

ishing and profitable; and, in the very few months that I have been here, I have found time to suggest improvements, founded on actual operations, which scores of gentlemen are candid and kind enough to press forward and thank me for. These thanks are, indeed, to be ascribed to their goodness rather than to my merits; but, still, I have, I think, done enough, even in this way, to make you *cantus* how you render your paper subservient to the purposes of the ruffian hirelings of the Boroughmonger press. I am aware, Sir, that I have taken up a good deal of your time; but, when you consider, that it has been in defence of myself and of a friend, calumniated through the means of your paper, I trust you will not think that I have gone beyond reasonable bounds. The only request that I have to add is, that you will be so good as to keep till I send for them, and pay for them, six copies of the paper in which this letter shall be published.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient,
And humble servant,
WM. COBBE, T.

The following article appears in the Maryland Censor, printed at Baltimore, of the date of Saturday last.

TRICKS OF DIPLOMACY

"Americans are very little acquainted with the tricks practised by the diplomatic agents of legitimate governments, to produce certain desired effects on public opinion, and on *cancels pending in courts of justice*. Our motto is 'honesty is the best policy,' and we too generally attribute the same motive of action to those whose policy is not honesty."

"Editors of papers are every day made the unconscious instruments of diplomatic artifices; extracts of letters are written by these ministers, or some of their attorneys or pensioners, giving accounts of pretended disasters to the Patriot arms, and the overthrow of patriot authorities, and foisted as genuine intelligence on the unsuspecting editor, which answer their purposes for the moment, and when the falsehood is detected, they have already prepared others to accomplish similar ends, which are again palmed on the public in the same way. The editors of the National Intelligencer are among the last to be suspected of lending themselves to any petty scheme of delusion got up by the agents of Don Oso or Monsieur Correa de Goy. None can admire more than we do, the intelligence and dignity which distinguish the editorial columns of that paper—but they are not to be elevated by our feeble praise, or depressed by our censure, if we were disposed to bestow it. We may, however, acknowledge ourselves liable to imposition, when they against the tricks of diplomacy. We have seen a great number and variety of letters, papers and passports by the Manhattan, the last arrival from Buenos Ayres, and we can assure them that the situation of general Artigas is very different from the one stated to be represented in private letters received at Washington. The Portuguese had taken Purification, his seat of government; as mentioned; nor do they threaten Buenos Ayres on the contrary, the government of Buenos Ayres was said to be preparing a body of cavalry to go against Artigas—a thing not likely to happen if threatened by the Portuguese. Two officers of Artigas had been defeated; he had afterwards defeated the Portuguese in person. The war against Artigas is one of the most unprovoked and unblushing measures of royal aggression upon human rights, that ever occurred, and we should be sorry that any friend of liberty could notice their success, unaccompanied with an expression of regret. In this instance it may not be irrelevant to remember, that the Portuguese consul-general is interested, to the amount of several hundred thousand dollars—*cancels pending* in overhanging Artigas government. Eu, supposing Purification, the seat of Artigas' government, had been taken—seat of government, and the government itself, are two things; as the editors of the Intelligencer find some occasion to know not many years since, if the voice of the people is the voice of God, and deserves to be respected, then does the power of Artigas derive, it is a power emphatically supported by the voice of the devoted and brave people over whom he presides by universal consent."

There is so much of earnestness in this article, and it has the language of expostulation so much more than of reproof, that we shall give it an attention which we have invariably refused to suggestions of a similar tendency, conveyed in foul and reproachful terms. Besides, the writer of the article being, we think, as well known to us as if he stood before us, we have a further motive for treating him with respect, being confident of the purity of his intentions. To the same pen we traced the article in the Baltimore Patriot of Thursday last, which we copy to-day, by way of shewing the variety of news which finds its way from Buenos Ayres.

Of the tricks of diplomacy against which they are warned, the editors of the National Intelligencer can confidently say, they have never suffered themselves to be made the dupes. The sources of the information which they communicate to the public, are always ascertained to be American, and worthy of full credit; or the authority, if foreign, is quoted, and its credibility left to the judgment of the reader. Our columns have never been lent to the purposes of Royal Agents, or of interested intriguers of a different description: they have been open, in respect to South American affairs particularly, to whomsoever, of established good character, chose to put their views on paper. We are proud, in looking back through the vista of the past year, to find that this paper has been honored as the medium of communicating to its readers so many of the productions on this subject, among the most polished and enlightened pens our country can boast of.

The most severe Censor will do us the justice to say, that we have endeavored, in respect to the South American cause, to avoid enflaming our feelings, or those of our readers, on the side of any of the particular parties, factions, or individuals, among the Patriots of South America. That they might be successful in their object has been our earnest wish. With such a feeling, we have seen with regret that in some of the governments, in that of which we know the most by example, in Buenos Ayres, the violence of the internal feuds has been such as to superinduce proscriptions, deportations, and even capital punishments. In regretting it, however, we have not undertaken to decide on the merits of these controversies; we have neither vindicated the

oppressor, nor calumniated the oppressed; we have not attempted to distribute the blame between the powers that be, and those who seek to supplant them; we have regarded that strife as one in which we have no more concern than the government of Buenos Ayres had with the question, whom we shall select for the office of President, or whom the President shall select as his secretaries. That there are those among us, however, who entertain different views on this head, is sufficiently manifest from the articles we copy to-day, if it had not before been known. With such as enter with the enthusiasm of the Censor into the political squabbles at Buenos Ayres, we expect to gain no favor from the declaration, which we now make with great seriousness, that we care not who is at the head of Buenos Ayres, or who rules the Banda Oriental, provided the Republican form of government be perpetuated.

With respect to the particular occasion of the Censor's remarks, we are sorry to assure him, that he, if either of us, is deceived, in regard to the state of affairs in the province of Buenos Ayres. If there be any diplomatic trick in the matter, it is played off on him and not on us; for we have intercourse with no diplomatists, either in the United States, at Buenos Ayres, or in the Banda Oriental. The particulars, which the Censor has stated with so much of the confidence of truth, respecting Buenos Ayres, shows, however, that he has sources of information to which we have no access. These sources are as liable to imposition, or to error of information, as those whence our information was derived. If such was the state of information at Buenos Ayres, that it was not known where either the troops of Artigas or of Portugal were, it is not surprising that even the information which we have communicated, had not before come to the knowledge of the Censor.

With respect to the government of Artigas, for the maintenance of which so much zeal is manifested, it is incorrect to suppose that we have any disposition to unsettle it; and we shall be glad to hear that his enemy made the same sort of a retreat from it as in the other case to which Censor refers, though with what propriety of allusion we do not exactly see. The reference to the Portuguese consul general is supposed to allude to cases pending in our courts, in which the right of the captors depends on the fact of the existence of the government from which the commissions were derived: if our conjecture be correct, we have only to say that the validity of commissions issued to privateers by any government, cannot depend on the posterior events of a war in which that government is engaged with another power. If any intimation is intended that our information was derived from the Portuguese consul general, or any other foreign agent, the writer is assured that there is no foundation for it. It was from an American of unimpeachable veracity, and as much a friend of Artigas as Censor himself. The information, as we have given it, as such an entire reliance may be placed upon. Having no motive ourselves to conceal the truth, it became our indispensable duty to lay it before our readers: some of whom it might seriously interest, and who will see, in the acknowledgment that two officers of Artigas had been defeated, an article of news, which had not found its way to the public eye until our statement called it forth. We hope it may prove equally true, as now intimated, that Artigas regained the ground he had lost.

For reasons which Censor will comprehend, we shall not pursue the subject at present any further; but wait with no little interest for further accounts from Buenos Ayres.

Domestic.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Baltimore to the editor of the New-York Evening Post, dated Sept. 20, 1818.

"As I perceive by the articles which have from time to time appeared in your paper that the system of privateering which our merchants have carried on for some time past, has been reprobated by you, I now communicate some of their proceedings for your information. It seems that the Spanish property having been swept from the ocean, their cupidity has been attracted by the valuable Portuguese vessels and cargoes which navigate between Portugal, the Brazils, and East Indies. Blank commissions are procured from Artigas, who occupies the banks of the river Plate, opposite Buenos Ayres, under color of which, vessels, armed, equipped and owned in the United States, and more particularly in this city, attack all the Portuguese and Spanish vessels they fall in with, plunder them of the specie which they find on board, and if the vessels have valuable cargoes, order some for St. Barts, where, it appears, an arrangement of mutual convenience has been made with the governor; others, for small ports in the West Indies, and some even for the ports of the United States. Two privateers, which lately arrived at this place, have carried on their depredation to a most ruinous extent. One of them, called La Fortuna, formerly the Fourth-of-July, has captured from 8 to 12 Portuguese vessels, among which are the Raynha dos Anjos, from which she took out \$82,000; a large ship of 900 tons, called the Monte Alegre, loaded with a cargo valued at half a million of dollars; the brig Vasco da Gama, and Don Joao Sexto, valued at 100,000 dollars each, besides other vessels of less value. Another privateer, called La Irresistible, which left this place in January last, returned a few days ago, having pillaged, destroyed and taken 20 sail of Portuguese vessels, among which were 3 Indiamen of great value. This

privateer is said to have brought into this port upwards of \$200,000 in specie.

"The Portuguese consul general has commenced sundry suits to endeavor to procure the restitution of some of this property. He is said to have attached a quantity of specie deposited in one of the banks, and to have libelled a large Portuguese ship and cargo, which lately entered this port as a prize to the Fortuna. He has moreover directed prosecutions to be undertaken against the reputed owners of the privateer in this city, to recover the value of four of the captures, and the judge of the district court has ordered them to give bail each to the amount of 580,000 dollars. The following persons have been held to bail: John S. Skinner, the post-master of this city; Matthew Murray, the sheriff of Baltimore county; Joseph Karriek, John Snyder, and Joseph Patterson.

"The affair has assumed a serious complexion, and if the Consul is successful, as can scarcely be doubted, must, from the magnitude of the claim, be attended with almost certain ruin to the parties, and probably to their bail, who, it is said, are liable to the full amount of whatever may be the recovery against the persons prosecuted:—they being in this respect a difference between the admiralty law and the common law. The same persons have also been arrested upon a criminal charge of violating the act of congress in fitting out the privateer Fourth-of-July, and have been held to bail by order of the Judge, to stand their trial in November next."

FROM THE NORFOLK HERALD.

ARBUTHNOT AND AMBRISTER.

The indifference with which the account of the execution of these two individuals was received in England, may be taken as evidence of the fact, that the government of that country has received satisfactory assurances of the justice of the measure. The subject has given rise to a much greater degree of excitement in this country: some of our newspapers, indeed, have even gone so far as to condemn the act, off-hand as altogether unjustifiable and unprecedented. For our own part, we never doubted that their punishment, however terrible it may have been, was authorized by the laws of nations, as it was merited by the magnitude of their offences; though we could have wished that the grounds and proofs upon which they were tried and condemned, had been officially promulgated.

Some facts connected with the history of one of these individuals have come to our knowledge, which may be interesting to some of our readers, though they are entitled to no importance in a political point of view, they are contained in the following memorial addressed by the father of the young man Ambrister, (a resident of the island of New-Providence) to the governor of the Bahamas. While we yield our assent to the stern decrees of justice pronounced against the son, humanity claims our sympathy in behalf of the afflicted parent.

The memorial of James Ambrister, of the Island of New-Providence,

Humbly Sheweth as follows:

Your memorialist's youngest son, Robert Christye Ambrister was born in this colony in the year 1797; he served as a Midshipman in his Majesty's Navy for about 4 years, he afterwards obtained under Admiral Cochrane a Lieutenant's commission in his Majesty's late corps of Royal Colonial Marines, destined to be employed during the late war with the United States of America, in which capacity he served with Major Nicholls in the Floridas, and from thence he returned to New-Providence on the establishment of peace; without having been then, or at any time since, confirmed to his last mentioned rank in any way whatever, by his Majesty's Government.

Some short time since, your Memorialist's said son, when on a visit to the Floridas, as a passenger in a small trading vessel from these Islands, certainly on this last occasion without any Military commission or appointment of any kind which your memorialist is aware of was (as your memorialist with the deepest pain, has lately learned from different quarters) seized upon at his Catholic Majesty's Fort St. Marks, by a military force from the United States of America; tried by a Court Martial, and condemned to be shot, on some pretence of crime, not yet known to your Memorialist, and actually executed in pursuance of his sentence.

As your Memorialist understands, his son had not been on shore more than 12 days when he was thus fatally proceeded against.

By the same public accounts your Memorialist further learns, that Mr. Alexander Arbuthnot, a trader of this place, who is well known never to have had any connection with military life, was also seized at St. Marks, at the same time as your Memorialist's son and executed in pursuance of a sentence of the same court martial.

Your Memorialist without being able to conjecture what offence either his son or Mr. Arbuthnot could well have been guilty of, within his Catholic Majesty's dominions, which could acceding to any known principle of natural law subject their lives to forfeiture in this instance, within the far jurisdiction of the invading force, respectfully represents as a characteristic aggravation of this apparently flagitious mockery of justice, (should the fact prove to be, as is represented and believed) that the principle witness produced against the prisoners before the extraordinary tribunal which claimed the right of bringing them to trial, was an infamous person of the name of Cooke, a vendue master's clerk, who some time before quitted these Islands in consequence of having robbed his master, and who was afterwards imprisoned at St. Marks for a similar offence against M. Arbuthnot, who had the misfortune to employ him in his mercantile concerns there.

Your Memorialist therefore trusts, that your honor, in kind indulgence to the natural feelings and solicitude of a parent at so dark and melancholy an event, as well as from motives of a more important general character, will be pleased to lay this statement before his Majesty's Government; your Memorialist humbly begs, anxiously hoping that your honor's communication may lead to an enquiry of high authority which your Memorialist confidently believes must redeem the memory of his son from all unjust imputation of his dishonor, and (your Memorialist begs he may be excused for adding) the foul aspersions with which the public ear is abused, particularly in the United States of America, in full

justification of the above mentioned sanguinary measures of their present military commanders.

Your Memorialist will ever pray, &c.
(Signed) JAMES AMBRISTER.

Nassau, June, 20th 1818.

NEWPORT, N. H. 1818.
Life of Gen. Greene.—Among the many strangers who are now in Newport, enjoying the pleasures of the beautiful island; is Judge Johnson, of the Supreme Court of the U. States. We learn, that the Judge is engaged in writing the life of Gen. Nathaniel Greene, a native citizen of this State. The work is to contain, besides a biographical memoir of Gen. Greene, his correspondence hitherto unpublished, with the Commander in Chief, and with Congress, besides the correspondence of other officers and individuals.

(Mercury)

HAFRE DE GRACE, MD. SEPT. 17.

We are informed that a very interesting trial came on at the court of quarter sessions, held in Elkton, for Cecil county, last week, for seduction and a breach of promise of marriage. The plaintiff a young woman of respectable connections—the defendant quite a wealthy and agreeable man. The plaintiff recovered damages to the amount of six thousand dollars.

FROM THE HAGSTOWN TORCH LIGHT.

JOSEPH THOMPSON HARR.

The mail robber, who was hung in Baltimore, on Thursday last, was as notorious and successful a robber as has ever been brought to punishment in the United States. For fourteen years past, his life presents a connected series of extraordinary and successful robberies committed in Louisiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, and New Jersey, and in Canada and the Spanish provinces, to the amount of about one hundred thousand dollars.

The first robbery in which he was concerned, was in New Orleans, where he, in a company with several others, robbed a sea captain of a watch worth 50 guineas—the second was also in New Orleans, where they robbed a French officer of a large sum of money—the third and fourth were likewise in New Orleans; one of which consisted of 250 dollars, which they took from a countryman, the other of a watch and 17 dollars—the fifth was in the wilderness between the Muscle Shoals and Choctaw nation, where Hare and two others robbed a company of four gentlemen of about 28,000 dollars in gold—the sixth was in the Choctaw nation, where they robbed a gentleman from St. Augustine and one from Charleston, South Carolina, of 12 or 13,000 dollars in gold—the seventh was also in the Choctaw nation, where he himself robbed a traveller of 2,700 dollars in gold, and a bag of silver, a watch, and a rifle—the eighth was between Pensacola and Baton Rouge, where they robbed a company of five travellers of 45 weight of gold and some silver, amounting to upwards of 11,000 dollars—the ninth was also between Pensacola and Baton Rouge, where they robbed a gentleman of about 15,000 dollars in gold—the tenth was near Nashville, Tennessee where they robbed a traveller of 970 dollars—the eleventh was in Franklin county, Virginia, where he himself robbed a drover of 450 dollars and his horse, for which he was apprehended and sentenced to eight years confinement in the penitentiary of Virginia, five of which he served, when he was liberated for his good conduct—he twelfth was between New York and Boston where they robbed two gentlemen from New York of 14,700 dollars, mostly in English guineas—in New York Hare stole a handsome pair of carriage horses belonging to the governor—in Washington city he attempted to sell a horse for a man who had stolen him, for which he was thrown into jail, where he lay for several months when he was released on condition that he would join the army; while in the army he mediated delivering president Madison to Admiral Cockburn, whose fleet was then in the Patuxent, which he would have done if he could have communicated his scheme to the Admiral; becoming dissatisfied, however, with the army, he hired a horse and gig in Georgetown, deserted, and sold them—the thirteenth was in Chester county (Pa.) where he entered a tavern room and robbed two Germans of 100 dollars—the fourteenth was near Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where they robbed a drover, of the name of Scott of eighteen hundred dollars—the fifteenth was at a tavern about 3 miles from Boston, where they robbed a man of four hundred dollars—the sixteenth was at Poncaux, New Jersey, where he robbed a merchant's trunk of thirty thousand dollars, for which he was tried at Sumnerville court house and sentenced to the state prison for five years, two of which he served, when he was again liberated for his good conduct.

The seventeenth and last robbery in which he was concerned, was that of the United States' mail near Hafre de Grace, of nineteen thousand nine hundred dollars, for which he was hung, together with John Akers; it was their intention to have robbed both the northern and southern mails, as both mails had to pass the spot on which the robbery was committed, within about an hour or two of the same time, but one of the company making way with the ropes intended to tie the drover and passengers, they permitted the mail to pass unrobbed.

Hare was a man of great strength and courage, and possessed more generosity than is generally met with among robbers; he always acted as principal in the robberies in which he was concerned. The following is the concluding paragraph of his confession, written by himself while in Baltimore jail:

"The circumstances of our trial, and our sentence are already known to the citizens of Baltimore. Since then I have been confined in a dreary dungeon, heavily ironed, without hopes of any mercy here, but looking forward to a crown of everlasting glory in the world to come, through the intercession of my blessed Saviour. My offences have been great and many. For the last fourteen years of my life, I have been a highway robber, and have robbed on a large scale, and been more successful, than any robber in Europe or in this country, that I have ever heard of; but I have the consolation of reflecting, that I never killed or wounded any man, and that no man's blood is upon my head. I have employed myself, in my confinement, in writing this confession, which, I solemnly declare to the world, and repeat under the galloes, is a true and faithful history of my life and adventures, and I hope it may serve as a caution to other persons, how they follow the same course. May the God of Mercy, pardon and receive my soul."

Foreign Intelligence.

LATEST FROM JAMAICA.

By the arrival this morning of the schooner Clarendon, Capt. Frith, in 17 days from Jamaica, we have received a file of Kingston papers to the 4th instant, inclusive. From these papers we copy the following articles:

Commercial Advertiser.

FROM THE KINGSTON COURANT OF 4.

The Coriolanus, from London, off Attacella, on Monday, fell in with the schr. Chasseur, of 3 guns and 70 men, belonging to Mons. Airy's squadron, the captain of which obtained some bread, beef and spirits, and behaved very politely. Capt. M^r Master understood from him that the Chasseur had not been with the squadron for some days, but that they had captured a Spanish brig of war.

His Majesty's frigate Liverpool, of 50 guns, Capt. Callier, and another frigate, were at Madeira, bound to India, when the Coriolanus touched there. The former vessel had on board the Countess of London and Mont, with an establishment, destined to join the Earl of Mar.

KINGSTON, JAM. AUG. 15.

The Dolphin on her passage down, sprung her top-mast, and on the 8th inst. put into the Bay of San Felipe, for the purpose of refitting it; when about 11 A. M. she was attacked by a number of boats from the shore, which, after a short conflict, chiefly of musketry, were beaten off without any loss on the part of the Dolphin's crew, but with considerable loss on that of the assailants, one of their boats having been sunk within a few yards of the vessel.—They seem to have been led on by a white man