

FOREIGN.

FROM THE BOSTON CENTINEL, NOV. 1. Postscript.—The following information was received at too late an hour for record on the Exchange, Coffee House Books, but politely furnished by Mr. Hooper, for publication.

Arrived below, last night, brig Hope, Bergen, 35 days from St. Sebastians. Important report.—Capt. Boden informs, that a day or two previous to his sailing, a report was in circulation, that WAR had been declared between the Spaniards and Portuguese, on account of some possessions which each nation claimed in South America. The report reached St. Sebastians by the way of Madrid, and it was generally believed to be true.

QUEBEC, Oct. 21.

Arrived in this city on the 19th inst. via the Fenimore portage, Colonel Bouchette, Surveyor-General of Lower Canada, accompanied by Captain Carries, late of the 60th regt. and Mr. Joseph Bouchette, junior. We have only been able to learn, respecting the progress of the new boundary line, that the exploring survey has been prolonged from the source of the St. Croix to the river Ristigouche, a distance of about 100 miles; in the course of which the parties of both nations experienced difficulties and sufferings of the most grievous nature.

The Americans employed in the exploring survey may be expected here in a few days, by the same route, on their way to the state of Vermont; the British party having returned to St. Andrews, New Brunswick, by the river St. John.

Paris Papers of Friday and Saturday last have arrived. The elections in the capital are over; and their termination has confirmed our expectations. Coupy, Bellart Breton, and Pasquier have been returned, with M. Casimir Perrier, who is an opulent banker in that city. The Ministerial candidates outnumber the Liberals, as they are affectedly denominated, being, with M. Roy 5 out of the 8. Benjamin Constant was very low on the list, having only Lafayette behind him, who, however, obtained above 2000 votes. It seems a question has arisen with regard to the eligibility of M. Perrier on account of his age; but the Journal General asserts that he is duly qualified in every respect. His brother, also, M. Alexander Perrier, has been returned for the department of Loiret. The result, in the capital at least, may be most satisfactory.—Shouts of Vive le Roi accompanied the announcement of the names by the President.—The French Funds are a little depressed, to what they were a few days since.

RUSSIA.—Among the late articles of intelligence there is one stating that the Sublime Porte has returned the most friendly, if not submissive answer, to certain remonstrances of the Russian Ambassador; and that no fears need be entertained of any rupture between the two countries.

An article in one of the Journals, purporting to be an extract of a private letter from St. Petersburg, contains some curious statements. It is said that the Russian Government is about to address an invitation to all the Courts of Europe, requesting them to prohibit the equipment of vessels of War, and the exportation of arms for the use of the Insurgents of South America, and that a prohibition of this nature has been already obtained from Austria. It is also reported that the Russian Court is occupied with a project for inducing all the European Powers to conclude a Treaty, with the view of taking rigorous measures against Pirates in all quarters; classing amongst them, in the first place, the privateers of the South American Insurgents.

FROM A GERMAN JOURNAL.

A country ceryman in Lower Saxony, has been so happy as to succeed in accomplishing the invention of an AIRSHIP. The machine is built of light wood: it is made to float in the air chiefly by means of the constant action of a large pair of bellows, of a peculiar construction, which occupies in the front the position of the lungs and the neck of a bird on the wings. The wings on both sides are directed by thin cords. The height to which the farmer's boy (10 or 12 years of age) whom the inventor has instructed in the management of it, had hitherto ascended with it, is not considerable, because his attention has been more directed to give a progressive than ascending motion to his machine.

The ranger of the forest of **** Baron Charles Von Draiss, has made some highly satisfactory trials of this new-invented travelling machine, without horses. On the 10th of July he went from Mannheim to the Relay-house at Schwezingen and back again, which is a distance calculated at four hours post travelling, (an hour being about 2 1/2 miles English) within one hour. Since then he has, with the same machine, gone over in about an hour the steep mountainous road from Gerusbach to Baden which takes two hours by post. The leading principle of the invention is taken from the art of skating, and consists in the simple idea of impelling by the help of the feet a seat fixed upon wheels. The machine which the inventor has had made, consists of a seat on only two feet wheels running one behind the other, that it may be used in the foot paths. To preserve the equilibrium the traveller has before him a little board with a cushion nailed to it, on which he rests his arms, & before which is the small pole which he holds

in his hands to steer his course with. This machine which may be used with great advantage for expresses and for other purposes, even for considerable journeys, does not weigh 50 pounds, and may be made strong, handsome, provided with pockets &c. for four Carolines, (3d. sterling) at the very utmost.

DOMESTIC.

FROM THE NEW-YORK DAILY ADVERTISER.

We have been not a little amused with some publications in the Richmond Enquirer of the 28th ult. on a subject entirely new, and as singular as new. They are a correspondence between the celebrated Jeremy Bentham, of Great Britain, and the late President of the United States, James Madison, the subject of which, on the part of the former, with whom it commenced, was, an offer by Mr. Bentham, to undertake to form, for this country, a system of "CODIFICATION."—As this word is not yet naturalized amongst us, it is probable our readers will wish to be informed of its signification. If we have been fortunate enough to ascertain it, it means, reducing the who's mass of what is called Common Law, into the form of Statutes so that instead of being obliged to depend upon the usual sources of knowledge with regard to that law, that whole shall be contained in positive enactments. For the performance of this task, Mr. Bentham, now only about seventy years of age, required nothing more to encourage him, or to reward him, than a mere letter from the President approving his plan—then, he says, "he will forthwith set about drawing up for the United States, or such of them, if any, as may see reason to give their acceptance to it, a complete body of proposed law, in form of statute law; say, in one word, a Pannom—a body of statute law, including a succedaneum to that mass of foreign law, the yoke of which, in the worldless, as well as boundless, and shapeless shape of common, alias unwritten law, still hangs about our necks."

In the prosecution of his scheme, Mr. Bentham proposes, 1st, to produce the rationale, or mass of reasons, to accompany the Code as a perpetual commentary to the whole mass of imperative and regulative matter. 2d. As to form, he expresses by one word, cognoscibility, every sort and degree of excellence, which under this head can be given to a body of law. He then goes on to the other divisions of his plan, dividing the Pannom on into the General Code, the Particular Codes, &c. &c.

After sketching his plan, he requests of the President that he will "lay the proposa before Congress at its meeting, with a recommendation to take it into consideration; with a great variety of other particulars, too tedious to mention."

To this communication, which was dated in 1811, Mr. Madison did not find leisure to reply until May, 1816. Business is the apology for this silence of five years. "It happened," says Mr. Madison, "that your letter was received in the midst of occupations incident to preparations for an anticipated war; which was in fact the result of the anxious crisis. Although we are not aware that the war was determined on so long before hand, yet, if that was the case, it certainly forms a substantial excuse for not writing to an Englishman on the peculiar subject of the correspondence;—for it is a maxim of the law itself, that "silent leges enter arma." After passing the apologies for silence, he says,—"On perusing your letter, I see much to admire in the comprehensive and profound views taken of its subject; as I do every thing to applaud, in the disinterested and beneficent offer it makes to the United States; and it is with the feelings naturally flowing from these considerations, that I find myself constrained to decide, that a compliance with your proposals would not be within the scope of my proper functions."

That a digest of our laws on sound principles, with a purgation and reduction to a text, of the unwritten part of them, would be an invaluable improvement, cannot be questioned; and I cheerfully accede to the opinion of Mr. Brougham, that the task could be undertaken by no hand in Europe as capable as yours. The only room for doubt would be as to its practicability, notwithstanding your peculiar advantages for it, within a space and a time such as appear to have been contemplated."

He then goes on to say, we presume for the purpose of indirectly informing Mr. Bentham that there is less necessity in this country for his assistance and labors than he might otherwise imagine, that the Common Law has been considerably abridged here—that our ancestors, upon their emigration, dropped some of the colonial statutes still further diminished it, that the revolution from Colonies to Independent States lopped off more, and that events are still making further reductions. He also suggests that the evil could be but partially remedied, if undertaken, such being the technical terms which must be employed, that resort must after all be had to other sources for definitions to them.

Thus ended this notable attempt at improvement—not less marked by enthusiastic folly than Godwin's scheme of "Political Justice," or the whole farrago of human perfectibility. If Mr. Bentham were as capable of performing the task here mentioned as Mr. Brougham and Mr. Madison politely inform him he is, he would not get through until he would be older than Captain Riley's old Moor of the desert. We should like to see him reduce the law of evidence to the form of a statute—we should like to see the crimes of murder and manslaughter, with all their characteristic resemblances & differences, in the shape of sections—and, if he had mind to amuse himself with lighter occupations, he might by way of Episode, give the forms of process as a specimen of genius, and the powers of imagination. The only experiment that we have any knowledge of, which would be any service to Mr.

Bentham, and the advantages of that are nothing more than analogical, is an edition of my "Lord Coke's reports in verse." As for undertaking to reduce the Common Law to the form of a "Codification," we should as soon attempt to teach the Esquimax alphabet to the Great Cape Ann Snake.

ANECDOTES OF BONAPARTE.

When Bonaparte was at Montebello as General-in-chief of the army in Italy, an Hussar brought him a letter just as he was about to mount his horse to join a hunting-party. He opened the packet, instantly wrote an answer and delivering it to the soldier, ordered him to carry it back with all possible speed. "I would do so," replied the Hussar, but my horse is almost exhausted. "If that be the case take mine," said the General. The soldier hesitated—"Go my comrade," replied Napoleon. "It may be better—it may have richer trappings than yours, but nothing can be too magnificent for a French warrior."

One solicited the Empress Josephine to intercede with her husband for a young man condemned as an accomplice in a certain great crime. "It is the first favour of the kind I have ever asked of you," said the princess, "and you must grant it me." "I cannot," replied Napoleon. "Can you refuse it then?" "Yes Madam, and when it is known that I have refused it to you, no one else will dare to ask it."

MAYSVILLE, (Ohio), OCT. 10.

On Friday evening last, a boat arrived at this port with 80 passengers from Germany, men, women and children, on their way to the Wabash, to join the family of the Harmonites, now at that place. They informed a countryman of theirs in this place, that one of their company (a female not married) is sister to Mr. Robb, who is the principal at the Wabash settlement, and who is now in Philadelphia waiting the arrival of more, 1000 being expected:—these stated that 600 crossed the ocean when they did. It excited much curiosity, as well as sympathy, to see these strangers in a land of freedom, and a land which heaven has so singularly blessed.

RICHMOND, (VA.) OCT. 31.

A curious fact has been witnessed in the Virginia Museum. A few days ago, a little mouse was put into the same box with four rattlesnakes. It was supposed, that the snakes, who had had no sort of nourishment for several weeks, would immediately devour the little stranger. Instead of this being the case, the mouse immediately pounced upon the neck of the smallest snake, and began to gnaw the flesh at the juncture of the neck with the head. The snake in vain attempted to dislodge him—but the mouse continued its attacks during the day with such pertinacity, that finally it had gnawed a deep hole in the neck; and the snake was taken out as dead. It has begun to revive. Next morning the mouse was found dead in the cage, considerably swelled.

ENGLISH.

Though the following story may be a little in the style of caricature, we can assert, that as a description of the uncouth gibberish sometimes spoken in England, it is scarcely an exaggeration, and indeed is sufficiently chaste, as a story, illustrative of a truth little less strange.

A member of the quorum in Cumberland, who was the very month piece of eloquence in his own country, when he went up to London inquired at a shoe-maker's shop in Cranbourne alley, if he could meet with a pair of small shoes for his little girl in the country with pink heels, pointed toes and crop straps for clasps, which he expressed in the following provincial dialect:

"I pray ye noo, have ye gatten any neat-ly, feety shoes, pointed toes, pinked at heel, and cropped straps for coapes?"

"Sir," answered the shopkeeper, "what's that you say?"

"Why I pray ye noo," (repeats as before) "The family who speak French," said the shoemaker, "live at the next door."

FEMALE HEROISM.

Extract of a letter to the editor of the Boston Daily Advertiser, dated Columb a, (Me.) Sept. 29, 1817.

Night before last, at about midnight, it being broad moonlight, a remarkably large bear made an attack upon a two-year old heifer, which was about 25 rods distant from the house of Mr. Samuel Finny. Mrs. Finny heard the piercing cries of the heifer, and endeavored to persuade her husband to get up, and go to its assistance. After a good deal of persuasion he consented. She got up, found her gun, powder and ball, loaded the gun, and fixed the bayonet. She armed her boy with an axe, and herself with a club, and proceeded in front of her husband to the attack. On coming in sight of the monster, she perceived that he had already gotten the heifer upon the ground, and immediately bid her husband to fire. He fired, but without effect. The bear left the heifer, and appeared disposed to get between his assailants and the house. Mrs. Finny then bade her husband to retreat a little until he could load again, and as they retired the bear placed himself between them and the heifer. "All this while," says Mrs. Finny, "the heifer was roaring as though in the greatest distress, and the bear was making tremendous yells, as though he meant to devour all around him." She was however not in the least disheartened. The bear soon approached to within about two and a half rods of her, when she ordered her husband to fire—His second shot was more successful. The bear uttered a tremendous yell, and ran from them to some distance. They heard him groan most

bitterly for eight or ten minutes, and concluding that he was mortally wounded they left him until morning. On searching for him in the morning, they found him clinging round a large windfall, and lying dead. With the help of a pair of steers Mr. Finny and his boy dragged the animal to his house, dressed and measured him. He measures seven feet two inches from the tip of his nose to the extremity of his hinder leg. His weight, after completely dressing him, is about three hundred pounds. The relief came too late for the poor heifer; she died of her wounds."

Wilmington:

FRIDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 14, 1817.

PRICES CURRENT.

Wilmington, Nov. 8. Brandy, peach 75 to 80, apple 60 to 70; butter 32 to 25; cotton 28 to 29 scarce; tobacco 7 to 8; whiskey 70. Newbern, Nov. 3. Butter, 35; brandy apple, 60 to 65; peach 1; flour 9 to 10; flax seed, 80; tobacco, 6. New York, Nov. 5. Cotton, Georgia up and 28 to 31; Sea-Island, 43 to 46; New-Orleans 32 to 35.

Meeting of the Legislature.—The Legislature of North Carolina, will commence its session in this city on Monday.

DROWNED, at sea, on the passage from Boston to Wilmington, Ebenezer P. Bush of Barnstable, (Mass.) mate of the schooner Hyder Ali. He threw himself overboard.

PENNSYLVANIA.—Mr. Findlay's majority is ascertained to be about 7000—a private letter informs me 7331.

Circuit Court.—The circuit court of the United States is now in session; present, Chief Justice Marshall, and Judge Potter, besides a considerable number of legal gentlemen from the neighboring towns.—The session will be short.

The rumour, under our foreign head, of a war between Spain and Portugal, is believed by the most intelligent politicians to be entirely unfounded. What ever may be the disposition of the two courts, it may well be doubted whether the policy of the great European powers will permit them to commence hostilities.—At any rate, there seems to be no probability of the event, as Spain has her hands full with her colonies, and the court of Madrid does not feel herself so very secure in her own provinces.

EAST FLORIDA.—In a late article, introductory to a short geographical and statistical account of East Florida, the editors of the National Intelligencer, contradict the rumour of that portion of Spanish territory having been ceded to the United States. Indeed it is even intimated by them that no communications on the subject have been interchanged between the two governments.

If I understand the writer who has furnished the geographical & other information alluded to, the population of East Florida is more deplorably sparse than we have usually been led to believe. The whole number of black-belts down at about 2000 and we may infer from this the extent of the number of white-belts. St. Augustine (the seat of government,) contains about 1000. The following paragraph gives us the author's sense of the natural riches of this section of country:—

"It now remains to shew what intrinsic value belong to this territory, bordered on all sides by the Atlantic or intersected by navigable waters, connected with those of the United States. First, the timber, which far exceeds any that grows northerly, consists of forests of live oak, cedar, cypress and pine, all of inestimable extent. Secondly, may be mentioned the fertile lands which in the climate derive qualities not elsewhere to be found: amongst which are, a large tract near Augustine and St. John's called 12 Mile Swamp, containing 14,000 acres; another extending to Mosquito, 60 miles long; another between Bowleg's and Tampa, 60 miles long, supposed to contain some hundred thousand acres. The whole interior above Alatchawa, for several days ride, is excellent live oak and hickory land. The interior of the country is unexplored by white people, but said to be fertile and healthy, full of pleasant orange groves, and plentifully stocked with wild cattle.

Our fellow-citizens will learn with regret, that the hon. Mr. Lloyd has resigned his seat in Congress. We know it was his intention to have proffered his resignation immediately after his return from Washington, as he had then full assurance that the sacrifice of his health would be the inevitable consequence of his continuance in office. But the advice of friends prevented the execution of that intention at the time. They urged the importance of giving time for the conducting partialities which agitated the district previous to his election, to subside; and they were successful. We know that this desirable object was one of the motives which induced Mr. Lloyd to consent to become a candidate for a seat in the house of representatives, after having resigned one in the senate. Though those partialities still exist in a degree, we have our fears that the causes which have now induced the resignation are well founded; and are satisfied a generous community will acquiesce in the necessity which deprives them of the efficient benefit of the talents, independence and application of their representative—from which they had anticipated so much; and who is so well able to vindicate the justice of the claims of the commonwealth for expenses incurred during the late war.—Boston Centinel, Oct. 29.

The Editors have been favored with a Translation of an important official document relating to the affairs of South America, which fell into their hands after the copy was prepared for this day's impression, and is therefore ac-