

Foreign Intelligence.

IMPORTANT FROM EUROPE.

COMMENCEMENT OF HOSTILITIES.

NEW-YORK, JAN. 24.

The packet ship John Jay, Capt. Holdredge, arrived this morning from Liverpool, whence she sailed on the 8th of December. By this arrival the editors of the Commercial Advertiser have received London papers of the 7th of December, and Liverpool of the 8th, both inclusive, with commercial intelligence of the latest dates.

THE SIEGE OF ANTWERP.

Our former advices from the Citadel of Antwerp to the evening of December 1st. They are now to the afternoon of the 5th. From the tenor of those former accounts, we were led to expect that the French batteries would have opened their fire upon the citadel on the 2d. Such, however, was not the fact. The besiegers continued their preparations with the utmost activity until the 4th, when an officer was despatched with a flag of truce to the citadel. He was the bearer of another summons to Chasse to surrender, informing him at the same time, that all was prepared on the side of the French, and that at 11 o'clock precisely, their fire would commence in case of refusal.

The French had 103 guns placed and ready. The moment was one of intense interest. But the suspense was not of long duration. At 11 o'clock a cannon shot from Fort Montbello, followed by a tremendous fire of artillery, announced that the bearer of the flag had brought back a negative from the Dutch Commander. During the remainder of the day, the discharge of cannon was kept up in regular succession, with great exactness. The Dutch answered with vigor, and the spectacle is described by the correspondents of the London press, as "horrible, but nevertheless grand."

The third edition of the London Standard, of the evening of the 6th, gives advices of the same dates as the above. A courier arrived at Brussels, from Antwerp, on the evening of Wednesday, the 5th, stating that the French had already lost 1000 men!

The latest news was brought to London by the steambot Sir Edward Banks, the passengers in which brought a report, that a party of the French having made an attack on the Tete de Flanders, the Dutch had opened the sluices, and the French party being exposed to the fire from the battery and the gun boats, had been obliged to surrender.

The Dutch at Helvoetsluis are so much enraged against the English that the passengers who went out in the Sir Edward Banks, were pelted with brick-bats on going ashore, and were compelled to return on board.

The reason why the French batteries did not sooner open upon the citadel, was that Marshal Gerard had been negotiating for the neutrality of the town. A letter from Antwerp, written at 3 o'clock, of the 4th, says:

"From what I can gather from persons on whose information I should rely, it appears the town will be considered neutral, and in no danger of a bombardment. I have been on the top of a very high building, from whence I could discover the batteries of the French, and I could plainly observe through a glass the French balls knock the earth from the parapet of the bastions, and go through the roof of the barracks. The emigration has been immense, and is increasing since the firing began. I have nothing further to add, except that the firing continues."

GREAT BRITAIN.

The English papers give note of active preparations for the elections. The Tory candidates avail themselves freely of the Dutch question; and it is intimated, in some quarters, that the Dutch King is only holding out to await the issue of their elections.

American Stocks in London, on the 6th of December: Three per cents. 90; Pennsylvania five, 109 1/4; Ohio five, 106 1/2; Sixes, 117; Louisiana, 105 1/2.

ERUPTION OF MOUNT ETNA.

A violent eruption of Mount Etna took place on the 17th and 18th of November, which destroyed Bronte, a town situated nine leagues from Catania, and which contained a population of ten thousand persons.

MARKETS.

LIVERPOOL, Friday, Dec. 7.—Cotton.—The import this week is 15,242 bags, and the sales are 10,760 bags, at last week's prices, viz: 190 Sea Islands at 11d to 13s; 4,400 Bowditch 6s to 7s; 2,750 New-Orleans 6s to 8s; 1,000 Alabama 6s to 7s; 450 Pernambuco 8s to 9s; 460 Bahia 7s to 8s; 600 Maranhao 7s to 8s; 100 Demerara 8d to 9s; 310 Egyptian 8s to 9s; and 300 Surats, at 4s to 6d per lb.

SECOND EDITION.—New-York Jan. 24. 1/2 Half past three o'clock.

We stop the press to announce the arrival of the ship Havre, Captain Depeyster, which sailed from Havre on the 12th of December—bringing papers of that place to the 12th, and Paris journals to the 10th, both inclusive.

Intelligence from the seat of war in Belgium, is to the 8th of December inclusive. The journals of observers at the scene of action give hourly notice of every occurrence. Throughout the whole of the 8th of December, the attack was vigorously plied by the assailants. They were encouraged by the presence of King Leopold, who was in the city, and watched the movements of both sides. Muskets, as well as bombs, were discharged by the besieged without interruption.

The works of the besieged are hour-

ly advancing towards the citadel, and Marshal Gerard in his general orders speaks with confidence of the approaching capture of the place.

There was a report of the death of General Chasse, but it was not believed in Paris on the 10th of December.

Some ecclesiastics had demanded admission to the Duchess of Berri, in her prison at Blaye, but were refused.

It is reported that the citadel had surrendered: but there is no mention of the circumstance in the Paris papers of the 10th, or in the Havre of the 11th. This report is brought by the Captain of the Havre.

(From the United States Telegraph.)

NATURAL WONDERS.

It is very surprising, that two of the greatest natural curiosities in the world are within the United States, and yet scarcely known to the best informed of geographers and naturalists. The one is a beautiful waterfall in Franklin county, Georgia; the other a stupendous precipice in Pendleton district, South Carolina; they are both faintly mentioned in the late edition of Morse's Geography; but not as they merit. The Tuccoa Falls are much higher than the falls of Niagara. The column of water is propelled beautifully over a perpendicular rock, and when the stream is full it passes down without being broken. All the precipitous, seen at Niagara illustrates the spray of Tuccoa. The table mountain in Pendleton district, South Carolina, is an awful precipice of 900 feet. Many persons reside within five, seven, or ten miles of this grand spectacle who have never had curiosity or taste enough to visit it. It is now however occasionally visited by curious travellers, and sometimes men of science. Very few persons who have cast a glimpse in the almost boundless abyss, can again exercise sufficient fortitude to approach the margin of the chasm. Almost every one, in looking over, almost involuntary falls to the ground, senseless, nerveless and helpless: and would inevitably be precipitated headlong, and dashed to atoms, were it not for measures of caution and security, that have always been deemed indispensable to a safe indulgence of the curiosity of the visitor or spectator. Every one on proceeding to the spot whence it is usual to gaze over the wonderful deep, has in his imagination, a limitation, graduated by a reference to instances with which his eye has been familiar. But in a moment, eternity as it were, is presented to his astonished senses; and he is instantly overwhelmed. His system is no longer subject to his volition or his reason, and he falls like a mass of pure matter. He then revives, and in a wild delirium surveys a scene, which for a while he is unable to define by description or imitation.

How strange it is the Tuccoa Fall and Table Mountain, are not more familiar to Americans! Either of them would distinguish an empire or a state in Europe.

A FRAGMENT.

I stood on the banks of the Niagara, which with its world of waters swaying by us in haste to reach the precipice and leap into the gulph below. A man approached, and launching a small skiff gilded and painted in the most elegant manner, leaped into it and pushed from the shore. Amazed at his apparent recklessness of danger—"Do you not know," said I, "that the current is rapid and the cataract near?" "Yes, but I fear no danger—I shall not be drawn over the falls, for I have a watchful eye and a brawny arm, and a good pair of oars." Thus saying he sat down in the boat, and began to amuse himself with a quantity of toys which he had provided, while the current swept him rapidly onward towards the roaring cataract. Those who stood upon the shore called to him in alarm, to hasten and escape while yet there was hope, from the certain destruction before him. But his only answer was—"Take care of yourselves, I can take care of myself. I have oars and strength, and can come to shore any time I please. I shall not go over the falls," and the water bore him away.—Again and again his alarmed friends called and entreated, but the answer was the same. At length he approached the rapids where the dark waves roil, and roar, and flash. Then, indeed, he began to exert his strength and ply the oar, but too late. From wave to wave the boat was hurled, till it trembled for a moment upon the verge of the dizzy height, and in the next, the plunge was made, and the waters closed upon him forever.

Such is the language and such the end of the temperate drinker. M.

Sagacity of a Quadruped.—The Thomson Journal states that a pig weighing about 80lb, attempted to cross Mill river on the ice, after proceeding a short distance broke through, when instead of drowning, he very deliberately commenced swimming under the ice in a straight line for the shore he was seeking. The ice was about an inch thick, and being transparent, all his motions could be observed, and in this manner he swam to the shore, four rods, and when arrived there braced himself on the bottom, and with his back burst up through the ice, and got out without the least assistance.

Advice of an Irish Apothecary.—If you find three tumblers of whiskey punch disagree with you over night, don't take 'em till next day, and then leave 'em off entirely.

From the Richmond Enquirer, Jan. 22.

SCENES IN CONGRESS.

A correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot thus describes Mr. Calhoun, when he delivered the speech which appears in this day's paper:

"In the Senate, Mr. Calhoun spoke under a degree of excitement I have never before witnessed in a parliamentary body. His whole frame was agitated. His gestures and countenance expressed things unutterable, while as you observe, his language is quite guarded, and his speech quite specious. For two years past, Mr. Calhoun has made nullification almost the sole topic of his conversation, and has thus been accumulating energies, to which, yesterday, he for the first time had opportunity to give birth in public. The very warmest oratory you ever witnessed in Baltimore, will give you but a faint idea of the manner in which words were uttered, that seemed to come from Mr. Calhoun's inmost soul, and to agitate him all over from head to foot in the delivery. It is seldom that a man of Mr. Calhoun's intellectual power, thus permits himself to be unmaned in public. True greatness often seems most cool when most excited, and the will of such men usually gets command of their passions.—On the contrary, in the House of Representatives, Mr. McDuffie arose as if from a slumber. He spoke as coolly as if speaking on the most indifferent subject in the world. He rebuked the excitement, and said that was no time and no place to indulge it. His manner was a perfect contrast to Mr. Calhoun."

The Globe quotes from Gov. Hamilton's Message to the Legislature, to show that Mr. Calhoun is mistaken in attributing the proposition about the 12,000 State Guards to a previous concentration of U. S. troops. The Governor does not even refer to any such concentration, as a matter of fact—but alludes to rumours that the President had threatened the use of force, and he dwells on the necessity of adequate military preparation.

In the H. of R. the Message called up several members, but the Speaker steadfastly ruled them to the point of order. Still, there were some very emphatic, premonitory expressions dropped by some of the members. Poor example!

Mr. Wilde.—"We had arrived at a solemn crisis of the most extraordinary character. It had, for the first time since the institution of the government, been announced to Congress by the Chief Magistrate of the United States, that one of the sovereign States of the Union had denied the power of our Laws. If we persevere in enforcing these laws, she claims the right of withdrawing from the Union. This right she has announced that she will exercise, and will relieve her citizens from the operation of the laws of the United States peacefully if she may, and with violence if that should become necessary.—This was not the ordinary case of enforcing the execution of the laws upon private individuals—

"The Speaker said, if the gentlemen proposed to make any motion, he would be pleased to submit his proposition in writing."

Mr. Wayne saw nothing in the message or the documents accompanying it, which could excite feeling. They were not unexpected, he believed, to any member of the House. The subject had been before the public for a considerable time.

Mr. Carson said, he should vote in favor of the motion to postpone, for the single reason, that he wished for time to consider which was the best course—not from any feeling or passion. He was not conscious of any—nor had he perceived any in other members.

Mr. McDuffie must ask for the postponement as a matter of personal favor to himself. He had not heard the message read. He came into the Hall after about two-thirds of it had been gone through. If a reference at this time was persisted in, he must ask that the Message be again read for his information. For himself, he must confess his astonishment at witnessing so much apparent excitement—particularly among gentlemen who so strongly deprecate all excitement. He regarded the subject as too deep and solemn for excitement, in the ordinary acceptation of the term.

Mr. Archer was as willing, and perhaps as desirous, to express his views at length upon this great subject as any member in the House, but he could not act with precipitation in such a crisis. He was not one of those who could find matter for excitement in such an occasion. In his opinion the Message that had been read was as calculated to allay excitement, as any that had ever been promulgated.

Mr. Cambreleng begged gentlemen to reflect, that if the Message was sent to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, probably three weeks would be spent in debate upon it. All that was desired, was that a Committee, should report the necessary amendments to the present laws relative to the collection of the revenue. The whole subject was of a judicial nature. One great object was to obviate the replevin law of South Carolina, and provide for enforcing the laws of the United States.

Mr. Drayton felt compelled to oppose the reference to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, for the reason that it would occasion the loss of much time, when time was of the greatest importance. Gentlemen had disclaimed the influence of excitement. Whenever

specific measures should be proposed, he had no doubt but a scene of excitement would be seen such as had never been before witnessed in Congress. If excitement could not be avoided, it should at least come at a time when it would preclude the adoption of necessary measures. It had been said that means were necessary to obviate the operation of the Replevin laws. He regarded such as altogether minor matters. The great subject submitted to Congress and to the people was to devise means to prevent collisions between the powers of a sovereign State, and the General Government—to settle whether a State shall prescribe what laws shall be executed within its territory, or whether the General Government shall carry its laws into execution. No question was so important as this."

From the Greenville Mountaineer.

NULLIFICATION RECRUITING SERVICE.

Mr. Editor—His Excellency the Governor of South-Carolina, has appointed an Aid, not an hundred miles from this place, whose duty it is to receive Volunteers for the Nullification Army; and to attend to all other transactions in relation to the Army, in his district, that may be required by the Commander-in-Chief. The zeal and patriotic devotion of this efficient officer to the service of his royal master, is worthy the great and noble cause in which he has embarked. But, that you may have some knowledge of the depth of his cunning and ingenuity to hook a newly caught Irishman, I tell an anecdote, which occurred between him and myself. I am a native of the Emerald Isle and a strong Union man; for the truth of which all my neighbors will attest. On Tuesday last, I was informed that an office, for the reception of Volunteers, had been opened in our district, and that the Superintendent had some Cash to dispose of in that way I being somewhat of an spree, and desirous to ascertain the truth of this information, I immediately turned Nullifier, and proclaimed aloud that I was no longer a Union, or Subaltern man! The Nullifiers soon began to recognize me as a full blooded proselyte to their "Whig" principles, and condescended to walk the street with me, arm in arm, and to do all other acts of kindness that the "initiated" are in the habit of doing to each other.

In the evening I called at the quarters of the Aid, and informed him of my disposition to Volunteer—was cordially accepted, and received a small matter of cash to make me comfortable for the evening—and before I left his quarters, arrangements were made for me to take the Stage the next morning for Columbia. Accordingly when the morning came, I took my seat in the Stage, at the Tavern where I boarded, and drove to the Recruiting Agency, and from his Excellency's Aid received three dollars more. The driver snaked his whip and off we went—I, delighted with the idea of a poor Hibernian's being able to practice so "cute a trick" on one who was regarded as a paragon of wisdom, with a grace that an accomplished Jonathan might be proud to place in his catalogue of "Grand Mother's Notions." The Stage did not more than lose sight of the military castle, before I concluded that I had got about as near to Columbia as I cared about going—I therefore left the stage and returned to the Village. The first man I beheld on my return, was his Grace's loyal Aid, walking to and fro, contemplating on the signal success which seemed to smile on his patriotic undertaking! The Chameleon changes of his phiz, on beholding my return, I shall never forget—first, a serene dough color—then a clouded purple, interspersed with scarlet—and then an association of all the hues perceptible in the rainbow! from the midst of which burst forth an emphatic command to keep at a distance or he would shoot me! which command I shall be very particular to obey, as the smell of gun-powder, under such circumstances, is by no means desirable. The Aid-de-camp was perhaps excusable in being wroth at my desertion from the army in so short a time, but he should recollect that the attractive influence of a single star is somewhat less powerful than the combined influence of thirteen!

My object, Mr. Editor, in making the above experiment, was, to ascertain the fact, whether money was used in procuring Volunteers—and from the result of this experiment, the public may judge whether money is to be used in raising Volunteers, instead of its being a voluntary act. The public money is still in my possession, where it shall remain until I am ready to give it up, although I have no right to—merely because a proposition to a Grocer to have it intercepted, presuming, as I suppose, that I would be most likely to spend it there—but the Grocer replied that he, also, was an advocate for "free trade," and would form no combination to prevent it!

An Irishman's honor being so much a common place pledge for his veracity, that I will not, on this occasion, offer mine for the truth of this statement but will rest contented that the facts are known to many others.

As a genuine Paddy, and a friend to all Union men and women, I have the honor to subscribe myself,

Your obedient and Humble servant,

JAMES FIELDS.

Spartanburgh, Jan. 10, 1832.

North-Carolina.—This patriotic Commonwealth can never be dragged into the droil of "conjunctures," revolution and ruin. In despite of the scoffs of those whose business it would be if they were in their right senses, to applaud the firmness and straight forward honesty of her course.—she will be the very last to lend the sanction of her powerful arm, to the monstrous vagaries which have eventuated in the confusions of this day. Though it has been attempted in a high quarter to make a jest of her fidelity to that Union to which alone Americans dare look with hope for substantial security—tho' by her intelligence and resistance, of the spirit of disaffection, she has incurred the hate and enmity of those who seek by bold stratagem to embroil the whole South in a matter of personal ambition between a few disappointed men, and the General Government, she will never be driven from her position. She had rather be the "Rip Van Winkle of the South," than do any act to elicit the applause of those Catalines, those Bayards who fabricate a crisis as Confectioners do Sugar Trumpets—not to be used in bloody conflict, but to gratify taste.—Carolina Gaz.

FIRE! AND LOSS OF LIFE!!

On Saturday morning last, between 7 and 8 o'clock, the Tavern of Mr. James Bell, at Campbell's Station, in this county, was discovered to be on fire. At the time it was first discovered, its progress had already been such, that it was found impossible even to check, for a single moment, the destroying element; and all that could be done was to save a part of the household goods. From circumstances, it is quite evident that the building was fired by an unfortunate man, entirely deranged in mind, by the name of Adams, who had for several days occupied the room in which the fire originated. This truly unfortunate man, who seems to have been intent upon the destruction of his own life, remained in the room and was consumed by the flames. When the alarm was first given, a gentleman ran to the door of the room for the purpose of rescuing Adams from the flames—but it was too late—the room was in a sheet of fire, and the man could not be seen from the door. In pulling one of the beds down upon the floor, which was standing near the door, he discovered that several chunks of fire had been placed upon it; and hence it is believed when entirely deprived of reason, Adams had lighted his own funeral pile. A negro boy, it is said, upon breaking open a window of the room, saw and attempted to grasp the unfortunate Adams, but he sprang back entirely out of reach and fell upon the floor. When first seen by the boy, the hankierchief on his head was all in a flame. Adams was a citizen, we are told, of Halifax county, North-Carolina.

The greatest part of Mr. Bell's household goods were destroyed, together with the letters and papers and one or two small cross-mails, then remaining in the Post-office. Nearly all the books of Dr. W. W. Nelson—a part of his clothing—a watch, and all his medicines were lost.

Until Mr. Bell again gets prepared to entertain travellers, they will probably not readily find accommodation equal to that afforded by him. But his loss, as well as that of travellers, will soon, we hope be repaired.

The above facts were related to us by an eye-witness.—Knorrille's Repub. 10th No.

Excitement.—The "fury of excitement rages." The Proclamation, the Message, and the Judiciary Bill, all designed to pacify, have added fuel to the flames. We do not know how the Judiciary Bill will be received in South-Carolina; but the Jeffersonian, the Nullification paper in Richmond declares that it "constitutes Gen. Jackson Monarch of the American Empire." That "if the bill passes, a hundred thousand swords will leap from their scabbards." It calls upon South-Carolina to resist unto death; and "that in fifty days Virginia will bring to the field to her support twenty thousand bayonets, wielded by men whose cry will be Liberty or Death!" And such is the language of the Nullifiers in Virginia, what will be said by the Nullifiers of South-Carolina? What madness! In the tempest of passion we fear that the voice of reason will be drowned.

Alex. Gasette.

Somnambulism.—The writer of a communication in the N. H. Patriot, dated Pembroke, Jan. 9th, relates the following occurrence, which is said to have recently taken place there in the family of a Mr. Coehran. A young man who had been for some years a member of the family, retired early to rest. Before midnight, he rose in his sleep, took a candle, and wrapped himself in a buffalo skin before the fire, where he lay until midnight; when he went out and procured an axe, with which he proceeded to the bed where Mr. and Mrs. C. were sleeping, and struck them several times upon the head. At this moment he awoke. It is said that the persons thus strangely assaulted are likely to recover.

TAKING SNIFF.—"I don't care if I take a pinch of that," said a man to one who held an open box; "I don't care if you don't," said the other, putting his box in his pocket. Who snuffed?—Lorell's Compend.