

of Sovereign, whose will is admitted to be the source of all power, and whose happiness is proclaimed to be the end of all government! Then, with what face can we turn upon these people, and tell them that they are incapable of exercising the only attribute of sovereignty which they have ever claimed—that of election!

The existence of slavery in some parts of the confederation is supposed, by some, to present an insuperable obstacle to the plan of amendment proposed by the committee. In the opinion of these persons, the operation of the direct vote will involve the loss of the qualified votes which they now give for their black population. Such would undoubtedly be the effect, if the plan of the committee was the same which it was understood by many to be, a plan of consolidation, in which all the voters of all the States were to be collected into one general return, and the election decreed to him who had a majority of the whole. Such a plan would work an injury not only to the slave holding States, but a greater or less degree, to almost every State in the Union; for the qualifications of the voters differing in each, some prescribing a freehold possession, some the payment of a tax, some a residence of a few months, others of a year, and others again the privilege of universal suffrage; it would thence result that the same mass of population would yield, in different States, a very unequal number of votes. But the plan of the Committee is not one of consolidation; it disturbs no principle of relative weight among the States now fixed in the Constitution; each will give the same number of Presidential votes, with or without the amendment. The States will be divided into districts, in the same manner as if for the choice of electors. The qualified voters will then vote for a President and Vice-President, instead of voting for an elector, and the persons having the highest number of votes for these offices, respectively, will be considered as electors of the President, and entitled to count one vote. To the result, it will be wholly immaterial whether a district containing a given number of souls, say 40,000, shall possess one thousand or five thousand qualified voters. The State will have its number of Presidential votes, and the people of each district will give each vote according to their own sense of their own interest. The formation of the districts, and the regulations of the elections, powers of essential importance to the States, and most capable of being properly exercised by them, are left to the States respectively. Thus, the plan of the committee avoids all questions growing out of the existence of slavery in some States, the various qualifications of voters in others, and presents not a single objection, which would not apply with equal force to the choice of electors by districts.

Considering these several objections as effectually disposed of, there still remains an argument to be answered, which demands from all the friends of our present forms of government, the most respectful and deliberate consideration. It is one which derives itself from a sacred regard for the rights of the States, and from an apprehension that the committee's plan of amendment will tend to produce that consolidation of this league of republics which every friend of liberty must deprecate and oppose. If such was indeed to be the effect of their amendment, and the committee could be made sensible of it, they would be the first to oppose that plan of election which they are now recommending with so much earnestness. Far from looking with indifference upon that jealous spirit of State rights which feels alarm at the slightest noise of encroachment, they regard it as a spirit of happiest omen, worthy of being respectfully treated, generously cherished, and carefully kept alive. The preservation of the State Governments, such as they left themselves when they gave up a part of their powers to compose this Federal Government, is not only necessary to the well-being of the people within those States, but is indispensable to the continuation of the Federal Government itself. If they are broken down, or materially weakened, the Federal Government must cease to be what it is, must be broken down also, and recomposed under some new and infinitely stranger form. In all its operations in defence of liberty, and in all its contests with for-

sign powers, the governments of the States can give the most efficient aid to the government of the confederation; and if this latter should undertake any thing against the lives, liberties, or property of individuals, the State Governments alone are competent to check the encroachment, and give protection to the rights of the citizen. They are the best directors of all the powers which were reserved to the States in the convention of 1787, and if the time shall ever come when those reserved powers shall fall into the hands of the Federal Government, and be exercised by members of Congress drawn from all the States, the fate of the weaker members and smaller sections of the confederation, may be read in the history of all the confederacies which ancient or modern times have produced: tyranny and oppression on the part of the strong; misery and degradation on the part of the weak; burthens unequally imposed, benefits unequally divided; and the most unjust decrees enforced with arms and penalties! Such is the frightful picture which the history of all such confederacies presents, and from which this, in its turn, could expect no exemption. The dread of these evils should alone be sufficient to make us guard the rights of the States with jealous care, and maintain with inflexible firmness that equilibrium of power which was adjusted between them and the Federal Government, at the establishment of the present Constitution. But a consideration of still higher and more imperious import, demands the same policy. That consideration is this, that Liberty itself, will live longer in a league of Republics, than in a Republic one and indivisible. Reason and history support this proposition. In the first place, it is certainly more difficult to overcome many governments, acting together for a common cause, than it would be to overturn a single government, possessed of their united territories, strength, and resources. The history of our Revolution is a pregnant example of this truth. In the next place, the conduct of the capital, in a great nation, often decides the fate of the nation itself. Thus we have seen in history, that whoever had Rome, had the Empire, and, in our own day, that whoever had Paris, had France. But in a league of Republics, the corruption, cowardice, or treason of the Metropolitan City, injure not the safety of the remote members of the confederation. The mother capital might open her gates to a foreign enemy, or bend her neck to the yoke of a domestic master; but other cities would remain, capitals of powerful States, the seats of organized Governments, mistresses of armies, forts, and arsenals, and deriving supplies from a regular system of revenue. To these the friends of liberty could resort, and arm again for the renewal of the contest, instead of flying to a foreign shore to die in despair. Brutus and Cato need not have fallen upon their swords if they had had such points of retreat; the revolutions in Paris might not have lost the Republic, nor its capture the Empire, if the Girondists in '93, and the wrecks of the armies in 1824, could have found in the Departments of the Rhone and the Loire, a Virginia or a New-York, to have received and sustained the faithful friends of France. [To be concluded next week.]

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIANS.

Mr. White: At the request of the parties, you will please insert the enclosed marriage in your next paper. And you will oblige your most obedient servant,

When Bessie begins to sing,
We hope her weather may decline.

Married, on the 7th inst. by Robert Pickens, Esq. Col. John Bean to Miss Lenny H. Purvins, both of Cabarrus county.

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIANS.

Mr. White: The following Song is sent you by an old Revolutionist, who was in the battle on King's Mountain, on the 7th day of October, 1780. The Song was composed by Timothy Riggs, who was in the battle:

Come all ye good people and lend an ear,
And from me the honest truth you shall hear—
How the Whigs and Tories had a great strife,
And old Ferguson chas'd out of his life;
How brave Col. Williams from Hillsboro' came—
The South-Carolinians join'd him in a main.
They were stout-hearted and with courage were true,
There being near four hundred of the brave crew
We march'd 't the Cowpens—brave Campbell was there,
With Shelby, Cleveland, and Col. Sevier.
They were true souls, and with courage so bold,
That, like Lions, they would not be control'd.
We march'd on again, that very same night—
Sometimes going a wrong course—sometimes right.

But two hearts are out in Liberty's mould,
No we headed it not, longer, nor cold.
Early next morning, we came to the field—
Charles was 't place, "Honor" the word.
We could't through the river so far and so free
(Reporting our names there to see.)
That, like some Eagles hunting their prey,
We march'd for't reason most of that day.
At length, on King's Mountain, the old rogue we found,
And, like bold Fong, his camp we did surround.
The conflict began, the guns did rattle—
Our enemies fell in a pretty smart battle.
But we detest'd 't to roll up the hill,
Resolv'd to th' blood of our enemies to spill.
The battle was in length about an hour;
While gaudy clash, and the bullets did pour—
So like re-light'ning, or thunder, the noise,
The powder was struck with some surprise.
Besides of Ferguson dead on the ground,
Two hundred and fifty dead to us lay 'round.
Eleven hundred tak'n prisoners, or more!
Surely, rich having them ne'er was before!
The brave Col. Williams, and twenty-five more
Of our gallant men, lay dead in their gore.
In sorrow, we bur'd them in earth's clay,
And hope to tear'n their souls may wing their way.
We shout'd for freedom, with one accord—
To "die for Liberty," was our watch-word.

CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

Washington, Feb. 1.

In the Senate, Mr. Sanford, from New York, appeared and took his seat. The bill to secure the accountability of public officers was recommitted. A petition was presented from the Grand Jury of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, praying Congress to pass a law prohibiting the importation of ardent spirits of all kinds. Almost the whole of the day was passed in the consideration of Executive business.

In the House of Representatives, the calling up of the resolution offered on Monday by Mr. Metcalfe, of Kentucky, relative to the Congress at Panama, led to some discussion, which was cut short by a call for the orders of the day, the time allotted for the consideration of resolutions having gone by. The House then went into committee on the bill making appropriations for certain Fortifications; when Mr. Cocke's motion to reduce the appropriation for Fortress Monroe, from \$115,000 to \$80,000 was negatived. An amendment offered by Mr. Bartlett, of New-Hampshire, appropriating \$2,500 for the repair of Fort Constitution, at the mouth of Piscataway river, was adopted. The Committee rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Washington, Feb. 2.

In the Senate, the announcement of the death of Mr. Chambers, a Senator from Alabama, produced an early adjournment. A resolution was offered by Mr. Noble for an appropriation of \$50,000, for the purpose of extinguishing the residue of the Indian title to lands in the State of Indiana, and another by Mr. Benton, for an inquiry into the propriety of repealing the 4th section of the act authorizing the President to make treaties with certain Indian tribes, and for other purposes.

In the House of Representatives, the resolution on the subject of Panama was again taken up, when Mr. Livingston, of Louisiana, delivered his sentiments in favour of the resolution and the mission. The House then went into Committee on the bill making appropriation for certain fortifications, when the amendment offered yesterday by Mr. Cambreleng, of New-York, to introduce an appropriation of \$17,000 for the purchase of land, and a right of way at Throg's Point, was agreed to. An amendment offered by Mr. Forsyth, of Georgia, to appropriate \$10,000 for a fort at Savannah, and another by Mr. Stewart, to strike out a fort in North Carolina, were rejected.

Washington, Feb. 3.

In the Senate, the principal part of the day was passed in the consideration of Executive business. The resolutions offered yesterday were adopted.

The House of Representatives were entirely occupied yesterday in the discussion of the resolution offered by Mr. Hamilton of South Carolina, on the subject of the mission to Panama. With a view to get through the discussion, the rule of the House limiting the consideration of Resolutions for an hour, was not enforced, Mr. Webster having moved to postpone all the orders of the day. The House, however, did not come to any decision on the resolution, which was amended, re-amended, and dislocated by substitutes, erasures, and additions, until it became necessary to supersede it altogether by a new resolution. Mr. Everett, of Massachusetts, spoke briefly on the subject. His manner is modest; his style very chaste, and his diction select and appropriate.

Washington, Feb. 4.

The Senate did not sit yesterday. A bill was reported from the Committee on the District of Columbia, by Mr. Alexander, establishing a quarantine in the District—another to authorize the sale of public lots in the City of Washington; and a third in relation to the Turnpike Road Company, in the County of Alexandria, the House adjourned till Monday.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

On the 18th ult. in the House of Representatives, Mr. Webster, noticing the length of the debate on the Judiciary bill, observed—"A longer time has already been consumed on this bill than was taken by our fathers, in forming the entire judicial system, with all the other mighty matters they had upon their hands."

The Hon. Salma Hale, of Keene, N. H. has obtained the premium offered by the American Academy of Languages and Belles Letters, in the city of N. York, for the best History of the United States.

Among the petitions presented to the Maine Legislature is one of sundry inhabitants of Kennebec, for the incorporation of a manufacturing company, with a capital of two millions of dollars.

The Middlesex Journal says, "It gives us great pleasure to be able to state that Gov. Troup has so far recovered his health, that he will be able, in a few days more, to attend to his duties regularly at the Executive office."

Michigan.—The last session of the Supreme Court of Michigan territory, continued from the 19th of September to the 9th of December!

Effects of Education.—The Worcester Spy states, that during more than thirty years past, in Worcester county, comprehending, at present, fifty-four towns and eighty thousand inhabitants, there has been but one solitary conviction for a public offence.

On Monday and Tuesday the 26th and 27th ult. one hundred and fifteen Aliens, residents of Patterson, N. J. reported themselves and declared their intentions of becoming citizens of the United States, agreeably to the acts of Congress upon that subject.

Water.—"Dr. Percival has remarked, that bricks harden the softest water, and give it an aluminous taste, therefore wells should not be bricked up unless a coating of cement is applied between them and the water."

The Solicitor General of Massachusetts has filed information against twelve vendors of Lottery Tickets, for selling the same; and against the publishers of several Newspapers, for advertising Lottery Tickets for sale—[contrary to law, we suppose.]

A company of about thirty men under the command of Dr. Robinson, of Tennessee, passed through Natches on Saturday, December 24th, for Texas. They have gone to survey and explore a grant made to a gentleman of Tennessee. They were all hale, fine looking young men.

It appears from a statement of the valuation of real and personal estate in the several counties of the state of New York, for the year 1825, received at the office of the Comptroller of that state, that New York is set down at one hundred and one million, one hundred and sixty thousand and forty six dollars. Albany county, the seat of government, stands next highest in point of value, and is put down at ten million, two hundred sixty-one thousand, eight hundred and fifty dollars.

On the 1st of January the Navy Pension Fund amounted to \$994,465 89. The annual pensions amount to \$47,521. From a statement laid before Congress it appears that the public lands relinquished under the acts for the relief of purchasers, amount to 3,632,621 acres: estimated value, \$12,307,901.

A merchant in New-York having imported some silk cloaks for ladies, about a year ago, found them of very dull sale. His clerk was directed to advertise the cloaks, for a third time; having visited the opera the night previous, and returning much delighted, he advertised them as opera cloaks—a new importation. In a short time the shop was thronged with ladies to see his opera cloaks, and the whole importation was speedily disposed of.

The acts of the Legislative Council of Florida, establishing banks at Augustine and Pensacola, having been rejected by the Governor, they were re-considered by the Council, and passed by a vote of 6 to 3. This vote of two-thirds being considered sufficient to make it a law, without the consent of the Governor, was sufficient to set the question at rest. The Secretary of the Territory, however, having refused to receive the acts as laws, Judge Woodward has been authorized to hold a special term of the Superior Court of the middle District, to decide this question.

The city of Philadelphia is well supplied with water from the Schuylkill River. The whole extent of iron pipes, which convey the water, is now upwards of ninety miles. It is estimated that the aggregate of water rents for 1826, will be \$29,160. A handsome revenue will accrue to the city in a few years, as the water rents, after defraying all expenses, except those incurred by the purchase of new iron pipes, yield an annual surplus to the sinking fund of 14,300 dollars.

A volume of American poetry, selected from the United States Literary Gazette, has just been published in Boston. The pieces are from the pens of Percival, Bryant, Longfellow, Mellen, Dawes, and others favorably known to the public.—There are 172 duodecimo pages in the volume.

The public would do well to be on their guard against counterfeit notes, purporting to be upon "the Bank of Virginia," for ten dollars. Letter A, dated June 4, 1817.

An ox has been raised by Mr. M. W. Pierce, of Greenland, New Hampshire, weighing 3028 lbs.

It is confidently stated that half an ounce of powdered brimstone will instantly extinguish a chimney on fire, by being thrown upon the burning coals on the hearth.

It is said, that a son of Bolivar, and a son of prince Murat, will become students at the ensuing term at the Virginia University.

A resolution has been offered in Congress to appropriate a sum of money sufficient to defray the expense of creating a monument in honor of the Father of his Country, in the city of Washington, to be expended under the direction of the President.

The total number of passengers arrived at the port of New-York from foreign ports in the year 1824, was 3452—in 1825, 8779.

Cider, says the Hampshire (Mass.) Gazette, has been made so plentifully the last season, that it was sold from 50 to 75 cts. the barrel.

The amount of the permanent funds of the Virginia Board of Public Works, is 1,418,861 dollars, and of the disposable funds, 533,880 dollars.

A cow of the improved Sandwich breed has been recently slaughtered by Elisha Hanson, Esq. of Sandford, N. H. the quarters, hide and rough tallow, weighed 1152 pounds.

Baltimore in 1665 had a population of 800; in 1776, 15,503; in 1800, 26,515; in 1810, 50,791; and in 1820, 62,727.—That city is evidently improving; property is becoming more valuable; business is increasing; and public spirit is unabated.

LITE FROM EUROPE.

The Ship Howard arrived at N. Y. on Thursday evening from Havre, which port she left on the 30th December. She brings Paris papers to the 19th, and London dates of the 16th December.

The commercial distress in England continued to an alarming extent. A number of banking houses in London had failed, and several of them having connection with others in the country, the embarrassments had extended there, and the excitement became so great in some places, that it had been found necessary to order out the militia, to aid the civil power in preserving peace.

Although the Bank of England had raised the discount from four to five per cent. and had discounted nearly a million a day for several days, the demand for money continued unabated. The principal merchants held a meeting on the 15th.

DEATH OF THE EMPEROR ALEXANDER.

A despatch from the French Minister at Berlin, to the President of the Council in Paris, announces that the Emperor ALEXANDER died at Taganrock, in the beginning of Dec. after a short illness.—It was said his death was occasioned by a sore leg, which terminated in St. Anthony's fire. He was born Dec. 23, 1777; succeeded the throne of Russia on the 4th of March, 1801, and became King of Poland 9th June, 1816. The Grand duke Constantine, Viceroy of Poland, succeeds Alexander. A decline of 2 to 3 per cent. in the French stocks, took place on the receipt of this intelligence.

The Egyptian squadron succeeded in landing the troops at Navarino, on the 9th of November. A part of them were to reinforce Ibrahim Pacha, at Tripolizza, and another division would proceed to Missolonghi.

Captain Cunningham, of privateer General Soulette, who lost an arm in an action off Gibraltar, with a Spanish fleet, had died of his wounds.

Great distress prevailed at Cadiz; so much so, that the Chamber of Commerce was about petitioning the King to make it a free port.

FROM ILLINOIS.

Norfolk, Feb. 1.—The Spanish brig Francisco, from Havana, whence she sailed 18th Jan., came in from sea on Sunday night last, and midshipman Trotter, a passenger, was landed at Old Point, who arrived here on Monday evening. He informs that the U. S. ship Constellation, Capt. Woolsey, was at Havana when he left, all well, except Capt. W. who had been ill, and was still slightly indisposed.

The U. S. ship Hornet, Capt. Woodhouse, was beating into Havana as the F. came out.

The U. S. schooners Grampus, Lieut. Com. Cassin, and Fox, Lieut. Com. Wilson, were at Matanzas, the former having arrived from this port, 14th January, all well.

A skirmish took place off Matanzas a few days previous to 18th January, between an English and two Spanish schooners with troops on board. One of the latter vessels fired into the English schooner, which soon after boarded her, spiked her guns, and carried her into the Moro, ordering her consort to follow her, which order was promptly complied with.