

light, while we have neither observatory nor observer, upon our half of the globe, and the earth revolves in perpetual darkness to our unsearching eyes?

When, on the 23th of October, 1791, the first President of the United States announced to Congress the result of the first enumeration of the inhabitants of this Union, he informed them that the returns gave the pleasing assurance that the population of the United States bordered on four millions of persons. At the distance of thirty years from that time, the last enumeration, five years since completed, presented a population bordering upon ten millions. Perhaps, of all the evidences of a prosperous and happy condition of human society, the rapidity of the increase of population is the most unequivocal. But the demonstration of our prosperity rests not alone upon this indication. Our commerce, our wealth, and the extent of our territories, have increased in corresponding proportions; and the number of independent communities associated in our Federal Union, has since that time, nearly doubled. The legislative representation of the States and people, in the two Houses of Congress, has grown with the growth of their constituent bodies. The house which then consisted of 65 members, now numbers upwards of two hundred. The Senate which consisted of twenty-six members, has now forty-eight. But the Executive, and still more the Judiciary Departments, are yet in a great measure confined to their primitive organization, and are now not adequate to the urgent wants of a still growing community.

The naval armaments which at an early period forced themselves upon the necessities of the Union, soon led to the establishment of a Department of the Navy. But the Departments of Foreign Affairs, and of the Interior, which, early after the formation of the government had been united in one, continue so united at this time, to the unquestionable detriment of the public service. The multiplication of our relations with the nations and governments of the old world, has kept pace with that of our population and commerce, while within the last ten years a new family of nations, in our own hemisphere, has sprung into the world, with whom our intercourse, commercial and political, would of itself furnish occupation to an active and industrious Department. The constitution of the Judiciary, experimental and imperfect as it was, even in the infancy of our existing government, is yet more inadequate to the administration of national justice at our present maturity. Nine years have elapsed since a predecessor in this office, now not the last, the citizen who, perhaps, of all others throughout the Union, contributed most to the formation and establishment of our constitution, in his valedictory address to Congress, immediately preceding his retirement from public life, urgently recommended the revision of the Judiciary, and the establishment of an additional Executive Department. The exigencies of the public service, and its unavoidable deficiencies, as now in exercise, have added yearly cumulative weight to the considerations presented by him as persuasive to the measure; and in recommending it to your deliberations, I am happy to have the influence of his high authority, in aid of the undoubting convictions of my own experience.

The laws relating to the administration of the Patent Office are deserving of much consideration, and, perhaps, susceptible of some improvement. The grant of power to regulate the action of Congress on this subject, has specified both the end to be attained, and the means by which it is to be effected: To promote the progress of science and useful arts by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries. If an honest pride might be indulged in the reflection, that on the records of that office are already found inventions the usefulness of which has scarcely been transcended in the annals of human ingenuity, would not its exaltation be allayed by the inquiry, whether the laws have effectively insured to the inventors the reward destined to them by the Constitution, even a limited term of exclusive right to their discoveries?

On the 24th of December, 1799, it was resolved by Congress that a marble monument should be erected by the United States in the Capitol, at the

City of Washington; that the family of General Washington should be requested to permit his body to be deposited under it; and that the monument be so designed as to commemorate the great events of his military and political life. In reminding Congress of this resolution, and that the monument contemplated by it remains yet without execution, I shall indulge only the remarks, that the works in the Capitol are approaching to completion; that the consent of the family desired by the resolution was requested and obtained; that a monument has been recently erected in this city, at the expense of the Nation, over the remains of another distinguished Patriot of the Revolution; and that a spot has been reserved within the walls where you are deliberating for the benefit of this and future ages, in which the mortal remains may be deposited of him whose spirit hovers over you, and listens with delight to every act of the Representatives of his Nation which can tend to exalt and adorn his and their Country.

The Constitution under which you are assembled, is a charter of limited powers; after full and solemn deliberation upon all or any of the objects, which, urged by an irresistible sense of my own duty, I have recommended to your attention, should you come to the conclusion, that, however desirable in themselves, the enactment of laws for effecting them would transcend the powers committed to you by that venerable instrument which we are all bound to support; let no consideration induce you to assume the exercise of powers not granted to you by the People. But if the power to exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever over the District of Columbia; if the power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excise, to pay the debts, and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States; if the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes; to fix the standard of weights and measures; to establish post-offices and post-roads; to declare war; to provide and maintain a Navy; to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the Territory or other property belonging to the United States; and to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying those powers into execution: If these powers and others enumerated in the Constitution may be effectually brought into action by laws promoting the improvement of Agriculture, Commerce, and Manufactures, the cultivation and encouragement of the Mechanic and of the elegant Arts, the advancement of Literature, and the progress of the Sciences, ornamental and profound, to refrain from exercising them for the benefit of the People themselves, would be to hide in the earth the talent committed to our charge—would be treachery to the most sacred of trusts.

The spirit of improvement is abroad upon the earth. It stimulates the heart, and sharpens the faculties, not of our fellow-citizens alone, but of the nations of Europe, and of their rulers. While dwelling with pleasing satisfaction upon the superior excellence of our political institutions, let us not be unmindful that Liberty is Power; that the nation blessed with the largest portion of liberty, must, in proportion to its numbers, be the most powerful nation upon earth; and that the tenure of power by man, is, in the moral purposes of his Creator, upon condition that it shall be exercised to ends of beneficence, to improve the condition of himself and his fellow-men. While foreign nations, less blessed with that freedom which is power, than ourselves, are advancing with gigantic strides in the career of public improvement, were we to slumber in indolence, or fold up our arms and proclaim to the world that we are palsied by the will of our constituents, would it not be to cast away the bounties of Providence, and doom ourselves to perpetual inferiority? In the course of the year now drawing to its close, we have beheld, under the auspices, and at the expense, of one State of this Union, a new University unfolding its portals to the sons of Science, and holding up the torch of human improvement to eyes that seek the light. We have seen, under the persevering and enlightened enterprise of another State, the waters of our western Lakes mingled with those of the ocean. If undertakings like these have been accomplished in the compass of a few years, by the authority of single members of our Confederation,

can we, the Representative Authorities of the whole Union, fall behind our fellow-servants in the exercise of the trust committed to us for the benefit of our common sovereign, by the accomplishment of works important to the whole, and to which neither the authority nor the resources of any one State can be adequate?

Finally, fellow-citizens, I shall await with cheering hope, and faithful co-operation, the result of your deliberations; assured that, without encroaching upon the powers reserved to the authorities of the respective States, or to the People, you will, with a due sense of your obligations to your country, and of the high responsibilities weighing upon yourselves, give efficacy to the means committed to you for the common good. And may He who searches the hearts of the children of men prosper your exertions to secure the blessings of peace, and promote the highest welfare of our country.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

Salisbury:
DECEMBER 30, 1823.

Our paper is this week, to the exclusion of almost every thing else, occupied by the first message of President Adams to the Congress of the United States. The great excitement that preceded, and the peculiar circumstances that immediately attended, the elevation of Mr. Adams to the chief magistracy of the Republic, operated to create a good deal of anxiety among the people, of all parties, to see his first message to Congress: And as it is an essential part of our avocation to minister to the gratification of the public in such matters, we have thought we could not better acquit ourselves of an incumbent duty, than by publishing the message entire in one paper, rather than giving it in detached parts.

So extravagant were the expectations of some, in regard to the message, that it were, perhaps, difficult for the genius of eloquence herself to satisfy them. But for ourselves—although, like others, we expected a good deal—we must, in candor, acknowledge, that we are not disappointed. Justice prompts us to say thus much. A proneness to flatter "the powers that be," we trust, forms no ingredient in the composition of our political character: And when we briefly say, the message at least equals our expectations, we only speak from the convictions of our own unbiased judgment. We have seen, if we were disposed to extend our remarks at this time. But we can not omit calling the attention of the reader to that part of the message which informs us of the determination of the Executive to send an Agent to the National Congress of South America, which is soon to convene at Panama. The consequences which are likely to result from this assemblage of the representatives of the Republics of the South, must be too vitally important to the United States, for her not to share in the deliberations which will there be held.

The space which the President's Message has left us, is so small, that we can only give an epitome of the most prominent articles of interest that have come to hand since our last paper.

An Orleans editor has seen a gentleman who left Havana very lately. He states that even the officers of the army and navy there were desirous of shaking off the yoke of Spain: This feeling was general among the respectable part of the whites, and the appearance of an expedition from Mexico was anxiously looked for.

Gov. Van Ness, of Vermont, declines a reelection; and there appears considerable difficulty in getting a suitable person in the state, who will consent to serve as Gov. Van Ness's successor. This is the first time, we believe, that the office of Gov. of any of the states in the Union, had to go a begging for an incumbent.

The keel of a new 74 gunship, was laid down, a few days since, at the navy-yard in Washington City.

We stated, in our last, the fact of Messrs. Bell & Lawrence, editors of the Raleigh Star, having been elected Printers to the state for the ensuing year, over Messrs. J. Gales & Son; from the Raleigh Star, we ascertain the following to have been the vote on said election:
Bell & Lawrence, 104
J. Gales & Son, 78—Maj. 26.

The Legislature of South Carolina assembled on the 28th ult. The Columbia Telescope says the session will be a short one, as the members expect to adjourn in time to spend Christmas at home. The members of our legislature will hardly spend New-year's day at home, if we may judge from the business they have out for themselves, notwithstanding they assembled a week sooner than the legislature of South Carolina.

Cornelius Van Brunt, Esq. arrived at New-York on the 2nd inst. on the ship William Tell, from Buenos Ayres, with despatches for our government.

The Duke of Saxe-Weimar, who is making a tour of the United States, passed through Fayetteville, a few days since, on his way south.

The U. S. ship Constellation, Capt. Woolsey, sailed from Norfolk for the West Indies, on the 1st inst.

By a report from the Adj. General, it appears the whole expense attending the public reception of Gen. Lafayette in this state, was \$4,089. The expense incurred in Virginia, for the same purpose, was \$10,000.

Hatchins G. Burton has been re-elected Governor of this State, for the ensuing year; and took the oath of office on the 6th inst. which were administered by chief justice Taylor, in presence of both branches of the Legislature.

The Legislature of Virginia convened in Richmond, on Monday, the 30th inst. Wm. C. Holt was chosen speaker, and Mr. Handcock clerk, of the Senate; Lynn Banks was chosen speaker of the house of delegates—ten candidates were put in nomination for clerk of the house of delegates; and on the 3d ballot, Geo. W. Mansford (son of the late clerk) was chosen. The Governor's message was received the same day, and 500 copies ordered to be printed.

The advertisements of the Charlotte, Hillsboro, and Edinboro Academies, are necessarily excluded this week, by the length of the President's message. We are obliged, also, from the same cause, to omit many other advertisements; for which we ask an indulgence till our next paper.

A line of packets between Plymouth, in this state, and the city of New-York, has been established, and will twice a month from each port.

Mr. Du Vall, former editor of the Richmond Compiler, proposes, if sufficient encouragement is offered, to establish a new paper in Newbern, in this State, to be called the North Carolinian.

We are obliged to omit, entirely, this week, a journal of the proceedings of the Legislature, to make room for the President's message.

In the house of commons, a bill has been presented by Mr. Caldwell, to alter the time of holding the Superior Courts of Rowan and Davidson counties.

Deaf and Dumb.—By calculations which have lately been made, it is ascertained that nearly one child out of 2000 which are born into the world is deaf and dumb. According to this calculation, there must be about 300 deaf and dumb persons in North-Carolina—yet there has, as yet, no public provision been made for their education.—There are institutions in Connecticut, New-York, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and we believe in some other states, for the Education of persons thus afflicted; and the legislatures of many other states, have made appropriations for defraying the expense of educating their own indigent deaf and dumb.

SNOW fell in this place, (Salisbury) and vicinity, on Monday night, the 12th ult. to the depth of about one inch. It was the first that had fallen here this season; and it came so abruptly upon us after a remarkably pleasant fall, that many of our citizens were very sensibly affected by the cold, wintry blasts that generally accompany such storms.

Gen. Wm. Hull, who figured so notably at Detroit, during the late war, died lately at his residence in Massachusetts.

Daniel Newman, (a native of this town) was, on the 1st inst. elected Secretary of State of Georgia, over Mr. Hamilton, former secretary; Mr. Boyezas has been elected Treasurer, over Mr. Clayton, former incumbent; and Mr. Wellborn has been elected Surveyor-General, over Mr. Mitchell, former surveyor; the old comptroller-general has been re-elected, without opposition. The friends of Gen. Clark, now they have a majority in the Legislature, will take advantage of it, to put as many of their friends into snug offices as they can. Five new Judges of the Superior Court have been appointed, in place of the friends of Gov. Troup.

On Saturday, the 19th ult. a man by the name of Conrad Litaeker, about 50 years of age, was killed by being thrown from his horse, while running a race with his son! Mr. Litaeker lived in Cabarrus county, about 14 miles from the town; he and his son had been at a sale in the edge of Rowan county; and when returning home, they both saw, at the same instant, a blanket in the road; and to decide who should have the prize, they agreed to run a race for it: the old man's horse "flew the track," and dashed his rider off against a tree, and fractured his skull so badly, that his brains gushed out! He died instantly.

STATE BANK OF NORTH CAROLINA.

At a meeting of the Stockholders of the State Bank, held in this city, on Wednesday last, the following gentlemen were elected Directors of that institution for the ensuing year: Wm. Boylan, T. D. Benehan, Wm. Peace, Theophilus Hunter, Wm. Hill, James F. Taylor, John Bell, Alfred Jones, Joseph Hawkins, Gavin Hogg, Wm. Shaw, B. B. Smith, B. A. Barham, J. Gales, S. B. Birdall, Durant Hatch, James Seawell, W. W. Jones, Mosfort Stokes.

New Directors, elected in the place of Duncan Cameron, A. S. H. Burgess, Henry Potter, and Thomas Ruffin, resigned.

IREDELL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Iredeell Agricultural Society held their annual meeting on the 3d of November, ult. in Statesville. The exhibition of Live Stock, and some articles of domestic manufacture, was very respectable, particularly the former. A large and respectable number of farmers from the vicinity of that place, and from neighboring counties, attended, and were highly gratified with the appearance of the live stock, and specimens of domestic manufacture. This is the first exhibition since the organization of the Society; and, like all other institutions in an incipient state, cannot be expected to afford an exhibition so interesting and extensive as it is hoped and believed it will at a more advanced stage of its existence.

A committee, consisting of five members, was appointed to award premiums, agreeably to the regulations of the society. And although all the animals shown were very fine, in size and condition, particularly three colts, each two years old last spring, the committee concluded to award the premium to John Tomblinson; but to award the premium to one shown by Benj. Summers was not much inferior. To Col. Thomas Allison, a premium was awarded for the best calf eight months old. To Mrs. Thomas A. Allison, a premium is awarded for the best Counterpane, and a piece of homespun mixed cloth.

There were several interesting statements made of the improvement in the culture of cotton, by sundry respectable members of the Society; all of which went conclusively to show the superiority of manured land, for the production of that important article. A number of statements rated the average production at 1000 lbs. per acre.

At the conclusion of the exhibition, the society went into an election for officers. The former President having declined a re-election, the Rev. John Mubhat was elected President of the society for the ensuing year. All the members were re-elected. The society then

adjourned to meet again on the 1st Monday in January, 1824, at Statesville.

SAM'L KING, Sec. pro tem.

FAYETTEVILLE PRICES, Dec. 5.

Cotton, 12 1/2 to 13; heavy, 12 1/2; white, 12 1/2; black, 12 1/2; peach brandy, 30 a 50; apple do, 30; 40 a 45; peach brandy, 30 a 50; sugar, 70 a 80 per bush; molasses, 30; sugar, 70 a 80; coffee, 12 1/2 a 14; coffee, prime green, 21 a 22; 2d and 3d quality, 19; tea, hyson, 21 a 22; 2d and 3d quality, 19; tea, hyson, 21 a 22; 2d and 3d quality, 19; tobacco leaf, 4 a 5; manufactured, 3 a 20 pr. cwt.

CHARLESTON PRICES, Nov. 28.

Cotton, S. Island, 45 a 50; strained do, 50 a 55; Maine and Santee, 34 a 35; short staple, 13 a 14; Whiskey, 27 a 30 cents; Flour, 44 a 45; Ham, S. A. 11; Lard, 9 a 11; Bagging, 10 a 11; Tobacco, 20 a 22; Coffee, 12 a 14; Tea, 19 a 20; Inf. to good, 13 a 15; N. Carolina State Bank Bills, 7 a 24 per cent; Newbern and Cape Fear do, 21 per cent; Georgia do, 14 1/2 per cent. do.

CHERRY MARKETS DEC. 6.

Bacon, 7 a 8; Brandy, apple 30 to 40; peach 50; bagging 15 to 20; butter 23 a 50; coffee, prime green, 20 a 24; cotton 13; corn scarce 70 to 80; flaxseed 80 a 85; flour 7 a 8; lard 7 to 8; molasses 45 to 50; oats 40 a 50; sugar, prime 12 to 14; common 10 to 11; salt, Liverpool 80 to 90; Turks Island, &c. 75 a 85; tallow 8 to 10; tea; gunpowder and imperial 1 50 to 1 75; wheat 1 to 1 25; whiskey 40 to 42.

CANDEY PRICES, DEC. 3.

Cotton, 12 1/2 to 13; corn, 75 to 78; bacon, 8 to 10; whiskey, 42 to 45; brandy, peach 45 to 46; apple 40 to 42; tallow, 9 to 10; flour, 6 50 to 7 50; tobacco, (manufactured) 12 to 15.

MARRIED.

In this town, on Monday, the 19th inst. by William H. Horab, Esq. Mr. Edward Flanagan to Miss Mary Castello.

On Thursday, the 17th ult. by J. W. Walton, Esq. Mr. Matthias Lewis to Miss Milly Crozier, both of this county.

In Mecklenburg county, on the 29th ult. by the Rev. Mr. Hunter, Mr. Jonas C. Rusbull to Miss Mary Karr, daughter of Mr. Wm. Karr.

DIED.

In this place, on Wednesday morning last, the 14th inst. after a lingering illness of two or three years, Albert Torrence, son. Esq. aged about 80 years, one of the oldest and most respectable merchants of the town of Salisbury. [We have received a communication on the death of Mr. Torrence, which want of room compels us to defer till next week.]

In Davidson county, on the 6th instant, Mr. Spruce Wilson, aged about 25 years.

By Saturday's Mail.

John Randolph was, on the 10th inst. elected by the Legislature of Virginia, U. S. Senator from that state, the James Buchanan, of the State of Pennsylvania, being elected to the office of Secretary of War. Mr. Randolph was put in nomination; and on the third ballot, Mr. Clay was elected. The election of Mr. Randolph to the Senate, is a great honor to the town of Salisbury, and a great credit to the friends of the Union in that place. Mr. Randolph was born in this town, on the 10th of August, 1773, and was educated at the College of William and Mary, in the city of Williamsburg, Virginia.

By an arrival at New-York, Liverpool

papers to the 8th Nov. have been received. One of the heaviest failures that ever happened in England, is detailed in the papers by this arrival. Mr. Samuel Williams, of London, who had for 50 years carried on the largest business of any merchant in the Kingdom, failed the latter part of October, for upwards of seven millions pounds sterling—(more than thirty millions of dollars!) The utmost consternation prevailed among the mercantile community in London; it was feared this failure would cause many other disastrous failures. His largest transactions were in the United State; and the consternation among the merchants of New-York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, &c. never was exceeded. The greatest gloom hangs over the mercantile community. The Spanish ministry has been changed; M. Zea is superseded by the Duke d'Infantado; extermination to the French, is now the cry of all parties.

A most horrible calamity has happened on board the steam-boat Comet, plying between Glasgow (Scotland) and Inverness, by her being run down by the steam boat Ayr, in the night; about eighty persons were on board the Comet (mostly persons of the first rank) when she went down, and only about ten escaped a watery grave!

There is but little news, in regard to Greece. At last times, this year's campaign was considered at an end. A letter from the Mediterranean, states that "the Greeks are triumphant; the Turkish fleets have retired to Alexandria and Constantinople; the Greeks have taken about 60 transports."

No improvement had taken place in the English markets.

Upland Cotton, (new crop) was selling in N. York, Dec. 6, at 15 and 16 cents.

Estate of Smith Blair.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of the late Smith Blair, dec'd. are notified to make payment without delay; and all persons having claims against the estate, will present them within the time prescribed by law, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. The Executor is desirous of closing his administration as soon as possible; therefore, all persons concerned, would do well to pay immediate attention to this notice.

JAMES SMITH, Exec'r.

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