

The North Carolina Argus.

SAMUEL FULTON, PUBLISHER.

This Argus o'er the People's rights doth an eternal vigil keep: No soothing strain of Alia's Son can lull his hundred eyes to sleep.

TERMS: \$2 IN ADVANCE.

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From the National Intelligencer.

ON THE COMMERCE OF AFRICA.

Extracts of Letters addressed to Mr. Stanton,
Chairman of the Naval Committee of the
House of Representatives, by Lewis W. D.
Foster.

WASHINGTON, JAN. 8, 1851.

As Congress have now before them a petition of T. Carr and others for a line of steamers to the coast of Africa, and as they are of course acquainted with the contents of these numerous petitions, I will not deem it necessary to enter into details of the plans of Mr. Carr and others, but will take the liberty to draw your attention to some facts in relation to the commerce of Africa, which will show the importance and necessity of establishing, at any cost, a line of steamers to that coast.

Africa at present is to us a sealed book, but one which by a little energy we can break the seals and open its rich productions to this country. No important sea and France has discovered the trade of Africa, that the former is making every effort to bring the coast of Africa, and has fitted out expeditions under Denham, Clapperton, and others to explore the interior of the Niger, and find expeditions which penetrated to Timbuctoo and Fezzan, the interior of the great desert of Sahara. The latter, at great expense, and loss of life, sailed upon the Niger, and Constantine, in order to obtain the trade of the interior of Africa. You will find by reference to the map of Africa that all the rivers of any importance—the Senegal, the Niger, the Congo, and the Benue—empty into the Atlantic, only the exception of the Nile, which falls into the Mediterranean, and so far as that is concerned, I will show its future is unimportant to us. I am fully under the impression, and figure myself, that we shall show it, that the Senegal connects with the Niger, a branch of the Niger with the Nile, and the latter with the Nile; if so, the trade of Africa, instead of passing through the Desert of Sahara to Constantine, will take its natural course down these rivers to the Atlantic, where inducements are held out by us through a line of steamers which will bring the trade to the Atlantic.

The source of rivers is a natural channel of trade, as we can see by our own Mississippi, Hudson, Ohio, Delaware, and others, upon which have grown by trade large towns and cities. It is only, therefore, necessary for us to establish steam lines in the Atlantic coast of Africa, which will open the trade and induce our merchants to penetrate its rivers and bring its rich productions to this country; these are cocoa, coffee, muscovado, pistachio, palm nuts, ivory and gold dust, dates, gums, and medicinal plants. These articles take the natural course, from the interior of Africa, to Tripoli and Constantine by caravan. Russia has a very large trade in palm nuts and dyestuffs with Africa, a trade which supplies the whole of Europe with palm oil and dyes, with the exception of England.

The Nile river no doubt communicates with the Zambeze; if so, and I have no doubt future explorations will show it, we can then obtain the agencies of those rivers the trade of Mozambique, Zanzibar, and Barbers, and the island of Madagascar without doubling the Cape of Good Hope. You will therefore perceive how easy it is for us to obtain the whole trade of Africa, amounting to nearly three hundred millions of dollars; this equals nearly our whole import and export trade.

It is probably better known to the agents than to us, as Carthage carried on an extensive trade, and its prosperity was owing to its intercourse with the interior of that country. At the present time the prosperity of the cities in the kingdom of Morocco, the regencies of Tunis, Algiers, and Tripoli, is entirely owing to the trade carried on between these places and the interior.

When Algiers fell into the hands of the French ten millions of rough gold was found in the treasury of the Bey; the whole of this was African gold. One is peculiarly struck with the amount of heavy gold ornaments worn by the women and children in the towns of Tangier, in Morocco, and Tunis, Algiers, Tripoli, and Constantine, in Barbary, and the quantity of rough gold ornaments hawked about the streets or bazars. When asked where all this gold comes from, you are invariably told the interior of Africa. It is also well known the Jews of these places, who are the persons that carry on the African trade, are the most wealthy of all the Jews, and are enabled to purchase privileges which are not enjoyed by the Jews of any other part of the world. Whenever the rivers of Africa have been washed gold has been found in abundance. A large trade in ivory is also carried on. In one year there was exported from the different parts of Africa two hundred and fifty thousand ivory tusks, and there was no apparent diminution of elephants; and, although ivory has been exported from Africa upwards of two thousand years, elephants appear to be as numerous now as they were at the period above named—that is, seven hundred years before the Christian era. An immense amount of ostrich feathers are carried to the ports of Morocco and Barbary from the interior of Africa,

and find their way to France, where they are prepared and distributed to the world. From Zanzibar large quantities of sugar is exported, of a much better quality than either Cuba, Porto Rico, or New Orleans. There is no doubt in my mind the famous Tyrian dye comes from Africa, as at the present day in Persia the same article is used to color the fez or cap worn by the Turks and made in Fez.

Western Africa is known to contain fifty millions of inhabitants; twenty millions of these are engaged in trade with Morocco, the coast of Barbary, Egypt, and India; five millions are supposed to be employed in agricultural pursuits, and the remainder are either wandering tribes or settled in towns, living on the natural productions of the soil or engaged in war and the slave trade. In trading with Western Africa we therefore are certain to have a commerce with twenty-five millions of people, who require for their gold, ivory, and ostrich feathers, coffee, sugar, dyes, cocoa, fruits, nuts, (pistachio and palm) woods, &c. our coarse cottons and fabrics, cutlery, iron, and useful utensils; besides these, intercourse with us, a more civilized people, will create other wants among them, and we may expect them to take all of our commodities to any amount we may expect. Already in many of their ports a desire of the refinements of civilization begin to be manifested, and it only requires a little more commercial intercourse with us to increase those desires.

Nature appears to invite us to trade with Africa; the prevailing winds from the northwest and northeast, with the aid of the Gulf Stream, carries us direct to the coast of Africa; on the return voyage, by taking the parallel of 22 N, we have again fair winds and currents to our own shores. I have made within the last year four voyages across the Atlantic, and by taking advantage of these natural causes have made very short passages in a sailing vessel. How much shorter would they have been had I the aid of steam. I leave it for yourself to judge.

Africa invites us by all these natural advantages to trade with her. There is no obstacle in our way, unless it be the shallowness of its coast and harbors; but this can be overcome by building steamers of a light draught, or a draught of water sufficiently light to enter these harbors. It would be an absurdity to build steamers of four thousand tons to trade on the coast of Africa. Such vessels would draw at least twenty-one feet water, and this is entirely too much to enter the harbors of Africa on the Atlantic coast.

The cause of the shallowness of the coast of Africa is as follows: The rivers that run into the Atlantic exhibit the phenomena of all rivers that run through rich and alluvial soils; they project, like the Nile and Mississippi, their mouths some distance into the sea, depositing the alluvia, which by currents is carried along the coast, producing the same effect on the coast of Africa that the Nile and Mississippi does on the coast of Egypt and Louisiana. We are led to believe from the phenomena exhibited by the Mississippi, that the coast of Africa has a rich and fertile soil. We know the climate to be mild and healthy.

With all these every advantage in our favor given us by Nature over all other nations, there is no reason why we should continue to receive the commodities of Africa from other countries, when we can have a direct trade, and pay cheaply for them, and at the same time exchange a commodity of our own country for the productions of Africa. It is to me strange that we have so long overlooked the advantages offered us in a trade with the coast of Africa.

The country has a deep interest at stake in Africa, and can only receive the benefits of that interest by colonization. The British Government have two important settlements in Africa, the Cape of Good Hope and Sierra Leone. It will be found by reference to the debate of Parliament of last year, and reported in the "London Times," the English have a project in view, which, if carried out, is the most outrageous imposition ever inflicted upon the Christian world. It is nothing more than carrying slavery into Africa. It was debated in the British Parliament to settle Sierra Leone and the adjacent coast with which, and all captured slaves are to be bonded as apprentices for twenty-five years to them for a small consideration; at the end of their servitude to be sent back to Africa to civilize the natives, their offspring to be supported by the Government until they arrive at the age of sixteen, when they are to be bound out for the term of twenty-five years, afterwards to be returned to their friends. This abominable system of British philanthropy has been encouraged and debated favorably by the most eminent men in Parliament. The question is, how can this be prevented? It is well known that Liberia, or settlement, is in a flourishing condition, and fifty years older than this country one hundred and fifty years after the first settlement of Jamestown. They have already purchased seven hundred miles of coast, equal in length and breadth to the island of Cuba, equally fertile and healthy, and capable of maintaining a population of at least 3 millions.

Permit me here a moment to digress, and speak of the healthiness of Africa, on the Atlantic coast.

All new countries covered by wood and other vegetation require, to make them perfectly healthy, ventilation; the wood must be cleared, and the face of the country opened to the influence of the sun, that the mephitic vapors may be evaporated into the circumambient atmosphere, and carried off by the winds. The sickness in Africa is not more, or probably as much, as it is those parts of our country sparsely settled and thickly wooded, where high fevers and intermittents prevail. The population of Africa shows it to be a healthy climate. I have previously stated the Atlantic coast of Africa contained a population of fifty millions, but when we take the whole of the continent we find a population of one hundred and sixty millions. Such a large population argues favorably for the healthiness of the climate; but we have other facts before us. The mortality in our squadron on that coast has been less than in any of the other squadrons. This fact speaks volumes in favor of the climate of Africa.

I will now return to our subject of colonization. It is a duty we owe to the Christian world, to our principles of religious, civil, and commercial liberty, to oppose by all honorable means the of-

fects of the British Government to carry slavery into Africa under a fictitious apprenticeship system. We can only accomplish this object by aiding the Colonization Society to colonize Liberia, Egypt, Marshall, Clay, and Webster have all favored the idea that Government can aid incidentally and directly colonization. With such pilots as these, we should not be afraid to launch our bark on the voyage of colonization, and without much fear of getting out in our reckoning.

In sending to Africa with their own free will and consent the six hundred thousand free colored people of this country, we will not fill Africa with an ignorant and worthless population. In this city alone there are nine thousand free colored people, who are in every useful occupation of life, as blacksmiths, machinists, carpenters, millers, millwrights, bricklayers, farmers, laborers, &c. These people though not held to slavery, do not enjoy the rights and privileges of freemen; and when they could be convinced their condition would be bettered by emigrating to Liberia, and a cheap or free passage offered them, they would be far different from the rest of mankind if they did not avail themselves of the opportunity offered them to emigrate to Liberia, where every inducement will be held out to them to improve and prosper under a Government which, like ours, gives them full protection in life and property, and guarantees to them religious, civil, and commercial liberty, where they and their alone will hold the reins of Government, and station and offices are accessible to the talented and industrious. In former times it required centuries to colonize but a small tract of land, and without the aid of steam it would require centuries to colonize Africa. But let us see what steam has performed in but two or three years. It has been the means of colonizing California, and in less than three years given it a population which has numbered it among the States. This State is nearly by the stria route nine thousand miles from New York, and seven thousand five hundred from New Orleans. Africa is but a third of the distance, much richer in its natural productions than California, and no doubt equally rich in gold mines. We produce in this country, but one article which is the natural production of Africa, and that is sugar. They do not raise an article in Africa indigenous to this country save sugar. We want all their productions; they want all ours. The export and import trade of this country averages about eleven dollars per person. Let us suppose that the trade of the Atlantic coast of Africa would be but half this per person; this would make the Atlantic coast of Africa worth three hundred millions; but take the whole of Africa, and we find that it would be equal to eight hundred millions, and I think I have made a small allowance.

Very few, unless they have been in the habit of looking into our actually engaged in some of our duties, can fully appreciate the advantages of steam navigation, and the facilities it offers to the commerce of the world. In 1847 I addressed a paper to the Hon. John Y. Mason, then Secretary of the Navy, on the subject of steam navigation from New York to California, from which I will take the following in an extract: "In the only direct line of steam vessels of a proper tonnage to be employed, as mail steamers, the Government, as well as the commercial and agricultural interest of our country, will find great advantage in opening a direct line of communication between New York and Oregon, California, Peru, and Chile. It would at once open new markets for our commerce, and bring into market the productions of these countries, which now, in consequence of the distance, tediousness of the voyage, and length of time to complete it, cannot be imported into this country from these now distant regions bordering on the Pacific. Should it be contemplated to establish a route across the Isthmus, it can be clearly proven that the undertaking will be far more beneficial to this country than that of any other, and would shortly yield to the stockholders either a canal or a railroad a greater dividend than any other of the sort will ever give. By the route of the above you will perceive it was written before the keel of any of our mercantile steamers was laid, and they did not go fully into operation until the latter part of 1848 or first of 1849. By looking at the statistics of New York commerce we can see how near I was right in views of 1847 and the benefits of steam navigation.

In 1849 the imports at New York were \$89,423,282; in 1850, \$113,759,619; the difference in favor of 1850, \$24,336,337. Exports of domestic productions were, in 1849, \$33,165,339; in 1850, \$33,227,841; the difference in favor of 1850, \$62,502. In 1849 gold imported, \$2,033,960; in 1850 gold imported, \$10,502,115; difference in favor of 1850, \$8,468,155. In 1847 we derived no revenue from mail matter. In 1850 the Post Office received an average of \$60,000 per month, or, according to a report made to the House of Representatives, from other mail lines \$74,000. In addition to this, the Post Office at Philadelphia collects the receipts of \$31,500,000 from California, showing that other ports besides New York have been benefited by the agency of steam navigation. But had all of these steam vessels been properly built, and the parties concerned fulfilled their contracts, no doubt a greater benefit would have accrued to our Southern ports and to the West, as several of these steamers cannot enter our Southern harbors, and the benefits which were intended to accrue to those ports are entirely lost. The harbors are Wilmington, Charleston, Mobile, and New Orleans. The latter being a general depot for Western produce, all this section of country loses in a great measure the advantages which would accrue to them if vessels of proper draught had been built; yet, with all this being, the country has received a great benefit, amounting to a sum greater than one year's revenue.

When we turn our attention to Africa, it will be at once seen that we must certainly derive greater advantage in trade by steam vessels than we have received from California, and no part of the United States will be so much benefited as the South and West. I have no hesitation in asserting that I believe our trade will double in five years the amount we are now receiving by the California route. By the manner in which the trade has been carried on to California, the South and West have received the full benefit of the trade; and all the benefit derived from the mail steamers to them is in emigration, and a small amount that finds its way in a circuitous route

down the New York and Erie canal, the tolls of which were, in 1847, \$700,000, and since the commencement of steam navigation have increased thirty per cent.

In order to benefit the South and West we must have steam vessels drawing only sufficient water to enter the Southern harbors. None of them have more than eighteen feet water in the highest tides on their bars. The South and West have a greater interest in the trade of Africa than New York, as it is the productions of these States that will make most of the exchanges. The increase of manufactures at the North increases the demand for the raw material at the South and West. But if this line to Africa is to be established, "it were well that it were done," as the English have already taken the first steps towards gaining the trade. Several steamers, under the patronage of the British Government are now running to the Coast of Africa, seeking for points to establish trading houses. Action of Congress on this point cannot be too quick, as every hour's delay is dangerous to our interest on the coast.

The following imports from Africa show a very pretty nucleus for a future trade:

Imported from Africa—	
Gold bullion, 1850	\$6,620.00
Gold specie, 1850	57,770.00
Silver specie, 1850	9,573.00
Coffee, in pounds, 80,888	40,444.00
Copper, in pounds, 952	1,398.00
Articles imported free of duty for oilseeds, &c.	\$1,480.00
Total	\$196,292.00

It will be perceived by the above that the precious metals and coffee are the principal products of Africa. The articles for collier consist of African cottons and minerals, plants, bulbous roots, fossils, &c. A very little effort on our part will expand this small trade into one greater than we have with any other single nation. Let us carry on this trade safely and surely we will throw around our steamships the full halo of Government.

MR. CALHOUN ON "RESUMPTION."

The Athens Banner has hinted up an ugly passage for the secessionists. They found the right of a State to withdraw at pleasure from the Federal Union, upon her right to resume the powers granted by her to the Federal Government, whenever, in her judgment, such resumption becomes necessary to her safety or convenience. This right of resumption some of them, (as for instance, Gov. McDonald, of Georgia,) hold in the Federal Constitution, itself, and others hold it among the reserved rights and powers of the States; but Mr. Calhoun, when they claim as their great apostle, finds in neither, but, as he says, "the Federal resumption to be itself a power, which would be responsible. We quote from the Banner's article:

"Listen to the following passage between Mr. Rives of Virginia, and Mr. Calhoun of South Carolina. We read you from Calhoun's and Rives's Register of the debates in Congress, Vol. 9, part 1, page 300-301. It occurred in the Senate of the United States on the debate upon the Revenue collection bill, on the 14th day of February, in the year of our Lord 1833, and runs thus:

MR. RIVES.—The honorable Senator from South Carolina, while admitting, in one part of his remarks, that the people of the State had delegated a portion of their sovereignty to be exercised through the General Government, and that to delegate, however, was not to part with; that as between principal and agent, the delegated power might, at any time, be resumed; and that, consequently, the people of the several States might, at their pleasure, resume the powers they had granted to the General Government. Now, sir, while I do not deny the truth of the general proposition, that as between principal and agent, the principal may at any time resume the powers which he has granted, I do utterly deny the application of it which has been made by the gentleman from South Carolina. In the first place, this is not merely a question between the people of South Carolina and the common agent of the States, the General Government; but it is a question deeply involving the rights and interest of third parties, to wit, the other States. But if it were purely a question between South Carolina and the General Government, South Carolina alone could not resume the powers which had been granted to the latter. She is but one out of twenty-four principals, who jointly granted these powers; and she can no more, so far as constitutional right is concerned, by her single act, resume the powers the jointly granted, than an individual citizen of a State can resume the powers jointly granted by himself and the rest of society to their State Government. Gentlemen seem to confound the relation in which the people of a State stand to the Government of the United States with that in which they stand to their own State Government. The people of South Carolina may at any time resume or modify the powers they have granted to their State Government, because, in relation to that, they form the entire delegating body; but, in relation to the Government of the United States, they are but one twenty-fourth part of the delegating body, three-fourths of which are, by the express terms of the compact, required to make any alteration in the Government.

MR. CALHOUN here said that he had been misapprehended by the Senator from Virginia; that he had not said that the people of a State might resume the powers which had been granted to the General Government, but that they had a right to judge of the extent of those powers, and whether they had been exceeded. MR. RIVES continued: It was more probable that the honorable Senator, amid the diversity of new doctrines which have been broached, had forgotten all that he has said. The Senator from South Carolina certainly did contend that the people of a State might resume the power which they had granted the General Government; and in this I am sustained not only by my own recollection, but by the printed report of his remarks, which seems to have been very carefully prepared, and I presume under his own eye. MR. CALHOUN explained: he had contended that if a State should resume the powers granted to the General Government, such resumption would only be a breach of compact, for which the State, as a community, would be responsible, and not its citizens individually."

Never was an argument more conclusive than that of Mr. Rives. It pressed Mr. Calhoun so hard that he had to spring from his seat, and deny that he had maintained the position that you do at present: "He had not said that the people of a State might resume the powers, which they had granted to the general government, but that they had a right to judge of the extent of those powers, and whether they had been exceeded."

Upon being held by Mr. Rives to the fact of having advanced your doctrine, Mr. Calhoun wavered, and explained by saying: "He had contended that if a State should resume the powers granted to the General Government, such resumption would only be a breach of compact, for which the State, as a community, would be responsible, and not its citizens individually."

Yes JOHN C. CALHOUN, of South Carolina, said, "such resumption would only be a breach of compact, for which the State, as a community, would be responsible, and not its citizens individually." Responsible to whom? To herself! Oh, no! To the General Government, as the origin of the compact, of course. The argument was, that "its citizens individually" were responsible to the general government for "the breach of compact," but he contended that the States alone would be responsible.

Well, gentlemen, will you be pleased to tell us, how a State is to be responsible to either her own States individually, or collectively thro' their organs, the general government? Certainly by war. But we understand you to say, that when a State resumes or secedes, she is not responsible to her co-States either in their single or collective capacity—that there is to be no force—no coercion of her whatever—but that she must be permitted, as a matter of right, peaceably to depart from the Union.

COTTON PLANTERS' CONVENTION.

The Planters of Florida propose to hold a convention of southern cotton planters in the city of Macon, Ga., during the sitting of the Agricultural Fair in October next.

Col. Robert Butler was called to the chair. Col. J. Parkhill, and Dr. G. W. Holland were appointed vice presidents and B. F. Allen requested to act as Secretary.

A committee of five, consisting of James E. Broome, Edward Houston, T. K. Leonard, Richard Hayward, and George Whitefield, were appointed by the Chair to present business to the meeting.

The report of committee, through James E. Broome, the Chairman, is marked with much ability, giving a succinct statement of the causes which have produced the depression and consequent low prices of cotton for a number of years back. It is an interesting document, and we should like to lay it before our readers in this number of the Banner, but will have to forego that pleasure until a future number. We subjoin the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the great irregularity and continued tendency to a fall in the price of our great southern staple, are evils which require investigation and the application of a remedy, if one can be found.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting nothing is likely to be accomplished for the benefit of our interest, without a reasonable amount of concert of action among cotton planters.

Resolved, That with a view to obtaining concert of action, we respectfully call on the cotton planters of the Southern States to assemble in convention at Macon, Ga., on Monday, 27th of October next, or at such other time and place as may be convenient to a majority of those who may desire to be represented, and that this meeting appoint delegates to the same.

HAVANA, Aug. 17, 1851.

There seems to be doubt whether the name of Crittenden, as one of the parties shot, was correctly given by the authorities—and it is believed to be a fabrication for effect.

Havana, Aug. 17.—The rumors of the last evening and this morning, from the field, give out that General Enna is surrounded by Lopez, and also that he is a prisoner. I give this as I find it—it is feared, I know, by the Government, and it is believed very generally that this, or some other disaster, has occurred to him. The government have received no news from the field for twenty-four hours.

The names of Quitman and Crittenden, we hope, have been used for effect, and there are good grounds for our hopes that they are not victims. The Admiral, a noble Spaniard, Bustillo, let it be remembered by all good men, advised, with all his influence, against the shooting, recommending imprisonment until those difficulties were over, and then to return them to their country. The rumors of the last evening and this morning, from the field, give out that Gen. Enna is surrounded by Lopez, and also that he is a prisoner. I give this as I find it—it is feared, I know, by the Government, and it is believed very generally that this, or some other disaster, has occurred to him. The government have received no news from the field for twenty-four hours.

Since writing the above, the steamer Almenaras, just up from Bahia Honda, reports 140 Americans shot there—and that on this boat, there are from 30 to 50 wounded prisoners, that they kindly propose to cure and send home. Fifteen, it is said, were shot in cold blood on the deck of the Spanish War steamer Pizarro, I presume included in the above count. Of Lopez, or the field operations we learn nothing, but these results do not show that General Enna is any difficulty or danger with his forces, although his losses have been large. No time for more.—
Correspondence N. Y. Tribune.

DEATH OF FIVE MEN IN A WELL.

The Kinross Journal of the 13th ultimo says that on the morning of that day a number of men were engaged in deepening a well dug last year for R. Engden. One of them went down, he did not return, and soon another followed, and passed out of sight; then a third, fourth and fifth went down, and the last was seen to reel and fall. The truth soon became known, that the whole five had perished by inhaling the fatal gas so often found in wells. Just before the paper went to press, two of the unfortunate men had been taken out insensible.

Reckless youth makes rueful age.

A HOT SPRING.

One of the members of the Mexican Boundary Commission, writing from Santa Rita, New Mexico, to the Providence Journal, thus describes a spring discovered on the 2d May.

"Having heard of the remarkable 'hot spring' a few miles from our road, all that were mounted determined to visit it, and on leaving camp struck off into the plain in a straight direction for it. A ride of about five miles brought us up to the spot, which was indicated by a hill about six hundred feet in circumference at its base, and about thirty or forty feet high, which was formed entirely by the deposits made by the waters of the spring. On the summit of this hill was a basin twenty feet in diameter containing the hot water, the surface of which was six or eight feet below the top of the basin. The temperature of the water was found to be one hundred and twenty-five degrees and of course so hot that the hand could not be borne in it. Dr. Webb collected the gas which bubbled up from the bottom, and found it to be neither hydrogen nor carbonic acid gas. His conclusion, therefore, was that it was purely atmospheric air. The water was pleasant to the taste, and would be palatable if cooled. At one side of the hill a small spring burst out, and at a short distance where it collected in a pool the water was cool enough to bathe in, but even then it was literally a hot bath."

AMERICAN IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

A correspondent of the Newark Advertiser, writing from Genoa, Aug. 4th, says:

The King of Naples has shown his teeth towards the United States, by forbidding his diplomatic and consular agents to issue visa passports to any of his subjects who may desire to enjoy the blessing of freedom in our country, or even to visit the great exposition of the world's progress in London! How different from the spirit of the noble young King of Sardinia, who has just made a contribution of 1,000 francs to a fund subscribed at Turin to defray the expenses of a delegation of one hundred workmen from the various branches of manufactures to visit same exposition.

Dr. George G. Baker, of Ohio, the recently appointed United States Consul for this port, has reached Turin on his way thither. The Mediterranean squadron, Commodore Morgan, consisting of the flag-ship Independence and the steam-ship Mississippi, have just returned to this coast from a visit to Trieste, where they were visited by over 30,000 Austrians, including the Arch Duke John and family, and the King and Queen of Saxony. The presence of the vessels in these waters is justly regarded as highly important to our national influence.

THE SPECIE QUESTION.

AN MEMORIE BALANCE OF THE TREASURY.

The following important statement of the receipts and exports of specie during the last two years, appears in the Journal of Commerce—
Am't of gold received from California to 17th inst. \$73,500,000
Specie brought by immigrants, 25,000,000
do. on freight, 9,000,000

Specie exported from July 1st, 1849, to August 17th, 1851—
From New York, \$39,76,850
Other ports, 4,000,000

Excess of receipts over exports in 2 years, \$63,929,150

If the above statement be founded upon authentic data, it shows a better balance sheet than even the most sanguine expected; and it is what may be added some \$2,000,000 of gold dust which has arrived from California since the 17th inst., when the above table was made up. The aggregate in our favor will thus amount to nearly sixty-six millions. How senseless then the recent panic!

The Mormons are insisting on their independence of the United States. A late traveler through Utah says that he heard Brigham Young, their chief President, declare the most treasonable hostilities against the United States. He asserted that he was Governor of Utah for life, and announced his intention of retaking the jurisdiction of the United States over that territory. The writer says that no intelligence against the Mormons is permitted to be mailed, and that the above system of espionage prevails over all communications to the States.

WEBSTER AND CUBA.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Herald writes as follows:

Some eight or ten weeks ago, before Mr. Webster left Washington, the British and French diplomatic functionaries here hinted, in a semi-official manner, at the necessity in which their respective governments might be placed to prevent the attempt of our citizens to seize upon Cuba; to which Mr. Webster, I believe, gave a very comprehensive reply, stating that the Government of the United States had done, and hourly continued to do all in its power to prevent our expeditions against Cuba; but that this government was not to be threatened by any foreign power, and would not listen to such threats. Mr. Webster's note remained unanswered by Sir Henry and the Minister sent us by Mr. Louis Bonaparte.

FAKE DISCUSSION.—A meeting of the citizens of Scriven county, Georgia, have determined to invite the following speakers to discuss the constitutionality and justice of the compromise bill: FROM GEORGIA.—Messrs. Cobb, Stephens, Toombs, Jenkins, Miller, Hopkins, Bartow, J. M. Berrien, C. J. McDonald, McMillan, Colquhoun, Jackson, Jones, Jas. M. Smythe. FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.—Hon. R. B. Rhett, Hon. A. P. Butler, Hon. W. F. Colcock, K. Bellinger, and Hon. R. W. Barnwell. Time and place of discussion to be fixed hereafter.

It is a bad sign when a preacher tries to drive home his logic by thumping the desk violently with his clenched hand. His argument is a so-so!