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### DOMESTIC.

The Court-martial at Frederick Town are meeting on with the evidence in the case of Gen. Wilkinson. The Secretary of War has issued the General's request that Colonel Cushing and Major Pike should be present—and it seems that Major Backus passed through this city, a few days since, for the South, to require their attendance at Frederick Town. It will be three months at least, before they can be on the field of action.—*Register*.

A Swindler Taken.—Our readers will, probably, recollect a very bold and audacious act of swindling committed in this city in November 1850. The particulars were, a general looking man, took lodgings at a respectable house in King-street, for about a week. He called himself to have recently arrived from Georgia, and said his name was George Brown. On the last morning of his stay, he rode up the road some distance, where he met three waggons loaded with Cotton, and bargained with the drivers for the purchase of it, promising them a trade above the market price, as he wanted to make up a parcel for shipping immediately, and professing himself highly pleased with the quality of their Cotton. He directed to a very respectable Mercantile House in King-street, of which he stated he was a partner, where they were to deliver their loads, and receive their money in specie. He then made all haste to town, and calling at the House he had described to the waggons, stated that he had a quantity of Cotton then coming in, which he would sell at 19 cents a pound; which the Gentlemen agreed to pay for it. The Waggons came in, were unloaded, and the Cotton weighed, when the Swindler received the money for it in Bank Bills. All this time he had deceived both the merchant and the poor countrymen; the first supposing him to be the owner of the waggons, and the others satisfied in their own minds of his being a partner in the House. On receiving the money, (\$ 200) the fellow stepped out to the waggons, and showed it to them, at the same time apologizing to them that he would be under the necessity of making them wait till he returned from the Bank, as he had not sufficient specie in his House to fulfil his contract with them. They entering on suspicion of him, agreed to wait, and thus gave him a fair opportunity to escape with his booty. These are briefly the particulars of the fraud. Diligent search was made for the fellow at the time, and a reward offered for his apprehension, without success. His pursuers, though, were not to be dismayed by present failure, but with a zeal of perseverance, worthy of success, pursued with unabated ardor their object; and finally have succeeded. The Swindler, whose real name is said to be *Homer G. Bostick*, was brought to town last night, (five years after the perpetration of his crime) and lodged in Goal, by Esauziel Nash Esq.; and Mr. Nathaniel Jefrey, who, after a long and laborious pursuit, voluntarily undertaken, took him, a few days ago, at Briar Creek, Burk County, Georgia. *Charleston Times, Oct. 4.*

Our London papers by the Robert Wald, add but very little interesting to our former advices. The state of the King appears principally to engross the attention of the London paragraphs.—From these it evidently appears, that he is in as low and distressing a state as is possible in a condition of human existence.—He has become totally blind and helpless.—He is under the necessity of being carried from his bed to his chair; and in undergoing this he is frequently affected with paroxysms which seem to presage his final dissolution.—The attention of his physicians is therefore necessarily confined to endeavour to alleviate his sufferings, without any rational expectation of ever restoring him to bodily sanity.

Nothing decisive with respect to the views of Russia is contained in the English papers.—Speculations on this subject are variable and contradictory.

Of American affairs the London Gazettes are, we may say, totally silent.—The violent sensation created by the affair of the Little Belt appears to have subsided; and the public seem to wait, in sullen indifference, for illudatory advices from this side of the water. *Phil Gazette.*

The ship *Averick, Colley*, arrived in Hampton Roads on Thursday last, in 44 days from Liverpool—bound to City Point. Letters and papers by her, are to the 26th August—but they afford no additional information to that previously received. The prolonged existence of the Old King excited the astonishment of every one—and resting upon the certainty of his death taking place at no distant day, the public mind was preparing itself for the changes which it was hoped would ensue.—The King's mental disorder, had during his bodily indisposition—he is represented indeed as being a perfect *maniac*, and as suffering more from the spasm of his diseased brain, than from any other cause.—The irritable temper towards America, created by the Affair of the Little Belt, had greatly subsided; and language of good will loving kindness towards us began to pervade the English journals.—The idea of a war with America, was entirely exploded, and the consequence was, that the markets for American produce, which on the first alarm of a rupture experienced considerable elevation, were again sustaining the natural depression of the times.—The London papers are partly occupied with details of *Irish affairs*; in which ill fated country the hand of power and bigotry, had begun to shew itself in fresh colours. Five distinguished Catholics of Dublin, viz. Dr. Burke, Dr. Henry E. Taaffe, Gregory Scurlough, and Thomas Kirwan, had been arrested on a charge of acting as delegates, or electors of delegates, to the Catholic Committee, and had respectively given bail to stand their trial for the alleged offence—of intending to petition Parliament for the emancipation of the Catholics of Ireland!!! Warrants were out for the apprehension of other persons charged with similar crimes.—These proceedings had excited great consternation in Dublin.

The Prince Regent of Portugal has conferred on Lord Wellington the title of Lord Vimiera, with a pension of 20,000 rousades (about 11,000 dollars) per annum, which he has declined to accept. He has also relinquished his pay as marshal general of Portugal, which amounts to more than 34,000 dollars a year.

The French settlement at Madagascar has capitulated to the English.

The Little Belt is supposed to have arrived in England about the 20th of Aug. Previous to the 13th, and to the Westward of long 40, she took the American ship *Traveler*, from Bordeaux, with a valuable cargo.

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### THE SAILOR.

A few evenings ago—I remember it was rainy one—as I was walking along one of the back streets of the city, I was much struck with the melancholy figure of a blind man, who was singing a song of love—Miserable creature, I have found, among the number of distressed mortals, a form more suited to her name.

While I was contemplating the wretchedness of the object, and comparing it with scenes which necessarily compelled him to haunt a sailor, who came whistling along the street, with a stick under his arm, and purchased a ballad of him.

God preserve you, cried the blind man, I have not tasted bread this day—when the sailor looking around him, on a sudden sprang up four steps into a baker's shop—near which he stood; and returning immediately with a small loaf silently into the poor man's hand, and went on whistling as he came.

I was so affected at this noble act of generosity, that I called the honest seaman back to me, and taking the little silver I had about me, which I think was but four shillings—Thy nobleness of soul, said I, and the goodness of thy heart, my lad, which I have so bright an instance of, makes me sorry I cannot reward thee, as thou hast deserved; however, I must beg your acceptance of this trifle, as a small testimony of how much I admire thy generous nature. Bless your noble heart, said the sailor, and thank you, but we will divide the prize money fairly, stepping back to the blind man, he gave him half of it and clasping him upon the shoulder at the same time, he added, withal, here are two shillings for thee, my blind man, for which you are not obliged to me, but to a gentleman who stands within a few yards of you, so get into harbour, and make thyself well, and keep thy horn drum for fair weather.

Then giving his hat a quick wave over his head, he thanked me again, and went plodding down the street.

A LAWYER'S CLERK.

In the life of Mr. Cobett, written by himself, he speaks thus feelingly and humorously of the condition of a lawyer's clerk—a species of young men who have been of late very prominent in the disturbances at Covent Garden Theatre.—“No part of my life has been totally unattended with pleasure, except eight or nine months I passed in Gray's Inn. The office (for so the dungeon where I wrote was called) was so dark, that on cloudy days we were obliged to burn tandles. I worked like a galley slave from five in the morning till eight or nine at night, and sometimes all night long. How many quarrels have I sustained to foment and perpetuate between those innocent fellows, John Doe and Richard Roe! How many times (God forgive me!) have I set them to combat each other with cut-throats, staves, and pitchforks, and brought them to answer for their misdeeds before our Sovereign Lord the King, seated in his Court of Westminster! When I think of the *quid pro quo*, and the count of the tally that I scribbled over; when I think of those sheets of 72 words, and those lines of inches apart, my brain turns. Gracious Heaven! if I am doomed to be wretched, bury me beneath Iceland snow, and let me feed on blubber; stretch me under the burning line, and deny me thy propitious dew; and if it be thy will, suffocate me with the fetid and pestilential air of a “democratical chamber: but save me from the desk of an attorney.”

The Humble Petition of discarded B.

That many Ladies and Gentlemen, to whom I used to have free access, have now either forsaken him, or associated him with a gang of strangers, with whom he cuts a most ridiculous figure. A young lady, to the mortification of B, observed the other day that she made a pretty contract with a villain below; that cases were pretty well spread among the woods; in the middle summer she drinks *hale* at her meals, and *heats* her *hath* without receiving any benefit from them; she sits or wathers, but does not see the *ravens* clear. The Clerk of the Court, at the conclusion of every prayer, always wails the insignificant word *Amen*, while the Clergyman cries out “*oh, oh, oh, Lord God of Sabaoth!*” A Clergyman, who having an impediment in his speech, used to add after an *Amen*, and read “*O Lord God of Sabaoth!*” said the Clerk, through the force of an example, went on—“and mercifully Amen when we call upon thee.” I mentioned this