

What is it? If I may be permitted, I shall endeavor to point it out, and will even go so far as to suggest the remedy.

Penitentiaries, on the prevailing plan, in my estimation, are defective in these grand particulars. The punishment impresses no one with terror: its whole process is a bitter enemy to the reform of the culprit: and it almost invariably returns its inmates upon society with more depraved appetites and a sharper relish for wrong-doing.

This certainly, then, cannot be the thing desired: and I would propose as a remedy, that the whole term of punishment be solitary: that the prisoners never communicate with each other, nor meet at all but at stated times of general worship: that their work be of the kind that can be individually managed: that no idle visitors be admitted to them: spirits absolutely prohibited: no amusements permitted but wholesome reading and exercise: and one-half of the surplus of each culprit's earnings laid aside as a fund to be given him on his discharge, as the gift of mercy to enable him to fly from the scene of his disgrace.

Were it once known that criminals, during the period of their punishment, were to be absolutely dead to the world, for that period, perhaps not even the prospect of death itself would fill with greater horror the guilty bosom. A wholesome awe would thus be spread abroad, in place of the prevailing sentiment, that the penitentiary is to many a more plentiful and pleasant home than they ever enjoyed. In the process, remorse would visit the prisoner's guilty conscience; no vile corruption would laugh him out of his penitence; good books would confirm his resolutions of amendment; and an honest pittance, of his own earning, afford him the means of reformation and decent settlement.

That I would not have the criminals seen at all, except rarely by their immediate relatives (if of good character) by their keepers, and by the clergy—is because experience teaches that guilt and misery can never bear to be gazed at without feelings of hatred towards the human species. The victims of the law should not, and cannot be, without the worst consequences, made subjects of frivolous and childish curiosity.

No arguments are required to enforce the propriety of placing books in the hands of the convicts. Those who on their entrance could not read, should be taught it—for idleness, and vacuity of mind, in solitude, often engender moody discontent, and foster a spirit of malignant revenge.

That the labor, even, should be separate; and the cells so contrived, that the inmates could neither see nor hear each other. I insist on, because that sort of communication is precisely the kind which is most to be dreaded. No room should be afforded for one abandoned reprobate to make another as bad as himself. Yet notwithstanding the unhappy beings were to be thus secluded, I would have a most strict discipline observed in regard to the neatness of their attire and the cleanliness of their persons.

In a word this system should embrace, labor, with the three fold object of health, profit & punishment; solitude as a means of repentance and improvement; reading, as a help to pious advancement and a source of the variety necessary to sustain human spirits; cleanliness, as a prop which never fails to sustain some sense of personal dignity, a reversion of half the profits of labor, to keep alive hope and afford a stimulus to exertion; and religious instruction, as the most powerful engine to restore to its proper place the guilty heart that has been warped from its duty!

Finally, with judicious management, thus directed, I should hope to see the criminal discharged, a man improved in morals, manners and personal habits; better taught in letters and business; and bearing with him a sum sufficient to keep him aloof from the cruel, dangerous, irresistible temptations of want. The public would be every way a gainer by him: and in some instances might hope to see a repentant profligate returned a useful member to the bosom of the community.

SEA SERPENT.—Capt. Rich, who has lately distinguished himself by pursuing the Sea-Serpent, and was said to have struck him with a harpoon, now maintains, that there is no such animal—but that the various gentlemen who have sworn to the fact have been deceived, by the peculiar appearances of the tunney fish, while swimming in a calm sea.—The fish taken by Capt. R. is one of that kind.

Indian treaty.—To the refusal, as mentioned in a former paper, of the council of the Chickasaws to bold a treaty. Gen. Jackson would not agree, and appealed to the nation—he represented the motives of a few to be at war with the best interests of the nation, that nothing unjust or unreasonable would be required of them: the arguments have had the desired effect, and a meeting is proposed at the Chickasaw town the first of October to make a treaty.—Nashville Paper.

MASSACRE.—By some accident I either overlooked the following account, or no Southern paper containing it reached the office.—It is too important, however, to be overlooked even now, as it goes far to explain a part of the mystery of the Indian war.—No one can now share which a portion of our frontier population

has had in bringing the tomahawk upon our women and children, and destruction upon the heads of the miserable savages.

MILLEDORVILLE, AUG. 11.

Lieut. Wager, of the United States army, has just arrived from Pensacola, but brings no news. He says four or five Indians, supposed to be hostile, had been taken prisoners by a detachment of militia, who delivered them to the Jailor at Fort Claiborne, for safe keeping.

From some cause, it was subsequently determined to remove them to Fort Montgomery: On their way, having proceeded but a short distance, they were overtaken by a party of exasperated citizens of the Alabama Territory who wrested them from the guard, and put them all to death. Such are the unhappy consequences of Indian warfare!—Journal.

A gentleman of much respectability at Fort Gaines, informs us that five Indians who were taken on the Perdido river by Captain Boyle of the Alabama militia, were murdered by the guard appointed to conduct them to Fort Montgomery for safe keeping.—Reflector.

KENTUCKY ELECTION RETURNS.

Members of Congress.—Complete. David Trimble, Henry Clay, Wm. Brown, Thomas Metcalfe, Alney M'Lean, David Walker, George Robertson, E. C. Anderson, Tunstall Charles, Benjamin Hardin.

\$100,000 in SPECIE for the U. S. bank was received at New-York from Antwerp, on the 8th inst.

The Hon. URIEL HOLMES, has resigned his seat in the Congress of the United States.—Con. Mir.

The SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA, will meet at Fayetteville on the first day of October next.—At the same time and place will also be held the annual meeting of the Presbyterian Missionary Society of North-Carolina. A revision of the constitution of this Society is contemplated; a full meeting is therefore desirable. Raleigh, Sept. 23, 1818.

Dury Lane Theatre.—In consequence of its having been announced that arrangements were made for reopening of this Theatre, an application was made on the 8th of August to the Court of Chancery in London, by a great majority of the proprietors of that Theatre to grant an injunction [owing to the embarrassed state of the funds] to restrain the sub-committee from going on. The Chancellor granted the prayer of the petitioners & ordered notice to be served on the other side without delay. The theatre is consequently shut again.

Belshazzar or the fall of Tyne.—Under this title a very affecting tragedy has lately been produced at one of the London theatres, and which the writer of this witnessed the representation of some nights since in the city of Washington, with no small degree of applause. This interesting play claims unusual regard here—for although the author has very naturally assumed for his countrymen, the glory of Christian emancipation (and to Great Britain certainly praise is due for her efforts however late,) yet it must not be forgotten by Americans, that to the blood of the Decatur, the Nads-worths, the Sommerses, and other Columbian worthies the world is indebted for the first effectual blow given to the power of those piratical Barbarians. It is no part of the writer's intention to discuss how far the policy of nations on this point is to be weighted against the cause of humanity; but it is at least safe to assert that every freeman and Christian must be proud to recollect that Americans gave the first effectual check to the assumed dominion of these freebooters, and led the states of Europe to a sense of justice and their own dignity—ultimately extending mercy and deliverance to the captives of every nation and clime.—Balt. Am.

We stated, the other day, that the Congress, at their last session had granted to Major General ARTHUR ST. CLAIR a pension of six hundred dollars per annum, and we might have added, without its being asked either by him or his friends. Respecting the amount of the pension, we wrote from recollection, without reference to the law. We now find that the pension so granted was at the rate of sixty dollars per month, or seven hundred and twenty dollars per annum, and took date from the 1st of March, 1817, so as to give to the aged veteran a present sum of seven or eight hundred dollars, for the relief of his immediate necessities.—Nat. Int.

RESPECTING BUENOS AYRES.

Not seeing any thing in the Norfolk and Baltimore papers, of the important News we yesterday noticed as having reached this country, by private letters from Buenos Ayres, we have thought it proper to be more particular in stating what we know of it.

The Portuguese got possession of Colonia on the 1st of May; whether by conquest or treachery is not known; but by the latter, it is believed; in which place, at the date of our information, (the latter end of June) there were a thousand men garrisoned. About the same time, the Portuguese general Currow took Purificacion and Paysander, with 3500 men. A corps of cavalry crossed the Uruguay, and after plundering the Arroyo de la China repassed the river. The Portuguese afterwards abandoned Purificacion, and took a position between the Uruguay and Paysander. The uncertainty of all news received at Buenos Ayres was such, that it was not known how things actually stood, at the date of our advices. The contest, however, was considered very unequal, Artigas being thus cut off from the resources afforded on the sea coast, and being withal deprived of any aid from Buenos Ayres.

The government of Buenos Ayres, it is said, permitted the Portuguese to send their vessels of war up the river, to co-operate with their land forces, which amount to about 10,000 men. The success of the Portuguese had the usual effect of making them confident; and they openly threaten to take possession of the Island of Martin Garcia, which commands the entrance to the Uruguay and some of the entrances to the Parana, and which is garrisoned by the troops of Buenos Ayres. If they succeed in this attempt, it requires no great forecast to predict that their next attempt will be on the Western Shore.

Of the safety of the provinces of Buenos Ayres, of their ability to maintain their independence, if united there can be no doubt; there is no saying to what the violence of their internal divisions may not bring them—though it is believed they have little to apprehend from any force the Portuguese can bring against them. Nat. Int.

ANOTHER REVOLUTIONARY HERO GONE!

Died at his farm on Laurel Hill, Somerset county, (Pa.) on Monday the 31st ult. Major General Arthur St. Clair. His remains were interred on Wednesday. The last few years of this venerable patriot were spent in journeying to and from the seat of government, in endeavoring to claim from the congress of the United States, what was

justly due him. Often have we seen this war-worn veteran, whose wasted frame, and palsied limbs, would have elicited compassion from a stoic, endeavoring to convince the House of the justice of his claim, while the tear of wounded honor fell fast on his aged breast. Useless entreaty—his claim was barred by the statute limitation, and his grey hairs suffered to sink in penury to the grave! It would be an act of retributive justice, if those who doomed him to pass the remnant of his days in a wretched hovel, surrounded with the horrors of indigence, should die as he has done—in abject poverty! Fed. Rep. & Balt. Telegraph.

A gentleman who perused our late French papers, remarks, that the editorial tone of them exhibits a leaning in favor of the English ministerial doctrine; and on all occasions touching the politics of the United States, the language of France is similar to that breathed by the ministerial editors of England. The capture of Pensacola by General Jackson has produced the same effect, and occasioned the same sentiments in both countries. The fair conclusion is, that there is a perfect understanding between the governments of France and England. N. Y. Gaz.

MONUMENT TO COM. DOWNIE.

A Tomb Stone, for Com. Downie, arrived at this place in the Steam Boat, a few weeks since, directed to the Commandant at this post. G. J. Atkinson has caused this stone, which is a plain white marble, to be put in a suitable manner. The following is the inscription: Sacred To the memory of GEORGE DOWNIE, ESQ. A Post Captain in the Royal N. NAVY, Who gloriously fell on board the H. B. M. ship the Confiance While leading the vessels under his command To the attack of the American Flotilla At anchor in Cumberland Bay off Plattsburg On the 11th September, 1814. To mark the spot where the remains of a gallant officer and sincere friend Were honorably interred, This Stone has been erected By his affectionate Sister-in-law Mary Downie.

Travelling.—From an account kept by Henry Montgomery, keeper of the turnpike gate on the Chestnut Ridge, between this place and Stoyestown, it appears that there passed through his gate during the year ending in May last, 7,420 single horses, 350 one horse carriages, 911 two horse do. 2,425 horse do. 2,696 six horse do. 89 one horse sleighs and sleds, 211 two horse do.—Making altogether the number of 39,599 horses, in the course of one year, the first that has expired since the erection of the gate.—Greensburgh Gaz.

FROM THE HARTFORD (CON.) TIMES.

The question is continually asked what will the Convention do? The answer is, we cannot sell—we shall waive conjectures till the result is known. To another question also repeatedly asked, what has the Convention done, we answer It has changed the time and place of holding the election in the spring It has abolished the October session of the general Assembly. It has provided that every white male of 21 years of age and upwards, who does military duty, or pays a state tax may be made a freeman, and be entitled to vote in all elections and town meetings during life. It has abolished our laws obliging men to support any religious institutions and authorized any man at his pleasure, to leave the society to which he belongs, without joining any other society. It has given the governor the power of refusing his assent to bills for public acts, and offering his reasons for such dissent, and in those cases the two houses will revise such bills, and if they are again passed by a simple majority, they become laws; or in other words he can move for a reconsideration. It has taken away from the Governor and Council the power of appointing sheriffs, and has given it to the General Assembly. It has made the Judges of the Supreme Court so far independent as that they are incapable of being removed except by impeachment or on the address of the members of each house. This is a wise and important measure. It has directed the doors of the General Assembly to be open during debates. And, last though not least, it has set already twenty days at an expense to the state of about Ten Thousand Dollars, or five hundred dollars a day. We hope the result will show that this great sum is not worse than wasted.

Resuscitation.—At Kilworth, Ireland, a boy five years old, who fell into the Araglin, and remained in the water upwards of 15 minutes, although all efforts towards resuscitation appeared hopeless, was restored by the efforts of a young surgeon. An example which ought to stimulate to exertion, even under the most discouraging circumstances of suspended animation.

We are authorized to state, for the information of those interested, that the number of applicants for pensions under the act of the last session, has been so great, that it has not been possible, with every exertion, to act upon them so fast as they came in. In addition to which, some delay has taken place in order to supply from the records of the several states, the documents in relation to revolutionary services, which were destroyed when the War Office was burnt in 1801; which cause of delay is now almost wholly removed. The applications for pensions are taken up in the order of time in which they were received, and every effort will be made to render the delay as short as possible. When claims to pensions are admitted, the certificates will be transmitted to the persons by whom the claimants' papers were sent to the War Department. When rejected, they will be returned in the same manner, with the reasons stated for rejection. More letters of general enquiry as to the state of particular applications, we are informed, cannot be answered, as it would consume much of the time that ought to be engaged in the investigation of claims. Nat. Int.

We have seen some conjectures in the newspapers respecting the delivery of the Spanish posts, in Florida, Spanish government, that have led us to some inquiry into the subject.

The two posts, we are induced to believe, will be surrendered under various circumstances. The post of St. Marks will not be surrendered, but to a force competent to hold it. It is a military post, remote from any population, surrounded by hordes of desperate Indians and negroes; it is the only barrier against their ravages and incursions. To evacuate it on the mere demand of any Spanish agent deputed to receive, or to a force incompetent to hold it, would be to evacuate it to the Indians; for, we have the authority of the late Spanish Commander in chief, for saying, that the Indians controlled him, and not he them. Self-preservation is the first dictate of nature; and there is nothing in the law of nations, most rigorously construed, which requires a nation to prostrate any part of its population at the mercy of an infuriated and savage enemy. We have daily accounts that the Seminole Indians remaining unsubdued are embodied in force; this check withdrawn, and they might sweep our borders. On the appearance of a force adequate to garrison the post, it will be promptly given up.

With respect to Pensacola, that post stands on a different footing. There are not fifty warriors west of the Appalachicola, and the population of the frontier is sufficient to keep them in awe. The population of Pensacola alone is abundantly competent to preserve it from falling into the hands of the Indians. That post, therefore, will be surrendered, without condition, to any agent of Spain duly authorized to receive it.

It is thus seen, that the United States do not desire to hold the Spanish posts; one of which is surrendered without condition, and the other without any condition but that it shall not be surrendered to a force, nominally Spanish, under a control actually in their hands. In a word, it is to Spain, and not to the Seminoles, that both the posts are to be surrendered.—Nat. Int.

In a pamphlet which has been published as the dying confession of Joseph Thompson Lane, one of the mail-robbers lately executed, he is made to confess being concerned in seventeen robberies, the booty of which amounted, altogether, exclusive of the robbery for which he suffered death, to upwards of 120,000 dollars. He had been twice convicted of robbery and sentenced to the penitentiary; and once lay several months in jail in Washington city. He was in the army, the pamphlet says, deserted from it, hired a horse and gig in Georgetown, and sold them. But the most ingenious of the narrated incidents of his life, is that, whilst in the army, he meditated delivering up the person of Mr. Manisus then President, to Admiral Cockburn, then lying in Patuxent; which, he says, he could have done, could he in any way have communicated his design to Cockburn. If this confession be credible, it was a scheme worthy of the perpetrator of seventeen burglaries and highway robberies, and the tenant of two penitentiaries.

MARRIED.—At Smithville, Brunswick county, on Tuesday, the 15th inst. by the Rev. Josse Jenneit, Mr. John J. Green to Miss Clementine Haynes. DIED.—At Wilmington, on Sunday the 29th ult. Mr. Joel E. Hobbs, aged 42, of the firm of Hobbs and Coer, of Wilmington.

In this city, on the 23rd, Mr. John Powers, a native of Ireland and a soldier of the revolution.—

SALES AT AUCTION.—At 12 o'clock on Saturday next, will be sold at our store, a quantity of Men's Cloaths, Liverpool Stoved Salt, in bags, and Porter, by the dozen bottles—all without reserve.—Also, an excellent Philadelphia built Gig and Harness, and a handsome sorrel Mare, that rides well and goes well in harness. ROSS & PARSLEY, Auctioneers. September 24, 1818.

ALL persons indebted to the subscriber are requested to call on him and settle their accounts without delay. M. P. MAYES: Raleigh, Sept. 23, 1818. 73-31.

CONFECTIONARY.—David Shaw, late from Glasgow, in Scotland, has commenced a manufactory of CONFECTIONARY ARTICLES, in Raleigh, on Fayetteville street, nearly opposite the Star and Minerva printing offices, where he intends carrying on that business in all its branches, and to that extent which the demand may appear to require, both wholesale and retail. Those who purchase by wholesale will be furnished at the Petersburg wholesale prices; and as the advertiser learnt his business at one of the first Confectionaries in Glasgow, he has no hesitation in assuring those who may favor him with their custom that his goods will always be equal in quality to any thing of the kind in the United States. Orders from the different towns throughout this state, or elsewhere, will be thankfully and carefully attended to; and should any article not meet the expectations of those who may have ordered it, if returned in course of one month in like order as when sent off, it will be received; and the purchaser's money returned. September 24, 1818. 73-36.

N. B. The advertiser is a nephew of mine, in whose success I feel a deep interest as a connection. In order, therefore, to do away any want of confidence which might exist from his being a stranger, as far as my word can aid him, I pledge myself that what he promises in the above advertisement will be faithfully performed. WM. SHAW.

THE improvements that have lately been commenced in this place, may afford some gratification to those who feel an interest in the agricultural and commercial prosperity of this section of the state.—Plans are now building in this place, for the use of the Yalduin Navigation company, and arrangements have been made by the company to proceed in the improvements of the river with as little delay as possible. Several boats for the purpose of conveying produce down the river are in a state of forwardness. Hands are now engaged opening a route for a turnpike, to lead from the landing above the narrows down the western side of the river, to the town of Blakely.—This route will form a postage of about fourteen miles.—The Morganton road has been opened as far as this place, and passes in nearly a direct course through the center of the town.—a road has been opened to intersect the principal road leading from Calverton county; and another from the ferry to the main road on the eastern side of the river will shortly be completed. A number of Carpenters are employed erecting buildings, and as soon as practicable, several mercantile houses will be established. Blakely, Sep. 14 1818. 73-16.

INTON AND BAME—Are now receiving by the ships Indian Chief, Virginia and Scipio, from Liverpool, and the sisters from London, a very large and general assortment of seasonable British Dry Goods—Hud ware, and Cutlery, also from New-York an excellent supply of Silks, fancy articles &c. &c. which are offered on liberal terms. Their friends and the public, are respectfully invited to call and view them, on Sycamore street Petersburg Virginia. September 11, 1818. 73-5.

WILL be sold in Granville county, N. C. on the 29th September, 1818, at Tho's Brown's store, a tract of Land, containing one hundred and twenty acres, one mile from Thos. Brown's, on a credit of six months, with bond and approved security belonging to the estate of Dr. Thos. Falconer, dec'd. JOHN HOLLOWAY, Adm'r. Sept. 10, 1818. 72-41.

NOTICE.—THE RACES OVER THE SALISBURY FURF, will commence on Tuesday the 27th of Oct. and will continue five days. The subscriptions to the Jockey Club, have been very liberal, which we hope will induce sporting gentlemen to attend. MOSES A. LOCKE, Tr. at Salisbury, Sept. 7, 1818. 72-270.