

MISCELLANEOUS.

IRISH CATHOLICS.

It is stated in an European paper, that during the late discussion of the Catholic question, in one of his examinations, Dr. Doyle disclosed with great candor and frankness, a historical exposition of the highest interest.

FROM THE AMERICAN FARMER.

ON SMUTTY WHEAT.

MR. SKISNER: I have been making some observations on smutty wheat, which, if you should esteem worthy an insertion in your valuable paper, you may do so.

In the year 1821, I procured a handful of smutty wheat heads, cut about the first joint, about a week before harvest, and attached them to a bush in my garden. I viewed them very frequently, and in about three weeks after harvest I discovered the smut-bug or fly eating its way out through the chaff and bran.

Hardy county, Va. July 30, 1823.

The lamentations about the hot weather, are as unanimous throughout the country as the acclamations about Lafayette. These complaints savour too much of feminacy. The ability to endure the vicissitudes of the seasons is as essential to practical virtue, as the inclination to sustain them is a part of practical piety.

The laws of nature are equal. The aggregate of heat required for vegetation must be nearly uniform throughout the year in all parts of the world, though necessarily exhibited in longer or shorter periods.

Charleston Courier.

Cobbett, in speaking of the corruption of the British Press, says the editors sell their columns by the inch!

EXTRAORDINARY MUNIFICENCE.

We mentioned a few papers since, the manumission of eighty-seven slaves, by a gentleman residing in Virginia. The gentleman who has thus distinguished himself is Mr. David Minge, of Charles City County, living near Sandy Point, on James river.

But Mr. Minge's munificence does not end here. On the bank of the river, as they were about to go on board, he had a peck of dollars brought down, and calling them all around him, under a tree, distributed the hoard among them in such sums and under such regulations that each individual did, or would, receive seven dollars.

Mr. Minge is about 25 or 25 years of age, unmarried, and unincumbered in every respect; possesses an ample fortune, and has received the benefits of collegiate education at Harvard University. He assigned no other motive for having freed his slaves, and for his subsequent acts of generosity towards them, than that he conceived it would be doing a service to his country to send them out of it; that they had all been good servants, but that he was rich enough without them.

We have heard of splendid sacrifices at the shrine of philanthropy; aged men on quitting the stage of mortal existence have bequeathed large endowments to public charities, and princely legacies to religious and moral institutions. But where shall we find an instance of the kind attributed to a man of Mr. Minge's age? The case is, we believe, without a parallel.

SUPREME COURT.

The following are such of the cases decided at the late term of the Supreme Court, as we had room for in our last, and as may prove of interest to our readers:

John Streator's heirs v. Nathaniel Jones & Marin Lane, from Wake. Report of the clerk filed. Time to except to report, till the first week of next Term allowed to both parties. Thomas Henderson and A. S. H. Burges, v. John Stuart, et al. from Wake. Report of the clerk of this court filed, and exceptions taken thereto by complainant's counsel.

David S. Goodloe assignee, v. Warner Taylor, app. from Granville. Judgment of the Superior Court affirmed, and rule for a new trial discharged. Tar River Navigation Company, appellant, v. Moses Neal, from Franklin. Judgment that the nonsuit be set aside and rule for a new trial be made absolute.

Elisha B. Smith v. John R. Campbell, from Halifax: Judgment of the Superior Court affirmed. The Governor, to the use of Thomas J. Armstrong, appellant, v. J. Judges adm'r. and others, from Halifax. Judgment that the nonsuit be set aside; rule for a new trial be made absolute.

David Clark, to the use of Thomas Cox, appellant, v. Thomas Shields, from Halifax. Judgment of the Superior Court affirmed; the rule for a new trial discharged. Doe on Dem. Mordecai and others, v. Roc and Jesse Olive, appellant, from Wake. Judgment of the Court below affirmed.

Barion Field appellant, v. Peter J. Mallett, from Cumberland: Judgment of the Court below reversed, and rule for a new trial made absolute.

William Little, et al. v. Daniel May, from Anson. Judgment for the plaintiff. Ordered that no record issue. Bank of Newbern, app. v. John Sneed, from Craven. Judgment of the Superior Court affirmed.

John Boyd and others, v. William Carson, from Mecklenburg. Decree of the Court, that the injunction be dissolved with costs.

WHITE VEILS INJURIOUS.

White veils, now so much worn, have a tendency to increase sun-burns and freckles, by their increasing the intensity of the sun's light. They are also very injurious to the eyes, and will in a short time spoil the freshest, and dim the most brilliant. Green is the only color which should be worn as a summer veil.

A Ballston paper gives, as a striking effect of the heat, the melting of the honey in the Bee Hives, and the 'drowning' of the Bees.

VIRGINIA CONVENTION.

As the deepest and most intense anxiety to become acquainted with the proceedings of this Body pervades the public mind, we hasten to spread before our readers the substance of the intelligence contained in the papers and private communications, received by the last night's mail.

On Monday, the 25th inst. at 12 o'clock, the Delegates appointed by the Friends of Reform in 26 counties in this state (Virginia) assembled in Convention, pursuant to appointment, in the New Presbyterian Church in Staunton.

The Honorable WILLIAM McCOT, of Pendleton, was elected President, SAMUEL EDWARDS, Esq. of Loudon, Secretary, and Mr. JOHN LARRA, of Augusta, Door-keeper.

The Convention being thus organized, was, on motion, adjourned till Tuesday morning 10 o'clock.

TUESDAY, JULY 26.

The Convention having met pursuant to adjournment, several of the Delegates from the Counties of Rockingham, Greenbrier, Shenandoah, and Randolph, who were absent the day before, appeared and took their seats.

On motion of Mr. Lewis of Campbell, the following Resolution, which was adopted, was offered as a substitute for sundry Resolutions, presented by Messrs. Mercer, Doddridge, Chapline, Lewis of Spotsylvania, Cooke, Thompson of Fairfax, Perrow, and Scott of Fauquier, expressive of the opinions which they respectively entertained in relation to the object of the meeting.

Resolved, That a Committee of one Member from each Delegation be appointed to inquire and report what measures, in their opinion, is proper and expedient for this Meeting to adopt, for the attainment of the object for which it is assembled. 18 gentlemen were accordingly appointed to compose said committee.

The various Resolutions, above alluded to, were, on motion, referred to this Committee.

And the Convention adjourned till 10 o'clock, Wednesday morning.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment, but as the Committee had not yet prepared its Report, it was adjourned till 4 o'clock, P. M. at which hour the Committee presented a Report, which was ordered by the House to be taken up in a Committee of the whole, the next day.

This Report consists of a series of Resolutions, the most important and interesting of which are, that the Constitution is defective and should be amended.

1st. By a radical change in the organization of the Executive Department, 2dly. By an extension of the Right of Suffrage, and 3dly. By a more equal apportionment of Representation.

It also contains a solemn disclaimer against any, the slightest interference with the Independence of the Judiciary, and concludes by recommending that a Memorial be presented from the Meeting and from the different Counties in the State, praying the passage of a Law, by which the sense of the People on the subject of a Convention may be ascertained.

The deliberations of this Body have been conducted with great moderation, wisdom and dignity, and have most sadly disappointed the expectations of all those who prophesied that its proceedings would exhibit nothing but a scene of confusion, violence and anarchy.

The Convention, it was supposed, would adjourn this evening, sine die.

We understand, says the New-York Statesman, that Judge Griffith, of Burlington, New-Jersey—a gentleman highly qualified for the office,—will be appointed Clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States, in place of Mr. Caldwell, deceased.

PHILADELPHIA, June 20.—It is a fact that England receives from Ireland yearly, as much grain, as is equal to the whole exports of flour from the United States.

Egypt.—The Pacha is urging the cultivation of sugar throughout his dominions, and by way of increasing the moral force of his people, he intends distilling large quantities of rum, which will give them spirit for the bastinado.

The government of the Netherlands has lately cast at the Ironworks of Siraing, the head of the Immense lion that is to ornament the grand national monument on the plains of Waterloo. The weight of the head stone is 5,000lb, or nearly 5 tons; the weight of the entire lion will be 60,000lb, or nearly 30 tons English.

It is stated, in a letter from Madrid, that the Queen of Spain is in a state of pregnancy. The report at Madrid is, that Ferdinand has been to the statue of the Virgin, which is at Aranjuez, and has there made a vow, that if he be blessed with a son, he will offer up as a sacrifice to the Virgin, all the negroes (constitutionalists) in his dominions.

S. DOMINGO and FRANCE.

The only information of interest which we have this day to notice under our Foreign Department, is the completion of a commercial arrangement between France and Hayti, and an acknowledgment of Hayti's Independence. It appears that Hayti has purchased this favor from France for the sum of 150 millions of francs, to be paid in five annual instalments; and also by placing the commerce with France on a favorable footing, subjecting French trade, by French citizens in French vessels, to only half the duties imposed on other nations. It is to be expected that this recognition will have an immediate and powerful influence on the prosperity of Hayti; and that it will induce powers both in Europe and this hemisphere, who have hitherto hesitated as to the policy of the measure, to follow the example which has thus been set by France.

The acknowledgment of the Independence of the French part of St. Domingo, by the government of France, is one of those events which cannot fail to arrest the attention of the statesman. The question has been so long in agitation, that the occurrence does not excite much surprise; but, regarding it in a political view, it is not among the least important of the extraordinary incidents of the times in which we live.

The Island of Hayti, or St. Domingo, is one of the richest of the whole West India group. It lies between Jamaica, to the west, and Porto Rico, to east, and is 390 miles long, from east to west, and from 60 to 150 broad. It was discovered by Columbus in 1492, and the name originally given to it by that celebrated navigator, was Hispaniola. Hayti is supposed to be the native Indian name of it. Prior to the treaty of peace between Spain and France, in 1795, the eastern part belonged to the Spaniards, and the western part to the French. By that treaty, the Spanish part was ceded to France. In the early part of the French revolution, the western part was subject to the most frightful calamities. In the insurrection of the Negroes was added the contests between the Patriots and Royalists. In September, 1793, the latter called in the English, who landed, and provisionally took possession of mole St. Nicholas and Jeremie. Some other places submitted; but several of them were retaken by the republicans, in 1794; and in 1798 the English entirely evacuated the island. The subsequent history of St. Domingo is familiar to most of our readers. In consequence of the successful revolt of the blacks, the white population that escaped the massacre dispersed, great numbers of them coming to the United States. A negro government was erected under Toussaint Souverture, who, on the French invasion, under Napoleon, by General Le Clerc, was entrapped, and sent to France, where he died. Two governments were afterwards instituted—one of the negroes, under Christophe, in the monarchial, or imperial form—another of the mulattoes, under Petion, in the republican form. The tyranny of Christophe, and the mildness of Petion, presented themselves to the inhabitants of the island in strong contrast; and the result was an insurrection against the authority of the former, who, in peril of his life from his own troops, put an end to his existence, and the whole power fell into the hands of President Boyer, the successor of Petion, whose government is a kind of military democracy, conducted with great energy and considerable ability. The treaty of independence with France will, it is said, put thirty millions of dollars into the pockets of the old proprietors, many of whom, or their descendants, no doubt, reside in the United States.

Since the Sovereign of France has acknowledged the independence of Hayti, other governments may do the same; and, on the part of the United States, such recognition will remove one obstacle, at least, to the payment of the claims which some of our citizens have on the authorities of the island. Ought our government to acknowledge this independence? and what will Great-Britain do? The recognition is remarkable, chiefly, as being the first acknowledgment, by any Cabinet, of the independence of the blacks, or of any separate power in any of the islands of the West Indies. What influence it may have on the inhabitants of Cuba, Porto Rico, Jamaica, and other islands, is not exactly foreseen; although it is clear, that, in the sequel, these must become independent also, or change masters, or protectors. Without a navy, or even the means of self-defence on land, from a formidable invasion, none of these islands can enjoy any thing more than a nominal Independence. Apart from any association with Europe, or continental America, they can only exist, with self government, in virtue of a guarantee of the naval powers. Of all nations, the United States have the deepest interest in their political destiny.—Nat. Jour.

On Sunday afternoon, three bales of cotton were discovered to be on fire in a store in Wall-street, New-York; upon which some linseed oil had been accidentally spilt, which produced the combustion.

COMMUNICATIONS.

REVOLUTIONARY BATTLES.

AD. HEN: The following list of the different Battles fought in the Revolutionary war, may be worth a place in your paper, to amuse the rising generation: Battle of Concord, April 19th, 1775; Battle of Bunker's Hill, June 17th, 1775; Battle at Old Hampton, Virginia, where we took 3 deck'd vessels, some time in November, 1775; Battle of the Great Bridge, near Norfolk, (Virginia) Dec. 18th, 1775; Battle Fort Washington, 17th Nov. 1776; Battle Fort Lee, 19th Nov. 1776; Battle of Trenton, when General Washington and his army took 1000 Hessians, &c. 26th Dec. 1776; Battle of Princeton, 2nd Jan. 1777; Battle of Brandywine, 11th Sept. 1777; Battle of Germantown, 4th Oct. 1777; Burgoyne's army taken near Saratoga, on the 17th October, 1777; Battle of the Red Banks, Oct. 22d. 1777; Battle of Monmouth, June 28th, 1778; Battle Stony Point, 16th July, 1779; Battle of Long Island, 27th Aug. 1776; Cornwallis and his army taken at Yorktown, Virginia, Oct 19th, 1781; Battle of King's Mountain, I think, was sometime in October, 1781; Battle of Guilford, North-Carolina, 15th March, 1781.

Dear Sir: The above is a true statement of the battles fought in the Revolutionary War, except some of those in the Southern States, which I was not knowing to, nor acquainted with. I am highly tickled to read in your paper, the commemoration of the 4th of July, and to hear of such brave soldiers, at home! Pray, sir, how many of this brave band would go forth to battle? I think not one of ten; they would play up the old game—one to his farm, and another to his merchandize, &c.

Your citizens were not as friendly to the poor old Revolutionary soldiers, as they were in Cabarrus county; there they gave all of us that would come and partake, a chance of doing so without expense; they were willing to pay the expenses of every old soldier who would come to eat, drink, and be merry. The Revolutionary men don't thank any set of men, for making great entertainments, &c. when each man is to pay his own bill, at your great City Hotel.

Gentlemen, I am in hopes that, at next Fourth of July, you will give a general invitation, to the poor old Revolutionary soldiers—although they are cast out and despised, like so many old cart-horses.

A REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER.

July 26th, 1823.

* Yes, and we are in hopes to too. It is a criminal piece of negligence it was not done this year; for nothing could give a better effect to such an occasion, than the presence of some of those veterans who fought, and successfully fought, for the achievement of that great event which we met to commemorate.

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN.

Mr. Editor: That the dead should be interred with decency, and that places appropriated for interment ought to be kept suitably enclosed, is a principle as well founded in scripture, as it is consonant to reason. Notwithstanding this, the ruinous situation in which too many of our grave yards are to be found, declares that many of our citizens appear to think it unnecessary to erect any kind of barrier, to prevent the beasts from insulting the slumbering dust of their departed friends. To this state of things, there are, however, many honorable exceptions: to one of which, permit me to invite your attention. Pursuant to a resolution previously adopted, the citizens of Iredell county, adjacent to Bethany meeting-house, assembled at that place, to the number of several hundred, on the 4th Monday of last month, for the purpose of enclosing the grave yard with a wall of stone. The citizens encamped on the ground, and in three days, quarried, hauled, hammered the stone, and built a wall enclosing about an acre of ground. The height of the wall is four feet, and its medium breadth twenty inches. Perhaps for despatch, neatness and durability, the work is not excelled by any thing of the kind in the state. The materials had to be obtained at the distance of near three miles.

It is also grateful to have it in my power to state, that no serious accident happened during the time.

My simple object in stating the above facts, is to pay a just tribute of respect to the citizens of that part of this county, who were engaged in the work referred to; and also, to excite others to engage in works of a similar nature, where the reputation of our common country requires them.

Iredell county, 4th Aug. 1823.

COTTON.

A letter from Beaufort, (S. C.) of the 5th inst. says of the cotton crops—'The present appearances of the coming crops of Sea Islands are certainly very gloomy. The heavy winds and incessant rains we have had, have very materially injured the crops all round us. The same complaints on this Island, are heard from Hilton-Head and St. Helena, and I fear extends every where on the sea-board.'