

ment then took place, and the Cortes and the palace were assailed by the populace with violent and treacherous outcries. The King became alarmed, and refused to receive the resignation of the Ministers, entreating them at all events to keep their portfolios for the present until he could form a government. To this they assented, and it is supposed the King will accede to their recommendation, to leave Madrid and keep them.

Such, we believe, to be a correct outline of the accounts that arrived yesterday.—*Courier.*

Lord Fitzroy Somerset, and Lord Leveson Gower, were expected to quit Madrid on their return to this country on the 24th ult.

War had not yet commenced between France and Spain. In a late debate in the House of commons, Mr. Canning said "the hopes of preserving peace between those powers, were materially diminished, but not destroyed."

It is said that France has informed the British minister at Paris, that his further attempts to mediate between the French and Spanish Governments, would be unavailing.

The Courier of the 4th of March, considers the hopes of preserving peace, as almost extinguished. The same paper objects that England should espouse the cause of Spain, because she would thereby recognize the principle of all the revolutionary movements which have taken place of late years on the Continent, and thereby unite against her every crowned head in Europe; because it would require the renewal of the 5,000,000 taxes just repealed, and other burdens upon the people; and because Reason, Justice and Policy, forewarn her to avoid it.

The Courier calls the men who now govern at Madrid "a band of factions demagogues."

In France, the movement of the troops towards Spain continued. The question on the appropriation bill of 100 millions, was not yet decided in the Chambers.—The debate on the subject continued stormy.

The fleet from Brest had sailed, and it was reported they were destined against Cadiz.

Disaffection has appeared among the French troops on the Spanish frontier.

The Spanish Cortes are said to have granted letters of marque against French vessels—and 40 commissions had been taken.

The Session of the Spanish extraordinary Cortes was terminated on the 19th Feb.—*N. Y. Mer. Adv.*

FROM CADIZ.

Philadelphia, April 9.—By the brig *Bramlette*, Capt. Hayes, arrived at this port yesterday from Cadiz, we have received the following information:

On the 10th February, about 800 Constitutional troops arrived at Cadiz from Seville—one of the regiments, who, under Riego, first proclaimed the constitution. Two parties of the city troops, the *Liberales* and *Comunares*, were at variance, and had quarrelled several times. The latter party, composed of the lower class of the city, were the strongest and the most turbulent. When the regular troops arrived, (whom they supposed to be called in to aid the *Liberales*), they rose in arms to the number of 1700, and insisted they (the regiments) should leave the city. The regiments and *Liberales*, amounting to about 1400, assembled on the *Almeida* Ramparts, also under arms. The other party had taken possession of the Park of Artillery, and encamped there. They were on the eve of coming to battle, when the Governor interposed, saying he would send an express to the Captain General of the Province, who was at Seville, and abide by his answer whether the regiments should leave the city. The answer was received on the 14th, forbidding the regiments moving, and giving two hours to the *Comunares* to lay down their arms, otherwise to be considered as rebels. The Riot Act was then read by the Alcade, and the Captain General's answer. Shortly after, they dispersed, and the regiments mounted guard. During the Carnival, thirteen persons were murdered. *Union.*

FROM PORTUGAL.

Extract of a letter from an American in Lisbon, dated Feb. 21, communicated for the Boston Patriot.

The Cortes, after an able discussion of two days, have declared, by almost an unanimous vote, that the invasion of Spain, by any power, with the intention of interfering in the internal political concerns of that nation, would be considered as an attack on Portugal, and that measures would be taken accordingly.

There has been no demonstration, by the French army, for actual invasion, and doubts are now entertained, whether the general unpopularity in France, of such an invasion, and the apparent determination of Spain and Portugal to make an obstinate resistance, will not induce the French government to pause.

In the discussion in the Cortes, several of the members quoted the sentiments expressed by our President, in his message to Congress, relative to the impropriety of any nation's undertaking to regulate the internal affairs of another nation.

Extract from another letter.

There have been several interesting

debates in the Cortes here in Lisbon, on this most extraordinary invasion of Spain. They have taken preparatory steps for assisting in the general defence of the Peninsula. The army is now recruiting, so as to be placed on the footing of 1814, viz: 40,000 men and upwards. There is a proposition now under discussion, which will probably be carried, to raise 20 or 25 additional battalions of light troops, and to organize 200,000 national guards."

FROM RIO JANEIRO.

The brig *Homer*, arrived at Norfolk from Rio Janeiro, reports that the French ship *St. Martin* arrived at Rio on the 9th Feb. from Havre de Grace, having on board the Baron de Carwinsky, Chamberlain of the King of Bavaria, with despatches from the Emperor of Austria to the Emperor of Brazil.

Information had been received at Rio Janeiro that the King of Sweden had authorized a commercial intercourse between Sweden and Norway and the ports of South America, and of his having also authorized the commercial vessels belonging to the inhabitants of those ports, who received and amicably treated the vessels of Norway and Sweden, to enter the ports of the two Kingdoms, and receive their productions in exchange for the imported American produce.

FROM MEXICO.

New-York, April 9.

The very fast sailing schr. *Fly*, Capt. Boyer, arrived here yesterday from Vera Cruz, having left this port on the evening of the 21st ult. We are obligingly favored by Capt. B. with the following account of the state of affairs in Mexico, up to the date of his departure, and, from our knowledge of his character, we feel authorized to vouch for its correctness. This account elucidates many of the recent occurrences in that quarter, which have hitherto appeared mysterious.

On the 26th of January, negotiations commenced on the part of the Imperial army, then besieging Vera Cruz, with Gen. St. Anna, the Republican chief. Many propositions were made by Gen. Echavarrá, the commander of the besieging army, all of which were rejected, until the 1st of Feb. when the stipulations of St. Anna were complied with, and the siege raised. In the afternoon of that day, Gen. Echevarra entered the city, amidst the huzzas of the people. He was met by Gen. St. Anna at the gates of the city, and received with open arms, and was thence escorted to the Palace. On the following day he departed for Jalapa. On his arrival there, a correspondence commenced between him and the minister of war, which resulted in nothing of importance. On the 17th, the great Republican Chief, GAUDALOUPE VICTORIA, entered Vera Cruz with every manifestation of joy. In anticipation of this event, the crown of Iturbide had been burnt in the public square, and the Tree of Liberty planted upon it, under which Victoria passed on his way to the palace. On arriving at the palace, he, with St. Anna, presented themselves at the balconies with wreaths of laurels on their brows, which the people insisted upon their wearing. A few days after this, the Marquis de Vibanco, commander of the Imperial troops at Puebla, declared for Victoria, St. Anna, and Liberty.

The Emperor, immediately on his hearing of this, despatched to Puebla, two Commissioners, Gen. Negrete, and Herrere, Secretary of State, to treat in some manner for the preservation of himself and his crown. On their arrival, Gen. Negrete immediately embraced the popular cause, and Herrere returned without any particular audience with the Republican Chiefs. The Emperor then proposed to establish the Congress, & to proceed agreeably to its decrees. This was refused, and a demand was made of his crown, with a promise of protection to his person, until a Congress should convene, who would direct in what manner he should be disposed of. The Emperor, on receiving this, left the city of Mexico, (after arming all the Indian population with swords, knives, and muskets) for Tacabayo, one league distant. He also formed an alliance with the Grand Cado, an Indian Chief of the interior, who has engaged to furnish him with ten thousand warriors, upon condition that he shall be Emperor of one half of Mexico, and Iturbide of the other. This Chief had left Mexico for the purpose of fulfilling the terms of the co-partnership.

On the 21st of March, a despatch was received at Vera Cruz, dated at Puebla on the 14th, stating that the army was to move from that place on the following day to surround Iturbide, who, it is said, was about to depart from Tacabayo for Valadola, supposed for the purpose of forming a junction with his Indian colleague.

The Republican army is divided and directed as follows:—Gen. Bravo advances for Chalco; Inclou, for Toluca; Negrete for Ayotta; Echavarrá, for Gaudaloupe; and Barragan, for Guatillau. Another division is ordered for St. Augustine de Las Caevás. Gen. Victoria commanded at Vera Cruz. Gen. Lobarto was at Gaumandé, with 600 men. The whole Republican force was estimated at 7 or 8000; that of the Emperor consisted of 1000 to 1500.

Gen. St. Anna sailed from the Island of Sacrifice (one league from Vera Cruz) on the 21st of March, with a squadron of 1 brig and 4 schooners, having on board 300 to 400 troops, for Tampico. The supposed object of this expedition was to intercept the shipment of a large sum of money belonging to Iturbide, said to be on board a Spanish packet, which was to sail next day for Havana.

The squadron lately purchased in the United States by Iturbide, is entirely hauled up, with the exception of one gun boat and one schooner, and the officers and men, with the exception of a very few, discharged.

The British sloop of war *Ranger* arrived at Vera Cruz on the 25d of Feb. with a Mr. Mackay, an agent of the government, on board, who was to have proceeded to the Emperor; but on finding the country in the hands of the Republicans, he embarked on board the *Ranger*, and sailed, as was said, for Havana.

COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE STAR.

I observed, with much pleasure, that a correspondent of yours has taken up the subject of valor. I do not boast of this virtue myself, although I am a very great admirer of it in others. Many very popular generals, as I have been informed, stand in the same predicament. As you inserted the communication of "A," I am emboldened (and the subject matter on hand would seem to create such an ebullition) to propose a few remarks.

Your correspondent "A" recommended the pistol; but he surely had forgotten himself and the small sword also. But I pay him due respect for his good intentions—"who can be wise and loyal in a moment." I have no doubt but your correspondent has as much zeal for the cause as any of us; and to the perplexing rules and formalities with which society is at present burdened, must we look for his careless examination into the arsenal of honor.

Some people have supposed that Captain Bobadill is an imaginary character. But this supposition is a most notorious libel on the people of these United States, of all colors, ages and circumstances. I venture to say, that if the whole of the armies of the Holy Alliance were to land upon our shores, they would be met on the same terms as this imaginary valiant British captain proposed. Our valorous countrymen must not be driven to despondency by an idea so revolting to every patriotic bosom—I mean the idea that Capt. Bobadill's character is not a true one. Nor do I think they should be dequantitated by the last effort of any law of this our free and happy land. Shall valor be like an effulgent sun, whose lustre shall be beheld but for a moment, and then sink beneath its western horizon? Shall it be like the constellative stars, whose splendor can be obscured by a cloud? Shall it be like the terribly convulsed ocean, subject to the operation of a calm? In short, shall it be like a fiery-tailed comet, with all its ifs and ands? No; let it be like what we have seen and read of, and know to be true. Let it rest upon that spot

"Where soul with soul and nerve with nerve contends."

The single combatants! hail ye champions! hail ye marksmen! hail ye twirlers of the small sword! Ye valorous men! ye say "among the trumpets! hail!" and the pistol-men, who "smell the battle afar off, the thunder of captains and the shoutings!" hail!

G. THE STAR.

Not that I am dissatisfied with the reasoning of "Adner," who some time ago made his appearance in the Register, for I really think, as far as he has gone, that he has acquitted himself handsomely, and deservedly exposed some of the dangerous consequences resulting from theatrical exhibitions; but, as he has omitted to give to the public the opinions of a number of celebrated writers on this subject, permit me, with all due deference to his researches, to supply the deficiency, by giving the following extracts, which I have met with in the course of my reading:

"Flays raise the passions, and pervert the use of them; and, of consequence, are dangerous to morality." *Plato.*

"The seeing of comedies ought to be forbidden to young people, until age and discipline have made them proof against debauchery." *Aristotle.*

"The German women were guarded against danger, and preserved their purity by having no play-houses among them." *Tacitus.*

Ovid, in a grave work addressed to Augustus, advises the suppression of theatrical amusements, as a grand source of corruption.

"It requires not time, nor much thought, to discover the poisonous influence of such plays, when the chief characters are decked out with every vice in fashion, however gross; and when their deformities are carefully disguised under embellishments of wit, sprightliness and good humour." *Lord Kaimes.*

Dr. Johnston, speaking of the effects produced by Collier's view of the immorality and profaneness of the English stage, says "the wise and the pious caught the alarm, and the nation wondered that it had suffered irreligion and immorality to be openly taught at the public charge." *Life of Congreve.*

"Nothing has done more to debauch the age in which we live than the stage, poets, and the play-house." *Collier.*

"It is impossible that the establishment of theatres, so contrary to ancient manners, can be generally applauded. How many generous citizens will see with indignation these monuments of luxury and effeminacy raised upon the ruins of ancient simplicity! Where is the imprudent mother, who would dare to carry her daughter to this dangerous school? And what respectable woman would not think herself dishonored in going there! In all countries the profession of a player is dishonorable." *Romana.*

"Although it is said of plays, that they teach morality, and of the stage, that it is the mirror of human life, these assertions are mere declamation, and have no foundation in reality. Do the contrary, play-houses are the very hot beds of vice and immorality." *Sir John Hanington.*

"The play house is the Devil's Chapel; a nursery of licentiousness and vice; a recreation which ought not to be allowed among a civilized, much less a christian people." *Tillotson.*

"It is amazing to think that women, whose brightest ornament ought to be modesty, should continue to abet, by their presence, so much unchastity, as is to be found in the theatre. How few plays are acted which a modest woman can see consistently with decency, in every part; and, even when the plays are reserved themselves, they are sure to be seasoned with something disgusting in the prologue or epilogue. The power of custom and fashion is very great in making people blind to the most manifest improprieties." *Witherspoon.*

"Some of the advocates for plays say that they have nothing in view, but to represent vice punished, and virtue rewarded. Granted. But will a majority of those who attend play-houses take notice, and be improved by these punishments and rewards?—are not their minds taken up with something else? Can it be imagined that the art with which the actor inspires love of virtue, can overcome the crowd of thoughts which sway them to licentiousness? To be able to inculcate virtue, under such circumstances, the authors of these plays must be philosophers of the first rank; but, in our age, we meet with but few first rate philosophers."

"Avoid such performances, where vice assumes the face of virtue. Seek wisdom in a different and more rational school. A man is wise while he continues in the pursuit of wisdom; but who would go to a play-house to find it? Learn to pursue virtue from a blind man, who never makes a step without first examining the ground with his staff."

"This world is like a vast and turbulent ocean, mankind the vessels sailing on its bosom. Our prudence are the sails; the sciences serve us for oars; good or bad fortune are the favorable or contrary winds; and judgment is the rudder: without this, the vessel is tossed by every billow, and liable to shipwreck in every breeze." *Goldsmith.*

I have, like others, often attended the performance of plays, and sometimes caught the electric feeling of sympathy at seeing many around me apparently so much affected at the gloomy and melancholy scenes of injured innocence and virtue, which are the leading characteristics of a deep tragedy. But, on cool reflection, found I had been deluded by mere fiction; and the impressions made upon the mind were more evanescent than the shadow of a shade. There are ladies who constantly attend the stage, and who, at the representation of mere ideal suffering, will shed tears in profusion, and exhibit symptoms of distress truly ridiculous; but, on their return home, they soon loose those benevolent feelings of compassion, under whose influence they could be prompted, while in the play-house, to give all they possessed to relieve distressed humanity. But let a real object of charity call on them at home, and under all his appeals to the benevolence of their TENDER HEARTS, they remain callous to his entreaties, and suffer him to pass under all his misfortunes, unpitied and unrelieved.

In almost every play that I have either seen or read, I found them interlarded with scenes too vulgar for the ear of modesty, and expressions so profane, as to tincture with confusion the cheeks of innocence and virtue. I know it has long been a question whether plays were calculated to benefit or injure society, and yet continues to be with a certain portion of mankind; but I am clearly of the opinion that the injury produced far outweighs any supposed benefit resulting from the stage; and before "Edwin" undertakes to prove to the world that plays now are, or ever have been beneficial to mankind, I would advise him to read the above extracts; and if he can controvert such arguments, he ought deservedly to wear the palm of victory. *TOM.*

Baleigh:

FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 18, 1823.

Foreign News.—The extracts we give to-day from English papers, received at New-York by the ship *Columbia*, although not absolutely decisive as to the question of peace or war in Europe, are, nevertheless, very interesting, and indicate that the latter event is very probable, if not inevitable.

Our last advices from Mexico are also highly important. Iturbide's career appears to be drawing to a close, and his usurpation is in a fair way to reap its merited reward.

Newbern, April 5.

On Sunday last a violent gale of wind was experienced at Ocracock Bar, which did great injury to the shipping. The following is a list of the vessels that suffered most severely:

Sloop *Emily*, Capt. West, of N. York, loaded with corn and bacon—sailed totally lost, part of the cargo saved.

Schooner *Only Son*, of Cohasset, from Martinique, bound to Elizabeth City, with a cargo of Molasses—sailed, cargo saved.

Schr. *Thomas Cox*, Pike, of Trymouth, N. C. with a cargo of salt, driven ashore on the royal shoal, but will probably be got off—cargo saved.

The Schr *Wesley*, Capt. E. Ramsey, of Alexandria, bound for the coast of Florida, having on board letters to Com. Porter's squadron, was driven ashore near the north Bar, and totally lost. All the crew, except the Mate, Mr. John Mason, perished.—The letters were saved.—*Sentinel.*

COM. PORTER'S SQUADRON.

Extract of a letter to the Editors of the *Star*, from Commodore Porter, dated United States' Navy, dated

United States' Ship Peacock, of Key West, 22d March, 1823.

As the expedition under Commodore Porter has excited unusual interest in all parts of our country, I have thought that a short sketch of its operations might be perused with interest by a portion of the readers of the *Star*; I therefore take the liberty of giving you a hasty account of our proceedings thus far:

The squadron left the Capes of Virginia, on the 15th of February, and reached the Island of St. Thomas on the 2d of March, without any occurrence of note. On its arrival there, the Commodore was informed that many depredations had been committed on our commerce by privateers fitted out from Porto Rico, and that some of them were, at that time, hovering about the south side of that island. The Commodore immediately despatched Lieut. Com'd Perry in the *Shark*, with the *Ferret*, *Terrier* and *Weasel*, to scour that part of the coast, and to afford the necessary protection to our commerce, whilst he, with the remainder of the squadron, sailed on the following morning for St. Johns, the capital of the island of Porto Rico, to ascertain from the authorities, the number and description of the privateers commissioned at that place; and the extent and nature of the blockade of the coasts of Colombia and Mexico, said to be enforced by these privateers. To save time, the schooner *Greyhound*, Capt. John Porter, was sent ahead with a dispatch to the Captain General, and with orders to wait a certain time for an answer, and then rejoin us. On the 5th the squadron arrived off the port, and on the following morning Lieut. Commandant Wm. H. Cocke, in the *Fox*, was sent in with a letter from the Commodore to Captain Porter, asking certain information of him, with which he was directed to return immediately. On his entering the harbor and passing the fort, he observed that several guns were fired; but as no change was made in the manœuvres of the *Fox*, we did not suppose they could have been fired at her. The squadron remained off the harbor until sunset, when the *Peacock* stood within three or four miles of the anchorage, and we saw the schooner, but no disposition being evinced to join us, the Commodore determined to go to Aguado for water, where he had directed the absent vessels to join him; knowing if they were detained, that his presence off the port would be of no service, as the batteries were so strong as to render any attempt of ours on them unavailing, even with ten times our present force; and if they were not, they would join us on the day following at Aguado. We therefore proceeded to that place, and remained until the 10th before we were relieved from a state of the most painful anxiety and suspense.

Captain Porter then joined us, and informed, that on getting within hail of the principal castle, mounting several hundred guns, the *Fox* was fired on, and the fourth shot, from a forty-two pounder, charged with round and langrage, carried away poor Cooke's arm and thigh; he promptly and with great coolness, ordered the vessel to be rounded to, and the anchor let go. Seven or eight minutes afterwards, he expired—and his death will ever be recollected with the deepest regret by all the Navy, and by a numerous acquaintance in civil life. As an officer, and a man, he has left few equals behind him; and none who surpassed him. The intelligence was received with the most sincere sorrow; minute guns, to the number of 15, were fired on board the flag ship; the colours of all the fleet were struck at half mast, and thus worn throughout the day, and the following "general order" was issued by the commander in chief. A certified copy of the general order is enclosed, with copies of the correspondence, which took place previously and subsequently to this melancholy occurrence; by which you will perceive that the Commodore has maintained with his usual ability the rights and honor of our flag; and, in doing so, has not been unmindful of what was due to that of Spain. He has been prevailed on to allow copies of these letters to be taken, as an offset to a publication in the *Echo* of the 8th, which was evidently penned by the same hand that wrote his Excellency's dispatch, and is calculated to make very erroneous impressions. Thus has Virginia lost one of her bravest and most worthy sons, and the