powerful armament was about to sail from Portugal to reduce them under the dominion of that Kingdom. He exhorts the Brazilians to the most determined resistance against the invaders of their liberties; tells them that they must adopt for their motto "Independence or death"—That as their Emperor and protector, he will shed the last drop of his blood in defence of their rights and for the security of their happiness; that should the enemy prove too formidable for them in the contest, they must abandon their towns, and retiring to the interior, entrench themselves strongly, until they can array a competent force to expel them from the territory; that their fleet will come to their assistance whenever it can co-operate with them successfully, in annoying that of the enemy, and that swarms of Privateers will sweep the commerce of Portugal from the ocean, &c. &c.

The above is a very general and imperfect outline of the proclamation of the Emperor, of which we expect to present a translation in our next, by the polite assistance of a gentleman conversant with the language.



HALIFAX:

FRIDAY, AUG. 6, 1824.

To Correspondents.—"Halifax" in our next.

Raleigh, July 30.—The Supreme Court is still in session, but will adjourn it is expected, during the present week. On Saturday last, Benj. Persons and John Hall, both of Warren county, obtained County Court licences, and Elisha Young of Orange, a licence to practice in the Superior Courts.—Reg.

Blundering.—The legislature of Tennessee, at its last session, passed an act providing for the election of President and Vice President, according to which the election is to be held on the 1st Thursday in October, and the electors are to assemble on the third Monday in November, for the purpose of voting for President and Vice President. By the constitution of U. S. the electors throughout the union are required to assemble in their respective colleges on the first Monday in December; and by a law of con-

gress, the several states are required to elect their electors within thirty four days preceding the first Wednesday in December. How the intelligent legislature of Tennessee should have committed such a blunder, is very surprising. An extra session of the legislature must necessarily be called to remedy the evil.

Love and murder.—A free coloured man was murdered on Saturday last at Norfolk, by another coloured man, who has made his escape. They were rivals for the good graces of a "negro beauty," and Jaco threatened Jim that if he caught him at her house, or serenading under her window, that he would do for him. Jim, regardless of this threat, continued to pay his devoirs to the "interesting" object of his affection, when Saco, rather unlike a "man of honor" it must be acknowledged, attacked Jim with a "brick bat," and some sharp pointed instrument, and "did for him" in real earnest. As soon as the fact was known, Jaco took to his heels, was pursued by a posse of constables and others, but he proved himself to be the best bottom and far outstripped these limbs of the law."

Vessel burnt.—The Schooner Harriet, Stanton, of Stonington, six days from Plymouth, North-Carolina, laden with 600 barrels of naval stores, anchored in the bay last night. About 12 o'clock, the watch discovered the vessel to be on fire in the fore-castle. All hands were immediately called, and every exertion was made to extinguish the flames, but in vain. They had penetrated into the hold, and it was soon found necessary to abandon the schooner. The captain and crew accordingly took to the boat, having barely time to save part of their clothing, and were picked up by the ship Lafayette, coming in from Charleston.

The fire is supposed to have originated from a negro seaman on board having, during his watch, fallen asleep, and left a lamp burning below, whence the fire took.—New-York Am.

Atrocious murder.—Mrs. Mansfield, wife of Joel Mansfield, at North Haven, (Conn.) has been committed to prison, charged with the wilful murder of her husband on Sunday morning last—On the investigation of the case before the Justices, the following facts were developed, as related by a physician from New Haven, who was called on to attend the deceased: Mrs. Mansfield (according to her story) had conceived the idea that her husband had conspired with Dr. Foot, to poison her, and as she expected to die soon, she wished him to accompany her. It seems that Mr. H. had been up that morning, and having given some directions to some members of the family, had again thrown himself upon the bed, and while in this situation, his wife entered the room with a small broad axe, with which, as she says, she struck him two blows on the side of the head, and beat it in, in a most shocking manner. She states that after the first blow, (and sometimes she says after the second,) he rose up on the bed, and said to her, I believe you have killed me; upon which she struck him the second time. Mr. H. survived the wound about six hours, but was destitute of reason, and unable to speak; his age was about 45 or 50. A little boy about 7 or 8 years old,

states that he entered the room and met Mrs. H. coming from it with the hatchet in her hand, and perceiving Mr. H. in distress, he asked him the matter, and Mr. H. replied that an ox had gored him. This was considered unlikely, as from the nature and extent of the wound, it was judged that he could not have spoken after receiving it. Mrs. H. is said to have been a troublesome woman for many years, and given to intemperance.—N. Y. E. Post.

Important invention.—The Norfolk Herald describes a machine invented by Mr. Charles Brodie of that town, by which the workmen lately descended 18 feet under water, and replaced a plank on the bottom of the Delaware 74, which had rotted in consequence of the accidental removal of the copper thereon, at the time the ship was launched. On the old plan, it is said, the cost of repairing it would have been from 25 to 30,000 dollars.

Depreciated bank paper.—A letter from St. Louis of June 30th, states that Illinois state paper was selling at that place for thirty cents the dollar.

A rogue caught.—On Monday evening, the 5th July, John B. Murray & son, of the city of New York, entrusted to their clerk, Lamberton Cooper, 2400 dollars, to be deposited in bank. The clerk, thinking the opportunity a good one to set up for himself, departed for the west. On Sunday last he arrived in Wheeling, with a fine horse and gig which he had purchased, and was about to continue his trip, when he was tapped on the shoulder by Mr. Joseph L. Hays, an enterprising police officer of New York, who set out in pursuit eight days after his departure. Mr. Hays persuaded him to return, and took a seat with him in his gig as far as this city. On the way hither however, Cooper overset the gig twice and became so unruly that Mr. Hays, on his arrival here, took him before the Mayor, who, upon examination, committed him to prison. All the money was found upon him, or accounted for, but one note of 1000 dollars, of the Mechanics' Bank of New York, supposed to be No. 150, dated February 12, 1824, with the name of Elwyn endorsed on the back. This note is believed to be now in Pittsburgh, and Mr. Hays has offered a reward of 50 dollars for its delivery to him at the Pittsburgh and Philadelphia stage office.—Pittsburgh Gaz.

Singular Case.—A woman named Rhoda Goodrich, was examined before the magistrates of Nantucket on Thursday last, charged with manslaughter by killing her infant child. It was proved in evidence that Rhoda was in a state of intoxication, and alone with her infant in her room; she was heard to fall on the floor, and her child, at the moment, cried; about an hour after she was found lying on the floor, in a sound sleep, with her infant lying under her, both face down, and the child dead. The magistrates were unanimously of opinion that the crime thus proved was manslaughter, and the wretched woman was committed to jail to await her trial at the next term of the Court of Common Pleas to be holden in October. The Nantucket Inquirer states, that this extraordinary case occasioned a great excitement, and that between 2 and 300 persons attended the examination.