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Internal Navigation.

REPORT

Of the committee appointed to accompany the Engineer, Col. Baldwin, in a survey from Roanoke to Petersburg.

Having proceeded, agreeably to an order of the common-hall in the town of Petersburg, to accompany Col. Baldwin, the state engineer, on a survey from Roanoke to Appomattox river, with the view of ascertaining the most practicable course for a canal between the said rivers, we now respectfully report the following summary of our progress, viz.

After several days spent in exploring the margin of Roanoke, for twenty or twenty-five miles, in Mecklenburg county, to where the Carolina line intersects the Roanoke, and also the several creeks and country in that distance between the two rivers Meherrin and Roanoke, to ascertain the most eligible point to commence, and course to pursue the survey, and considering it useless to go higher up the Roanoke, or at all into North Carolina, we commenced the survey at the mouth of Mile's creek, at Goode's ferry, on Roanoke, continuing the course of said creek, to its source in the dividing ridge—distance from Roanoke to the summit of the ridge thirteen miles, and 232 feet above the level of Roanoke—thence to Meherrin 5 miles, at the mouth of Mountain's creek, 2 miles below Davis's mill. Here we found the bed of the Meherrin 19 feet above that of Roanoke. We crossed Meherrin, and took our departure opposite to the mouth of Mountain's creek, with a level of 20 feet above the bed of Meherrin, meandering along its banks, and preserving said level some miles below Brunswick court-house—thence to Nottoway river, at the Cut Bank bridge, the bed of which we found to be 70 feet below our level—thence along the stage road, to the foot of a cedar tree, in the Halifax road, at Kirkham's 85 feet below our level—thence to high water mark, 143 feet fall to Appomattox, at McNeill's bridge; distance from Roanoke 22 miles and a few rods, and 198 feet below the level of Roanoke, at Goode's ferry.

A further detail of the survey made by the committee, is considered unnecessary on their part, as the engineer will make a regular report to the Board of Public Works, a copy of which can be procured in course, and which will particularly shew all the bearings, distances, ascents and descents, of every station—together with the various obstructions to be surmounted throughout the whole survey, and we suppose with a probable estimate of the cost.—It may not, however, be unnecessary to explain the plan by which it is deemed practicable to make a navigable communication between the two rivers. Mile's creek, at the mouth of which the survey was commenced, can be made a medium to lock in and out of Roanoke, at a level of about 100 feet above the Roanoke, which level may be varied more or less, as the nature of the ground may be found to admit, and can be driven into the dividing ridge, by cutting 40 to 50 feet deep towards the centre, on both sides, so as to reduce the channel to about 2 or 3 miles thro' the ridge—then to dam Mountain's creek to this level, and proceed with a canal from this dam, to Davis's mill, on Meherrin, where a dam can be readily made 40 to 50 feet high, and lock into this dam or pond, out of the canal, from Mountain's creek—From thence commence a canal at an additional height of 20 to 30 feet to that with which we started from Meherrin, to Nottoway, as stated in the survey. The great advantage contemplated by this additional level, is, that it may serve so much to overcome some high land between Meherrin and Nottoway, and from which level we may easily descend at Nottoway to any convenient level that will readily come to the Appomattox.

An opinion as to the practicability of this desirable object, may possibly be expected from the committee.—On that score they can only state their concurrence with the engineer in several conversations, that is, that the object is practicable; and, as he very justly observed, that it may be fairly viewed a great and arduous undertaking; yet when it is considered the immense tract of fertile country the object would command, and consequently a valuable and growing commerce to the town of Petersburg, resulting also in an important advantage to the state, we readily agree with him, that such great ends would amply justify the means to effect them.

Being associated with Col. Baldwin, and witnessing his performance so far in this undertaking, we beg leave to say, as a tribute justly due him, that as far as we are capable of judging of his skill and competency in the projection and execution of such works, we have the most ample confidence in his abilities. His zeal and indefatigable exertions, suffering no weather or circumstances to impede his progress, accommodating himself to every inconvenience occurring—rendering himself agree-

ble to those subordinate to him, and thereby rendering them ready and willing to perform their duty, are in our estimation, valuable traits in his character.

With due respect, we are, &c.

D. MACKENZIE,
ROBERT RITCHIE,
JOHN HINTON,
ROBERT BOLLING.

January 26, 1818.

DOMESTIC.

FRANKFORT, JAN. 1.

RESOLUTIONS.

Expressive of the sense of the people of Kentucky on the Patriotic struggle of South America, and on the policy which the general government ought to pursue in relation to that country:

[IN SENATE BY MR. BLEDSOE.]

Resolved by the general assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, That the people of this state view with the most lively emotion the patriotic struggles of their South American republican brethren, to throw off and break in pieces the yoke of Spanish despotism; to take their stand amongst the nations of the earth; and to vindicate the exercise of those rights of self-government which the God of nature has given to man, as his unalienable birth-right.

That while this legislature, and the people whom they represent fully appreciate the blessings of peace flowing from the observance of a just neutrality, as to the conflicts between other powers; they are nevertheless fully sensible of the immense importance to the United States of the establishment of the independence of the South American colonies, as respects the probable commercial and political relations between the two portions of the same great continent.

That neither interest nor duty on the part of the U. S. as respects all Spain exists to induce them to take one single step towards favouring that power, or strengthening the rod of oppression which there is reason to hope her colonies are about wresting from her hands forever.

That it is in our opinion wise policy as well as justice, for the government of the U. S. to acknowledge the independence of such of the former Spanish colonies of S. America as shall have shown or shall show themselves capable of vindicating and maintaining the rights of self-government.

That the strictest regard to neutrality between the parties neither requires nor authorises, the arrest or detention of foreign men, vessels or munitions of war passing through our country or touching at our ports destined to assist either party.

That if the general government of the U. S. is prepared to take a side in this contest, the many unredressed wrongs, and the outrageous insults of old Spain to this government together with the strong claims of suffering humanity upon our sympathy, leave no room to doubt which side the free people of the only republic on earth are prepared to take.

Resolved, That copies of the foregoing resolutions be transmitted to the President of the U. States, and to each of our senators and representatives in Congress, to be submitted to that body.

[IN THE HOUSE, BY MR. BIBB.]

Resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky—1st. That the liberty of nations is derived from God and nature, and is not the gift of kings or potentates.

2d. That all just power is derived from the people; the choice of forms of government belongs of right to them, and those (or their successors) who constitute one form, may abrogate it.

3d. That in all just governments, the good of the governed is the end to be accomplished, and the people upon whom each particular government operates are the only fit judges of the performance of the ends for which the government was instituted.

4th. That the general revolt of a nation against oppression and in vindication of their own liberty cannot be justly called a rebellion.

5th. That the struggle of the Patriots of S. America for the rights of self-government is justified by the laws of God and nature and sanctioned by the unalienable rights of man.

6th. That the success of those who are struggling for the liberty and independence of South America, is a consummation devoutly to be wished, highly interesting to the friends of freedom and humanity in general, and calls for the deepest sympathy and accordance on the part for the people of these U. S. of North America.

7th. That it is the opinion of this general assembly that such of the provinces of South America as have declared themselves free and independent, and have shown a reasonable ability to maintain their independence, ought forthwith to be acknowledged by the general government of the United States of North America, as sovereign and independent powers, to be treated as such and introduced to the other sovereign powers of the earth; and generally that all the rights, countenance and hospitality should be given by these United States to those so acknowledged sovereign powers of South America which by the laws of nations may be justly and peaceably afforded by the people and magistracy of one neutral nation, to the people and magistracy of another nation in war or in peace.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be transmitted to the President of the

U. S. and to each of the Senators and Representatives of this State in the Congress of the U. S. and that the acting Governor be requested to transmit them accordingly.

Foreign Intelligence.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE, NOV. 29.

By his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Regent of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty,

A PROCLAMATION,

Prohibiting his Majesty's natural-born subjects from serving, or enlisting, or entering themselves to serve in the military forces or ships of war, raised or set forth by the persons exercising or assuming to exercise the powers of government in certain provinces and parts of provinces in Spanish America, or in his said Majesty's ships of war.

GEORGE, P. R.

Whereas there unhappily subsists a state of warfare between his Catholic Majesty and divers Provinces or parts of Provinces in Spanish America; and whereas it has been represented to us, that many of our subjects have, without our leave or licence, enlisted or entered themselves to serve in the military forces or ships of war raised or set forth by the persons exercising, or assuming to exercise the powers of government in such provinces, or parts of provinces, and that divers others of our subjects are about, in like manner, to enter and enlist themselves: and whereas such practices are highly prejudicial to, and tend to endanger the peace and welfare of our crown and dominions, we do therefore hereby, by and with the advice of our Privy Council, strictly charge and command all and every of our natural born subjects, of what degree or quality soever, not to serve in any such military forces or ships of war as aforesaid, and not to enlist or enter themselves to serve therein, and not to go beyond the seas, or embark, in order to serve, or with intent to enter, or enlist themselves to serve in such military forces or ships of war: and it is at the same time our Royal will and pleasure and we do, by and with the advice aforesaid, hereby also strictly charge and command all and every of our said subjects not to serve, or enlist, or enter themselves to serve in any military forces or ships of war raised or set forth, or to be raised or set forth by his Catholic Majesty, and not to go beyond the seas, or embark, in order, or to the intent to serve, or enter, or enlist themselves to serve in such military forces or ships of war; it is nevertheless our Royal will and pleasure that nothing herein contained, shall be deemed or taken to prohibit any of our subjects, who are engaged at the time of the date of this our proclamation in serving in the military forces of his Catholic Majesty with our leave or licence, from continuing to serve therein, provided that such our said subjects do not serve with the military forces of his Catholic Majesty when employed in Spanish America: and we do hereby, by and with the advice aforesaid, strictly require all our said subjects duly to conform to our commands herein contained, under pain of our highest displeasure, and the utmost forfeitures and punishments to which by law they will otherwise be liable.

Given at our Court at Brighton, the 27th day of November, 1817, in the 53d year of our reign—God save the King.

FROM THE LONDON TIMES OF DEC. 2.

The proclamation which appeared in the Gazette of Sunday night, prohibiting all assistance to the provinces of South America, has excited a strong sensation amongst the military adventurers, whose enterprizes are thus suddenly condemned by law. Several officers in the above predicament, mustered in the city yesterday, to take into consideration the best means to be pursued under existing circumstances. Many of these gentlemen are most uncomfortably situated, having fitted themselves out for the trans-atlantic regions at a great expence, which they were enabled to do only by the assistance of their friends—added to this, a number of them had taken and paid for their passage on board several ships in the river now on the point of sailing.

If we may judge by the last accounts from the Havana, the proclamation will have appeared just in time to prevent our brethren preparing their departure at the different islands for the Spanish Main, from experiencing the keenest disappointment.

LONDON, DECEMBER 2.

An article under the head of Rome, in the German papers, received last night, gives an account of an attempt made by a band of robbers to seize and carry off Lucien Bonaparte, from his seat near Frascati. They carried off his Secretary in mistake for his master and wounded a relative of the family who was there on a visit. Lucien and his family have in consequence, removed into Rome.

December 3.—Yesterday we were favoured with a letter from Calais, dated the 20th ult. which contained intelligence of a nature deeply to be deplored. The writer whose veracity or means of information we cannot doubt, states, that a few days ago, a party of British dragoons, within a few miles of Calais, having occasion to return to their former cantonments were refused admittance; when a fracas took place, in which two soldiers were killed, and eleven wounded. The affair had occasioned much conversation in the neighbourhood; and the circumstances attending the quarrel were

expected to form the subject of immediate investigation.—[Times.]

December 4.—A morning paper says, "It was on Thursday, at Brighton, as we understand, that the Duke of York tendered his resignation. The proposal was not then taken into consideration, but Ministers have since informed his Royal Highness that in their unanimous opinion, it is not called for by any reasons arising out of the constitution. In other respects few, we apprehend, think the resignation desirable; and those few would soon become none, if his Royal Highness were to yield more fully than he does to the present occasion for certain military reductions." From this we must suppose that the constitutional argument advanced against the Prince Regent himself was personal; his Royal Highness being then of opinion that the government was not conducted with ability for the honor and interests of the realm.

We are concerned to find from the Dublin Papers of the 2d inst. which arrived this morning that the typhus fever increases in certain quarters of Ireland. In the space of 26 days 216 patients were received into the fever hospital of Limerick, which considerably exceeds the number discharged in that interval.

December 6.—This morning we received Paris papers of four days, from Sunday to Wednesday inclusive. They present us with the project of a law for regulating the recruiting of the army, in conformity with the King's Speech at the commencement of the session. In developing the nature and object of this measure M. Gouyon St. Cyr, the Minister of war, carefully and distinctly stated that the government of France entertained no intentions inconsistent with the repose of Europe, and sought merely to preserve the army in its effective strength and to support the departmental legions in their full complement. An army for defence and not for aggrandisement is, he twice declares, the sole object of his Majesty.

This explanation will probably appease the anxious fears of the Prussian Court, which indeed might be thought very justifiable in the existing state of affairs. The Minister of War makes no allusion to the diplomatic note said to have been presented on this subject; but he states the confident hopes entertained by the King that the burdens of France will soon be terminated by the wisdom and friendship of the Allies.

A Flanders Mail arrived last night with papers from Brussels to the 2d inst. They notice the arrival of M. Las Cassas, the friend of Bonaparte, recently returned from St. Helena at Ostend, but make no mention of his having been placed in a state of durance, as reported in private letters.

The ports are now shut against the import of Corn of every description whether from the Continent, the United States, or elsewhere, excepting Barley. They are in course open for the admission of Corn from our own Colonies in North America.

A Flanders Mail arrived this morning with Papers to the 6th inst. The removal of the Prince of Orange from the general administration of the army is officially announced. This measure, adopted at the request of His Royal Highness, is much regretted by the people.

Dresden, Nov. 20.—A committee is going to be called at Dresden, for the purpose of regulating the rights and privileges of the navigation of the Elbe. All the Sovereigns through whose territories the river passes, are to send deputies to assist in these discussions.

PARIS, NOV. 26.

Gen. Baron de Tuyl, the Russian Ambassador to the United States of America, and M. de Gallatin, Minister Plenipotentiary from Wirtemberg, arrived this morning, in Paris, with their suits.

According to the last census, the present population of France is 29,355,099 inhabitants.

The Marshal Duke of Ragusa is nominated a Minister of State.

It is said the British Parliament will be dissolved in the Spring.

The British Government has for the first time, appointed a Consul to reside in Iceland. Mr. Reynolds has been selected.

Memorials have been presented to the British Government requesting aid to the Trade of Malta, which has diminished greatly.

The ship Grace, for South America, sailed from Portsmouth, Eng. on the 22d of November. She has on board a corps of 400 Lancers, which had been raised to join the Spanish Independents.

Captain Clark, of the American ship Perseverance, has recovered from Mr. Thompson, of Scotland, upwards of 26,000 dollars, for the detention of that ship five years in the Clyde, and for imprisoning the Captain.

The London Papers say, the festival of Easter, this year, will be on the 22d March, which circumstance will not occur again in 446 years.

An English letter says there has been warm debating in the French Chamber of Deputies. Mr. Bigon proposed to inform the King of the impossibility under which France lay, of paying the imposts of 1818; and to pray him to require that the Allied Troops should evacuate France.

These propositions were rejected. Mr. Lane said, "the demands of the Foreign Powers were constantly increasing—we must rid ourselves of such insatiable oppressors." These expressions were reproved as indiscreet.

The French funds are a little depressed.—They fluctuate between 64 and 65, owing to foreign claims.