

## Richmond Agricultural Society.

Pursuant to previous notice, the farmers of Richmond county met at Rockingham, on the 4th of July, for the purpose of forming the Richmond Agricultural Society: when a constitution was adopted, having been prepared, by a previous Committee, and the following officers chosen for one year:

Gen. B. H. Covington, President; William McLeod, Robt. J. Steel, Vice Presidents; Col. James A. Hart, Recording Sec'y; Walter F. Leak, Corresponding Sec'y.

Sanders Merridy, Thomas Steel, Stephen Williams, Robt. Powell, Stephen Ward, Charles Robinson, Wm. C. Thomas, Wm. Smith, Nathan L. Gibson, Robert Campbell, John Blue, Duncan McIntyre, a Committee of reference.

At 10 o'clock, the Rockingham Blues, commanded by Capt. Robinson, paraded in front of the Court-House, and marched to the Academy, where they were joined by the revolutionary patriots on horseback. A procession was then formed, under the direction of Gen. Covington, marshal of the day, which proceeded to the public square, where a large concourse of citizens and strangers had previously assembled. The declaration of independence was then read by Walter F. Leak, and an oration delivered by Col. James A. Hart, appropriate to the objects of the meeting and celebration of the day. The farmers and citizens then retired to partake of an elegant dinner. Considering the large collection of citizens, we have seldom witnessed, on any occasion, more unanimity and good feelings so generally prevalent.

The society, after dinner, again assembled in the Court-House, when on motion of Wm. Thomas, sen., it was ordered that the proceedings of this day be published in the Observer and Star.

## ADDRESS.

**Fellow-Citizens:** Once again has the anniversary of our country's emancipation from the bonds of tyranny and oppression, discovered us in the quiet enjoyment of those rights and privileges of freemen, dearly purchased by the persevering toil and blood of our fathers. Forty-seven years have elapsed, since the ever memorable declaration of that band of patriots (which has just been read in your hearing), was published to the world; in which their lives and tortures were pledged in the sacred cause of freedom, and which will justly transmit their names, with honor and renown, to the admiration of ages yet unborn.

Justly, therefore, do we celebrate this day, as the most illustrious that the history of our country affords; and should we fail to hail it with that enthusiastic regard which at present is manifested by all sections of our Union, then will we have failed in an important duty; and much will it be to be feared, that a due sense of the excellence of our present form of government is declining amongst us.

In taking a retrospect of the history of our revolutionary struggle, who is there amongst you whose bosom does not swell with emotion, at the recollection of those more than mortal spirits, who first reared the standard of freedom on this vast continent? And what eulogium can render ample honors to the memory of those who dared to struggle, with success, against unrivaled power, in the cause of liberty? To enumerate their many sanguinary conflicts, privations and sufferings, is here unnecessary: It is a proud boast for us to say, that the most ample successes crowned their god-like efforts, and gave birth and existence to the most virtuous, and consequently most happy government, of which the history of nations furnishes any account.

And what a pleasing subject for reflection is it, that after the lapse of near half a century, we still find the utmost harmony existing throughout our extensive confederacy; our government established on a firm basis; adequate to all the emergencies of peace or war; and that it has assumed and maintains a proud stand among the nations of the earth.

The late war with Great Britain, though marked by some trifling reverses in the beginning, terminated in a manner that reflects much honor on the martial character of our country. The veterans of Wellington were humbled at Orleans, and the proud navy of England, which had so long triumphed over that of every nation of Europe, was beaten in detail.

The present situation of our country is truly an enviable one; profoundly at peace with all nations, and rapidly advancing in the arts and sciences; unoppressed with burthen-some taxes, and undisturbed by the mercenaries of faction; blessed by the infinite disposer of the fate of nations, with a vast extent of country, comprehending all the varieties of soil and climate: watered with innumerable streams for the delight and accommodation of its inhabitants;

a succession of navigable waters forms a kind of chain around its borders, as if to bind it together; whilst the most noble rivers, flowing at convenient distances, present us with high ways for the easy communication of friendly aids, and the mutual transportation and exchange of our various productions: When all these important circumstances are considered, there seems little in the way of these United States of America, to prevent them from reaching that climax of greatness and honor, which must mark the boundary of human attainment.

It is gratifying to remark, that the example of our country has operated to rouse the spirit of freedom in our neighbors of South America, and that after a long and bloody war, they have also proscribed the authority of a tyrant; and it is highly complimentary to our own government, that it has been the first to do them the justice to acknowledge their independence. Let us therefore hail the republic of Colombia with the most heartfelt satisfaction; and may she ever enjoy that independence and liberty, to which a protracted, arduous, and successful struggle justly entitles her.

In reviewing the political events of importance, such as have an immediate bearing or influence on ourselves particularly—The question of a Convention, for the revision of the constitution of our State, is one which should deeply interest every patriot and friend of his country. This subject has been so fully and ably argued by our legislative body, that little additional light can be thrown upon it; but a matter of such vital importance to the state generally, and its better half particularly, cannot be too fully urged.

That our constitution, in the particular times, and under the particular circumstances of its formation, (which was whilst yet the property and habitations of our citizens were smoking in ruins, from the conflagration of devouring flames; times of all others the least calculated for due and deliberate reflection,) should be such as it is, is matter for exultation. That it was suited to the then existing times and circumstances, will not be questioned; but under present circumstances, that it is lame, oppressive, and inconsistent with the republican principles which we profess, cannot reasonably be doubted by any reflecting mind. In the example of several of our sister states, who have revised their constitutions, we have seen that neither confusion or danger has arisen, nor have murmurs or discontent amongst their inhabitants since prevailed. We, therefore, being the same people and subject to the same deliberate habits of action, may venture also with equal safety.

Our country, although occupying medium ground betwixt the eastern and western, between which the contest for convention particularly prevails, cannot, with any propriety, be considered neutral. Justice and the genius of republicanism, call loudly for reform; and so long as the present constitution exists, so long does the heaven-born privilege of ordering our own laws and government, lie neglected and abused.

The subject of internal improvement, which at present engages the attention of most of our legislative bodies, cannot be too highly commended. The advantages of water communication and transportation, over those of land, are at once manifest; and the most decided benefits have resulted to those countries where internal improvements have been carried to a great extent.

The history of Holland furnishes the most substantial evidence of the utility of internal improvement. When it is considered what a perfect mud flat that country at one time was, and the splendor, both in riches and power, she attained after the treaty of Utrecht, we are lost in wonder and admiration at the patient and persevering industry of a people so enterprising. That country, which does not exceed 180 miles in circumference, was at one time a miserable province of Spain; but after the treaty above alluded to, it became a powerful and formidable enemy. It is preserved from almost entire inundation from the sea, by dykes, which are kept up by the most expensive vigilance; it is watered with innumerable canals; its reclaimed lands afford the richest pastures; and it is adorned by four hundred large towns, and 18 great cities; many of which are unequalled in splendor, and stand unrivaled in commercial importance.

But we need not search beyond the limits of our own country, for the most exemplary enterprise—witness the great western canal of New York; a work which, for public utility and magnitude of object, is unrivaled, in any age or country. Witness, also, the great embankments on the Mississippi, which have reclaimed, from inundation and a periodical sea for three months annually, a most fertile tract of country on the banks of that noble river, and which is now one extended village for near three hundred miles, covered, in its proper season, with the most luxuriant fields of the sugar cane; and the ground on

which the city of New Orleans, (a city destined to become the great emporium of western commerce,) is very often 8 feet below the level of its waters. With these and many other important examples before us, both in our own country and abroad, how painful is it to see the spirit of improvement languishing in our state; it is attributed by many to the ill-success of our first endeavors, and a misapplication of means first appropriated; but to me it seems more probable, that the rapid annual decline in prices of our staple articles has been the leading cause. But it has ever been characteristic of the American people, to redouble their diligence and application, (in a good cause,) with the accumulation of difficulties and disappointments; and to view few attainments as impossible, when formed in the determined energy of freemen.

The subject of agricultural improvement, by its importance, merits our most undeviating attention, and on it I feel great inability to enlarge, with ample justice, my pursuits, until very lately, having been diametrically opposite to its tenor and objects. To use the definition of an able writer on the subject, agriculture is the science which explains the means deriving from the earth, in plenitude and perfection, those vegetables and commodities which are necessary to the subsistence, convenience, and comfort of man.

Its successful practice demands a considerable knowledge of the differences subsisting between the most important objects in nature; and in addition to its pecuniary advantages to those actively engaged in it, it has a tendency eminently to promote bodily health, without which invaluable blessing, no other enjoyments are relished. It also cherishes a manly and ingenuous character, and by its remoteness and disconnection with the busting and hurried scenes of life, it generates plaid and deliberative habits, and fixes the mind for the residence of the most generous and noble sentiments. It has ever been considered, by wise and good men of all ages and countries, as the broad basis on which civilized society is upheld and supported; as it regards not only the happiness, subsistence and comfort of all the citizens of a state, of whatever profession or calling they may respectively be, but as it regards the strength, resources and safety of countries generally.

It is justly remarked, that the plough and not the sword, is the true emblem of the character of our country. Whilst in other countries, conquests and splendid military achievements, obtained by the sacrifice of seas of blood to mad ambition, afford a false glare of national greatness; be it ours to cultivate those milder arts, connected with the general enjoyments of peace.

The history of our country exhibits sufficient proof that the art of war has not been resorted to in vain, when the chastisement of our foes has rendered an appeal to arms necessary; and however much it may be depreciated, as an evil, it merits a portion of our attention, so far as to enable us promptly to assert our rights and meet invasion on equal grounds. Our government maintains no standing armies, but looks forward to its hardy and independent yeomanry, as its bulwark of national safety.

Agriculture, being the foundation and source of nourishment to all other arts, ought doubtless to be aided and patronized by all classes of society. By individual happiness, the great and leading object of man, is more nearly approached, and the solid interests of our country insured and extended.

An attempt, therefore, to rescue a subject of so much importance from the profound apathy and neglect in which it has so long lain in our state, is an object worthy our Legislature and our citizens; and it is with peculiar pleasure that we at present see the spirit of agricultural improvement and domestic manufactures pervading our state generally, and it is highly honorable to our own legislature, that it has been the first liberally to appropriate a fund, for the purpose of encouraging the establishment of agricultural societies throughout its jurisdiction.

In taking a view of the present system of agriculture in our state, it the most profound carelessness in our habits of cultivation can be called system, we find much to lament, and a wide field for improvement open before us. The article cotton, is our principal staple, and from its peculiar fitness to our soil and climate, must still remain so; in consequence of its having heretofore borne a price infinitely beyond its value; it has been cultivated almost to the exclusion of the substantial requisites of living. Our circumstances call loudly for some substitute for the extensive culture of Indian corn, at present necessary, by its being our entire dependence for subsistence; and which is well known to be precarious, uncertain, and very exhausting to lands. This, however, is a subject for the investigation of our society, and one which will merit its particular attention.

It has been seen, in some sections of our union, where several enlightened and highly meritorious institutions for the furtherance of agricultural knowledge have been organized, that incalculable benefits have been derived. Among them, the society of Philadelphia is particularly distinguished.

Our meeting to-day, as well to commemorate the birthday of our nation, as to give birth to a valuable institution among us, is a meeting of more than ordinary interest: let us therefore enter into the views and wishes of our legislature and ourselves, by associating together, as a society, for the promotion of agricultural knowledge and domestic manufactures among us; and participate, in common with our fellow-citizens of other counties, in its bounty and patronage.

## Foreign.

## Late From Europe.

NEW-YORK, JULY 11.

The old line ship New-York, G. Maxwell, arrived this morning from Liverpool, whence she sailed on the 4th ult. We have our London papers to the evening of Saturday, 31st May, inclusive, together with Lloyd's lists, &c. The complexion of the news, save in that item which develops the treason of the Conde D'Abisbal, is such as previous accounts had led us to expect. The French army entered Madrid on the 23d May; the Duke d'Angouleme in person on the 24th. A regency, to be composed of the Dukes De San Carlos and Del Infantado, and of our old acquaintance, the Marquis de Casa Yrujo, was to administer the government in the name of Ferdinand and, until in the language of the French ultras, that monarch was restored to his rights and liberty. The Duke del Infantado is reported, however, to have declined serving as one of the regents. The course of operations seems to have been thus—as the French army approached the Spanish capital, Abisbal, who had been charged by the Constitutionalists with its defence, was tampered with by Montijo, whose letter, together with Abisbal's most suspicious reply, is to be found below. Abisbal having then determined to evacuate Madrid, issued his proclamation of the sixteenth, which we also insert, and which, taken by itself, does not prove much against him, and then retired. On the 21st, between the period when the Spanish regular force was withdrawn, and the entry of the French, the servile General Bessieres endeavored to force his way into the capital, but was repulsed by the city militia, as is said, with great loss. Of Abisbal's conduct no satisfactory explanation is given; and even as to his fate, the accounts, according to the Times, are contradictory; that paper adds,

"Some say that he has been seized by his soldiers, and is to be tried by a court-martial. We believe it was never expected that he should defend Madrid: he is said to have marked out Estremadura as the place where military operations might commence with success. We also suspect, that without virtue enough to be a patriot, he had wanted courage to be a decisive traitor. If so, he will have incurred the hatred, and will be exposed to the vengeance of both parties."

Other surmises, and those, we think, will most probably be confirmed, are, that Abisbal's defection, to which Morillo, Ballasteros, and even Mina, are supposed to have been privy, was a concerted scheme, by means of which a door of accommodation with the French would be more readily opened; and we shall not be surprised to find the conjecture which we some time since hazarded confirmed, viz. that the arrival of the French at Madrid might lead to immediate negotiations. The following language of the Courier of the 31st, referring to Abisbal's proceedings, seems to favour this conjecture.

"With respect to the true character of that affair, and all the important consequences that may flow from it, we are still without sufficient data to form an exact judgment. We can state, however, that in the highest political circle, the conviction remains unshaken that an amicable arrangement will take place."

In other parts of Spain, nothing discouraging to the Spaniards had occurred. On the contrary, in a sortie from St. Sebastian, of which the details will be found in another place, the Spanish troops obtained a decisive advantage; and as to the victory which, in his "Bobadil" despatch, Gen. Donnadiel claims to have obtained over Mina's forces in Catalonia, we suspect a few more such would ruin the French General. As far as we can make out, Mina would seem to have baffled his pursuers, and to have thrown himself into Barcelona. The French funds had declined, owing, as is supposed, to the intention which had been announced of negotiating a new loan of 25 millions rents—in other words, of borrowing 500 millions francs—a sum exceeding the whole debt of the United States; and that all for the pleasure of im-

bowing, or trying to impose, an absolute King on the Spaniards.

The disturbances in Ireland continued unabated.

In commercial matters, there was nothing to communicate; save a small rise in the price of, and continual active demand for, cotton. U. S. Bank Stock is quoted in Liverpool, 31st May, at \$11. 50, with dividend from the 1st Jan'y. Dollars 4.9 per oz. equal to about 91 cents per dollar.—*N. Y. American.*

LONDON, JULY 23.

The letters, to be found in this day's journal, one from Count Montijo, to Count Abisbal, and the other in answer from Abisbal to Montijo, may perhaps excite some attention. The date of the latter is two days prior to the epoch, at which the rumour in Paris had fixed upon Abisbal the treason of flying to the enemy; and, without any additional proof of the fact, we should say that Abisbal's letter looks as like the composition of a man just getting ready to be a traitor as can well be conceived. He complains of the supposed distress of the king, and proposes alterations in the constitution; as if the first and most pressing duty were not to drive the foreign enemy from the soil, and then let Spaniards deal as they please with their own affairs.

Since writing the above, Paris papers of Sunday last, the 25th inst. have been received. Those on the side of Government and the ultras are ardent enough. They consider Abisbal's letter in the same manner as we have just spoken of it—that is, as a manifesto before joining the invaders; and they add, that he has since published a proclamation, inviting the French to Madrid, and requesting the inhabitants to receive them amicably—a request which, probably, in the present deserted state of that capital, is superfluous. Thus, then, is Abisbal's treason placed beyond the reach of doubt. That of Morillo and Ballasteros is expected to follow. The Journal des Debats even anticipates the recall of the King to Madrid, and in truth the final settlement, we suppose, of the troubles of Spain, under Prince Hill and Ferdinand the Absolute! We shall first say, upon those important points, that if the Spaniards are to be thus subdued, they deserve no better fate. But we have a homely proverb in England, which advises people not to "halloo till they are out of the wood." The French are not out of the wood yet: nor is Ferdinand out of Seville—at least not on his way to Madrid; and if the Corries have the spirit of men, thither he should never go, so long as the French are masters of that capital.—Times.

**The New Spanish Regency.**—The individuals who are expected to form the Regency at Madrid to govern in King Ferdinand's name so long as his captivity may endure, are three of the most distinguished personages in Spain; namely, the Dukes de San Carlos and De l'Infantado, and the Marquis de Casa Yrujo. They both speak broken English, and the old lady converses very freely about the transactions that took place among the Indians during her long captivity.

Extract of a letter from Madrid, dated May 22d, in the evening:—

"The Duke d'Angouleme will not make his entry here until the day after to-morrow."

General Bessieres having on the day before yesterday attempted, without the permission of the Commander-in-Chief, to take possession of the city, he was repulsed at the Alcala entrance, and lost 60 men killed and 300 prisoners.

"On that same day two French officers entered the city to parley; on their appearance the *vivas* commenced. The crowd became very great, and the windows were filled with women waving white handkerchiefs. The populace thronged around the French officers, and amused themselves crying, *Viva el Rey!* to the Constitutional officer who accompanied them. Cries of *Vivan los Franceses!* were heard on all sides. On the arrival of the crowd at the Puerta del Sol, a military guard stationed there charged the crowd and dispersed the greater part of them. The party was then set free, and conducted to General Lagos."

During the war between England and Spain, in the time of Elizabeth, Commissioners on both sides were appointed to treat of peace. The Spanish Commissioners proposed that the negotiations should be carried on in the French tongue, observing sarcastically, that "the gentlemen of England, could not be ignorant of the language of their fellow subjects, their Queen being Queen of France as well as England." "Nay, in faith, gentlemen," replied Mr. Dale, one of the English Commissioners, "the French is too vulgar for a business of this importance; we will, therefore, if you please, rather treat in Hebrew, the language of Jerusalem, of which your master calls himself king, and in which you must, of course, be as well skilled as we are in French."

## Detestable Inhumanity.

PETERSBURG, JULY 15.

One night last week, two fine horses were stolen from Thomas H. Dunn, Esq., of this town. On Saturday morning, the horses were brought home in the most distressing condition. One, a white, had been literally steeped in Vitriolic Acid, or some liquid of that character; and such was the violence of the application that the animal will lose the greater part of his hair, if no greater misfortune attends him. The skin appears to be drawn up almost to a crisp. The other horse, an elegant sorrel, had his mane and tail drenched with the same liquid, and the hair will no doubt all come out.

This is one of the most inhuman acts we ever heard of, and should be amply punished, if there is any law to meet the case,—provided the perpetrators can be discovered. As yet, they have eluded the vigilance of justice, but it is to be hoped they will not entirely escape.

It is a little singular, that in at least nine cases out of ten, Mr. Dunn, the owner of the above horses, has been retained as counsel for the criminals in the various prosecutions that have taken place before our courts, and yet these wretches have selected him, as the first individual, within our knowledge, upon whose property this species of demoniac violence has been inflicted. The zeal, ardor, and ability always displayed by Mr. D. in the cause of his clients, entitled him to a better fate.—*Pet. Repub.*

From the Western Censor, June 11.

**Indian Settlement on White River.**—The Indians settled on White River, about twelve miles above Indianapolis, between the years 1790 and 1795, and built several towns a short distance above that. There now lives twelve miles above here, a white woman who was with them when they first settled there, having been taken prisoner when Morgan's station was overpowered, and all those who were in it either slaughtered or made prisoners. She was nine years old when taken, and has lived among the Indians ever since, until the late purchase made by the United States brought the white people into the neighbourhood. Until after the close of the late war, she never saw nor heard of any of her relations. She was married to an Indian husband, and had six children, all of whom are dead except one daughter, who married an Indian husband, and went off with the Indians beyond the Mississippi. This woman is now the wife of Mr. —, a Frenchman, who has probably been longer with the Indians than herself. She at this time appears to be about fifty years of age, is stout and healthy, and still retains some predilection for the Indian manners, habits, and customs, and would willingly follow them over the Mississippi. Her husband has purchased a very handsome site on the west bank of White River, where they lived long before the land was sold by the United States. They both speak broken English, and the old lady converses very freely about the transactions that took place among the Indians during her long captivity.

**Ancient Relic.**—A curious stone, weighing about ten or twelve pounds, with two smooth sides to it, has been found in the river near Indianapolis. It has several engravings on it, apparently of very ancient date. Some of them cannot be deciphered. The number 1110 is as plain as if it had been engraved. The letters are cut in Roman capitals. There remains a visible appearance of other engravings, which cannot be made out.

*N. Y. Ev. Post.*

**Colony of Jews.**—The Plattsburgh (N. Y.) Republican says—"Some weeks since we published a notice to landlords, from the society for meliorating the condition of the