

of six millions on Lerida (I will not be positive whether this was the exact sum mentioned, or a larger.) The minister urged that there ought to have been a confiscation of the British property, wherever found—that H. I. M. was informed that in Seville alone, it would amount to forty millions—that the plate belonging to the Churches and Convents, ought to have been seized—His excellency insisted that in Spain there must be in circulation immense sums of money, introduced by the French and British armies, as well as that imported from South America—that in his former wars, his imperial majesty had compelled the countries which he had conquered to support his armies without drawing upon the treasury of France; that but on account of the war in Spain, and being at peace with the continent, he could have disbanded a large part of his army, and thus have diminished his expences.

The minister complained to me, that the funds which we had raised had not been judiciously applied to their proper objects—viz. to the payment of the troops employed in the subjugation and pacification of the country—that the public funds had been expended in luxury and expences, that might and ought to have been avoided—That rewards and gratifications, however justly merited, ought to have been suspended until times of tranquility—That the civil list was numerous and expensive, beyond what was necessary.

His excellency said that Spanish regiments had been formed, and that others were now forming, that after having put the state to great expences, which could have been better applied, these troops desert and increase the strength of the enemy. Finally the minister complained that the king had treated with unmerited indulgence those who had been opposed to him, which could not fail to disgust those who had been attached to his cause from the commencement.

These are the principal topics upon which the minister descanted, and I shall now lay before your excellency my observations in reply.

The point which according to my judgment, the emperor laid the greatest stress on, was, that no more money should be sent from France to Spain, except the two millions of francs monthly, already decreed and mentioned in a former despatch—Calling to my recollection, what had occurred upon this subject, when I was minister for foreign affairs, and having a full knowledge of the situation of our provinces, and of our resources. I told the minister that the king my master, was fully sensible of the great expence to which the emperor had been put, by the war in Spain, that the king was under the painful necessity of declaring, that under existing circumstances he could not maintain himself in Spain, without the aid of his imperial majesty.—That the revenues of the kingdom were very small, and wholly inadequate to the exigencies of the state, arising partly from the very great difficulty in collecting, in the few districts already subdued; and because many of the provinces were yet unsubdued. Indeed, in the provinces subdued, the frequent incursions of the insurgents, rendered it always difficult, and frequently impossible, for the administrators and collectors to perform their duties.—[Here Aranza details at great length, the difficulties which are experienced by Joseph in his fiscal operations, which will not be here inserted, being well known, and then he proceeds.]

I represented to the minister that in Andalusia, (from my information) that some contributions had been levied; that in Grenada, (although no opposition had been made) a forced loan of five millions of Realst had been made; that in Malaga a loan of the same nature and to a much larger amount had been made, the greater part of which had been placed in the Commissary Chest of the fourth division of the army. Not having been myself at Seville, when it was taken, I could not speak with exactness of what occurred, but that I had been informed, that all the British property in that city, had at the desire of the French administrators, been sequestered—that the same measures were pursued at Malaga.

That the amount of this sequestered property had been supposed much larger than it appeared to be, as general Sabastiani in particular found at Malaga. That it was not to be wondered that his imperial majesty had been deceived, after the exaggerated accounts of the amount of British property, said to be in Seville.

[In the three next paragraphs, which are of great length, Aranza assures the minister that the utmost activity had been used in the seizure of the plate belonging to the churches, leaving none that was not actually requisite for its service. He proceeds to combat the opinion of the minister as to the amount of circulating specie in Spain, assuring him that altho' large sums may be in the country, that from the character of the war, all industry is suspended, commerce annihilated, and the confidence necessary to the circulation of money destroyed. Aranza finally assures the minister that the money which had been brought into the Spanish treasury, had been employed in the support of the French armies except what was actually essential to the support of the king and his civil administration, in which, instead of prodigality, the utmost frugality had been observed. That not only the rewards and gratifications for meritorious services had not been paid in money, but that even a great part of the king's expences had been defrayed by warrants on the sequestered national property, allowing the holders the privilege of purchasing the same at a future day. Aranza then proceeds.]

The opinion that the raising of regular Spanish regiments, and embodying the militia, are prejudicial, in as much as they occasion heavy expences, and then desert, and thereby increase the force of the enemy, is entertained by some, but is much questioned, and if not unfounded, is greatly exaggerated. I represented to the minister, that upon the principles of national policy there could be no question, that every state must have a national force of its own. I admitted that in the commencement of the war, there had been many desertions, but never to the extent reported; that the number had been, and was daily diminishing, and would diminish as public opinion changed, and must finally cease, because the insurgents no longer existed in the character of

* One Million of Dollars.

armies, but now only deserved the name of banditti, which certainly could not attract those who had enlisted under the royal banners. I urged the policy of employing the Spanish troops in garrisons, and stated that many of the French generals had lamented the necessity of scattering their troops in various parts of the kingdom, to preserve order and tranquility in places, which had already submitted to the king.

The minister appeared to me, to think that it would be impossible to persuade the French generals to agree in the policy of raising a regular army of Spaniards, but that they might be brought to agree in the policy of employing Spaniards as national guards, and in aiding the civil authorities when necessary. I replied that I knew that there were some French generals in the first rank and talents, who were not only favorable to the plan of raising Spanish regiments, but had supported their opinions with great zeal and solidity of argument, which I was ready to lay before his excellency. That those generals who held the contrary opinion, would deserve more consideration, if they would make known their names, but until they did so, they justly merited suspicion of improper views.—(The remainder of the letter treats of subjects of more interest, and is omitted.)

(Signed) DUKE OF SANTA FE.

DANVILLE, September 29.

Singular Combat with a Bear. On Friday the 21st instant, two lads by the name of David and Samuel Morse, sons of Mr. James Morse, of Concord, Vt. one of whom was aged 18 years, the other 16, went for the purpose of helping kill a bear, which was caught in a trap. When within a short distance of the bear, it extricated itself from the trap, and closed in with the oldest lad, who brought the bear under him as he fell. The other youth, with that true courage which characterises the "Green Mountain Boys," willing to share the danger with his brother, caught the bear's head and confined it to the ground with his hands, having no weapon about him. This alarming scene being in sight of Mr. Morse's house, the mother of the lads flew to their assistance, caught the trap, which in her cool moments, she would have been totally unable to manage, and with the first blow beat out the bear's eye, and then drove the spring of the trap into his mouth, and held it in that position, until Mr. Carruth and Mr. Hamilton arrived and dispatched him. In the wrestle with the bear, he caught the youth's right hand in his mouth, which very considerably wounded him. No other injury was sustained. So striking an instance of preservation, by the judicious efforts of true courage, probably has not occurred since the settlement of this state.

SALEM, Oct. 10.

Extract of a letter from an American gentleman at Keil, dated 17th August to another in Gotteburg, received at the latter place the 19th, by a ship in 40 hours from the former.

"There is a new Decree and the promise of a new system of operations respecting the neutral trade by the neutral flag. It is dated 6th August, and is to take effect the 1st of November next. It permits all importations by neutrals into the empire, except manufactured goods, on paying the duties affixed to a tariff made for that purpose and which I copied into my last, to which I refer you."

RUSSIAN DECREE.

By the Grace of God, We Alexander the 1st, Emperor & Autocrat, of the Russias, &c. &c. &c. Political circumstances having put an end to all commercial connection with Portugal, the Brazilian ports have in consequence been thrown open to vessels belonging to friendly powers.

In conformity with which, at the representation of the chancellor of our empire, and by the advice of our privy council, we have thought fit to order the following changes to take place in the Commercial Treaty entered into with the Portuguese government in 1798:

1. From the date of the present, the importation of Portuguese products into this country, as well as the clearance of Russian vessels or goods for Portuguese ports, is strictly prohibited.
2. The reduction in the duties of Portuguese wines, oils and salt, is to be suspended until regulations shall be issued to the contrary.
3. Wines from the island of Madeira and the Azores, Brazilian indigo and tobacco, imported direct from these countries, shall enjoy the benefit of the reduced duty established by the Commercial Treaty of 1798.
4. Sugars of all kinds, raw sugar, coffee, cocoa, dye woods, rice, and drugs, imported direct from the Brazils and her colonies in Russian or Portuguese bottoms, for account of Russian or Portuguese subjects, shall pay only one half of the customary duties of these articles in Russia on the production of proper proofs of their authenticity.
5. Russian produce exported to the Brazils and her colonies, will be subject only to the same duty as established in the Commercial Treaty with the Portuguese government.
6. In conformity with the regulations established, merchant vessels arriving from the Portuguese colonies will not be permitted to unload the cargoes before their papers have been submitted to the commission appointed for the purpose of ascertaining whether they have had any connection with Great Britain, and they will become subject in all respects to the laws laid down for vessels belonging to other friendly powers, and on the departure of the Portuguese vessels from hence, the merchants loading Russian produce on board will have to make oath in our custom-house, that the goods are destined for neutral places, and not to any port at enmity with this country.
7. The 4th and 5th articles, relative to the reduction of the customs of goods exported and imported from Portuguese colonies, will be in force until the 15th of March, 1811.

St. Petersburg, May 5, 1810.
Signed with his imperial majesty's sign manual.
ALEXANDER.

BOSTON, October 11.

The election of two members of congress in Worcester county, to supply the vacancy in the present congress, occasioned by the resignation

of the Hon. Messrs. Upham and Stedman, took place on Monday.

Votes of Sterling, in Worcester North District, for Abijah Bigelow, Esq. (Fed.) 165, Mr. Whiting, (Demo.) 9, and nine for Mr. Scattering. There can be no fears of the election of Mr. Bigelow.

IMPROVED COMPASS.

We are informed, that William Russel, of New Bedford, in this state, has obtained Letters Patent, for "a new and useful improvement in the Mariner's and Surveyor's Compass," in which the defects of those in common use, particularly the violent agitation of the compass card in a high sea; its refusing to tend when a ship is scudding before the wind; and what is termed sleeping, or moving on its axis, on coming into still water out of rough; and various defects in the surveyor's compass now in general use; are obviated or removed. These compasses, we understand, have met the general approbation of those who have had an opportunity to view them, and their utility has been fully tested by trial on a voyage from New Bedford to St. Petersburg.

Kennebunk, Oct. 6.

DISTRESSING ACCIDENT.

Killed at Newfield on the 27th ult. by a log's passing over them two children of a Mr. Brickford of that place. The circumstances attending the event were peculiarly distressing. The father was attempting to remove a log on the margin of a precipice, at a small distance from his house—Unexpectedly, it took a direction totally different from the one expected and intended, and rolled from the summit on which it lay, with great velocity down the bank, while his three children, who had left the house, their mother being absent, were in the act of ascending the hill. At the moment the log started the father cast his eyes towards the house, and saw one of his children coming towards him—He screamed—The child probably being frightened, did not know how to avoid the danger, and accelerated its pace towards his father. The sound had scarcely left his mouth when he saw the other two children climbing the hill, and within the distance of two rods of the rolling log. They perceived it and shrieked. In an instant it passed over them, mangling their tender limbs in the most shocking manner. The sound pierced the father's ears, he sprang to the spot, but only to witness the horrid spectacle. What were his agonizing sensations? Nothing but parental affection can imagine. In its progress the small end of the log was thrown against a fence, which raised it from the ground so that the surviving child was only thrown down and the log rolled over it without material hurt. The oldest of the children was about six years of age.

HARTFORD, (Con.) October 15.

On Thursday last the General Assembly of this State met at New-Haven. On the preceding day, his Excellency Gov. Treadwell was met at Hamden by a number of gentlemen from New-Haven, the Sheriff of the County, and his company of Horse-guards, commanded by Major Munson, from whence he was escorted to the city. On Thursday, the House of Representatives met, and chose Lyman Law, Esq. Speaker, and Sylvanus Backus and William T. Williams, Esqrs. Clerks. The Governour and Council were then escorted to the State House, by the Foot-guards, commanded by Major Atwater, the Horse-guards, and the Artillery Company, commanded by Major Staples, where the session was opened in the usual manner, and his Excellency delivered the following Speech. In no instance, do we recollect the military convened on this occasion, to have made a more brilliant appearance.

SPEECH.

Gentlemen of the Council,
Mr. Speaker, and
Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

THE favourable auspices under which we meet at this season, for the despatch of the important business incident to the Legislature, in the removal of the distressing drought which, at the rising of the General Assembly in May last, had well nigh cut off the prospect of a competent former harvest; in the uncommon fruitfulness of the season which succeeded, by which the face of nature was renovated, and a competence of the fruits of the Earth produced; in the general health which has prevailed the summer past; and in that degree of internal peace and good order which has existed under the administration of the laws; call for our gratitude to that Almighty Being, who presides over the affairs of Men.

Civil and religious liberty, resulting from a due subordination to law human and divine, is the greatest good which nations as such, can enjoy; and is, at once, the evidence, and the fruit, of an elevation of character in the citizens, far above that which belongs to the mass of mankind; and the degree, in which it is enjoyed by any nation, is the criterion by which a judgment is to be formed of the merit of that nation. This is an inheritance which our ancestors possessed from the beginning, which they have, by the help of God, transmitted to us, as the price of blood, and which we are bound, at the same price if need be, to hand down unimpaired to posterity.

The European nations have for ages been elevated above those of Asia or Africa, because, the Sun of righteousness has beamed upon the former and not upon the latter. England, Holland and Switzerland have long enjoyed more of this liberty than the other European nations, because they have felt his beams less obstructed, by clouds of moral darkness, than they. And on this side of the Atlantic, the same inestimable gift of Providence has been enjoyed, in a visible proportion to the operation of the same vital cause. The revolutions which have recently desolated Europe, originating in an awful apostasy of those nations from the Christian faith, have terminated in the establishment of a despotism analogous to those of the East; and we must expect, that the same cause, in proportion as it prevails, will produce the same effect, in this Western world.

Indeed it must be evident that without the illumination of religion and science a people must forever remain incompetent to the task of self-government. It is equally evident, that a system

of policy founded in the love of truth and in the intercourse of nations, is as essential, more important, as the security of the State, can tend more effectually to enkindle and live the flames of war in the human family, than that artful and insidious policy, which gloried in by many, as the perfection of what has, for the most part, disgraced the intercourse of nations.

The happy consequences which have resulted from the liberality of our ancestors, and the present generation, in the support of common schools, the College, and of the Christiana-ry, demonstrate the correctness of this policy. The uniformity and stability which have marked our public conduct, are the genuine fruit of similar measures. In these remarks, it is a part of my object to eulogize the State, and to sign is to prompt to perseverance, in that which I deem essential to our safety and our

The education of youths is an all-important object in every free State, because it forms the character of the citizens; and as that character such will be that of the State. Much has been done on this subject, and much more might be effected, if the wisdom of the Legislature were employed upon it, with unremitting attention. The State has an important interest in every child, which is born or lives under its jurisdiction, and the strength of the citizens lies in their talents, natural and acquired; and it being the duty, as well as the interest, of the State, to increase its strength by all lawful means, it will be that the education of youths, and the instruction of the citizens in general, in moral and natural truth, will come within its province. To plianish the opening mind with the rudiments of natural science is, indeed, the first step to be taken, in the course of education, but this is not meant to a further end, the amendment of heart; if this be not effected, the acquisition of knowledge may be worse than in vain both individual, and to the public. The latter has been carefully attended to, but the former is believed has been too much neglected. In the selection of instructors in our common schools, as are immoral, irreligious, or unfriendly to the constitution and laws of the land, should be utterly excluded.

It is unnecessary to point out any specific visions as an improvement of our system; they will readily occur to the wisdom of the Legislature.

To enforce the execution of law on offenders duty next in importance to that of forming the citizens for voluntary obedience. As far as the law yields to that of an individual's, so far as civil liberty is annihilated; of course it is impotent and may be subverted by the impunity of crime.

Offences affecting the honor of God, or the private interest of the State, or the more immediate interest of the offender, such as Sabbath-breaking, common swearing, and drunkenness, too often with impunity. By these offences the State is not felt to be so immediately injured, it is essentially and vitally affected. By the design of public worship and instruction is defeated; by the second, the fear of an oath is diminished, official faithfulness is less guarded, the investigation of truth, in trials at law, comes more precarious; and by the third, wealth of the State is wasted, and its citizens instead of a blessing, become a burden and curse. The laws for the prevention and punishment of these crimes against society cannot without disgrace be repealed; and if they are not enforced, by those who are sworn to enforce them, they become the occasion of breaking down laws, which are intended to guard public morals, and of introducing such a construction of oaths, as shall leave them very little force or obligation on the conscience. Surely, such a state of things requires public animadversion; and rather, because, the licentiousness to which tends, strikes at the principle of a free republic.

The rapid increase of the expense of supporting State paupers seems to require the attention of the Legislature. To reduce, if possible, that of the public charge, it will probably be found necessary to place them under a direction, other than that of Selectmen, who must be expected lean in favour of a town interest, when it interferes with that of the State. Should a house be deemed necessary where they may be kept and employed, it might be thought expedient to combine a provision to confine, correct and employ, such as shall be convicted of minor offences, and who, for want of property, are effect, protected against the operation of law. The subject has been recently before the Legislature; the form which it then assumed was though, exceptionable; the subject matter, however, was deemed important; and if the consideration of it were resumed, it might issue in an institution of great and lasting benefit to the State.

In the course of events, it is sometimes proposed for the Legislature to examine the correctness of ancient laws and institutions, by referring them to first principles; it will be admitted, however, that they ought to be touched with a cautious hand. Suffer me to mention an ancient law of the State, entitled, "An Act relating to bills of divorce," as, in my opinion, unsound in principle. The exceptionable part of the statute is, which allows of divorce "for wilful desertion, three years, with total neglect of duty." This provision is opposed to the rule which has ever been established in almost every part of the Christian world; and as it admits the principle, that a fair marriage may be dissolved, for a cause than that of adultery, which, it is contended, is the only legitimate cause, so the Legislature, especially of late years, have granted divorces for any cause, not specified in the statute, which they have deemed subversive of the principle of marriage. This practice is right in principle, if the statute be so; if it be not, it ought to be corrected, both as a rule to the Court, and as a leading step towards altering the practice of the Legislature. I trust, that my preceding subject to view may be impudently