

the United States, in 1770, amounted to 1873 miles. Now the number of Post Offices is eight thousand and four, and the Post Roads amount to 113,000 miles.

The first line of mail coaches in the United States was established in pursuance of an Act of Congress, passed September 7, 1783, extending from Portsmouth, in New Hampshire, to Savannah, in Georgia. The transportation of the mail in coaches amounts, at this time, to 5,507,818 miles in one year, and from the first day of January next, it will be increased to 5,789,810 miles. The whole yearly transportation of the mail in coaches, on horseback, amounts to about 19,700,000 miles.

His statement of the financial concerns of the Department is explicit. The Post Office Department is in a prosperous condition. He mentions several changes that have been made in the transportation of the mail in the Southern and Western States, and gives a statement of the manner in which several regulations have been adopted in the settling of accounts, &c.

South America.—Late advices from Cartagena received at Philadelphia state that in the affair in which Gen. Cordova lost his life, in Antioquia, 300 of his troops were also killed, and the residue of his followers taken prisoners. The treaty of peace between Colombia and Peru, was received on the 19th Oct. and presented for ratification, at Bogota. The Congress of Peru, on the 31st August, chose Don A. Osmarza Provisionary President of the Republic, and Gen. Llanueta Vice President. After the 4th Oct. the introduction of foreign salt into the republic of Peru was to be prohibited. The U. S. Gazette contains an extract of a letter from Laguyra in which Bolivar is said to have expressed a desire to leave that country for Europe. It is added that the state of Venezuela will withdraw from the Colombian Republic. *Boat. Bulletin.*

MEXICO. — Mr. POINSETT.

A gentleman of Boston informs the Editors of the Massachusetts Journal, that he met at New York a few days ago with a gentleman who had just arrived direct from Mexico, at New York, by way of Vera Cruz. The Mexican was a Merchant of respectability, and he gave the following interesting and extraordinary account.

A few days before he departed from the city of Mexico, Mr. Poinsett, our Minister, was waited upon in the dusk of the evening by a person, who delivered at the door a message from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, requesting his [Mr. Poinsett's] immediate attendance at the Bureau of Foreign Affairs. This messenger was not admitted within the door, the precaution having been taken for some time, so to confine the door by a chain as not to permit it to open so far as to admit the passage of a man, unless the chain were unlocked for that purpose, but only admit of conversation. Mr. Poinsett suspected some sinister design from the unprecedented hour at which this request was made, and returned for answer, that he should caution the Minister in the morning. This answer was delivered, and Mr. P. on applying at the window, saw sixty men about his house, armed with knives and bludgeons. The Mexican had no doubt that the intention was to obtain admission by stratagem, murder the minister, and rifle his house!

But this is not the only, or most extraordinary part of the gentleman's narrative. While he was on the road between Mexico and Vera Cruz, travelling with a company in the stage, they were arrested by a band of ruffians, to see if Mr. Poinsett was among them, it having been reported that he was to leave Mexico at this time. The narrator of these facts being closely muffled in a cloak, was a particular object of scrutiny. His cloak was roughly thrown open, and his features closely examined; and when at length the assailants became satisfied of their mistake, one of them drew the back of his knife across his throat with a decisive action, saying, "It is lucky for him that it is not he."

The Hornet.—In relation to the ship, of whose loss but too well grounded apprehensions have latterly been entertained, says the Baltimore American, a glimmer of hope is presented. We saw yesterday a gentleman who arrived here three days ago in the schooner Uncle Sam from Havana. He informs us that about the 15th November a British packet arrived at Havana from Vera Cruz, which he reported that she had spoken the U. S. ship Hornet, and that she had declined the offer of assistance tendered by the Packet. Our informant is not positive as to the fact, but thinks that it was said the Hornet had thrown her guns over-

Colonization.—The Pennsylvania Colonization Society have determined to send a vessel to Liberia, with such persons of color as may be liberated from slavery, and wish to emigrate to Africa. Arrangements have been made to transport one hundred emancipated slaves in the brig Liberia, of Philadelphia, which vessel will shortly sail from Norfolk.

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY.

IN SENATE: Wednesday, Dec. 16.—The judiciary com. reported adverse to making the journals of the General Assembly competent evidence on indictments in certain cases, as it would conflict with the Constitution. Mr. Wellborn offered a resolution for amending the laws, in particular reference to large entries of land, from 30,000 to 300,000 acres, by citizens of other states, and which has never been given in nor sold for taxes for 20 years; the judiciary committee asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the resolution for establishing a Superior Court in Macon county. Mr. Brewer presented a bill to prevent obstructions in Big and Little Polecat creeks in Randolph.

Thursday, Dec. 17.—Mr. Mitchell, from the com. of inter. improvement, recommended the rejection of the bill to amend the act of 1824, giving the assent of this state to certain acts of the Tennessee legislature: the bill to establish a new county, by the name of Jackson, from Cumberland, Moore, Chatham and Wake was rejected: Mr. Wellborn presented a bill to restore Joshua Pennell of Wilkes, to credit: Mr. Hinton presented a bill to make it incompatible for a justice of the peace to hold the office of county register, or county surveyor: the resignation of Abram Vannoy, lt. col. 2d regt. Stokes militia, was read and accepted: Mr. Allen presented a bill to remove the elections from Warm Springs to Col. Alfred Hinton's, Buncombe county: the bill to attach Capt. Alexander's company to 1st regt. Irwell militia, finally passed this house.

Friday, Dec. 18.—The bill for the relief of debtors whose real estate may be sold on execution, was rejected: Mr. McEntire, from a select committee, reported a bill for the better organization of Rutherford county courts: the petition of Jonas Clark, of Mecklenburg, was rejected, after an unsuccessful attempt by Mr. Davidson to procure a favorable consideration of it: a long time was spent on the new Bank bill.

Saturday, Dec. 19.—The com. of finance reported against the expediency of the State's asking a loan of the State Bank, on a deposit of Treasury Notes, in anticipation of a deficiency in the Revenue for the next year: the bill to authorize the several county courts to alter the names of persons, on application, passed this House.

Monday, Dec. 21.—The judiciary com. reported adverse to disqualifying justices of the peace from being security on Constables' bonds; as also against compelling defendants, where they make a general issue in suits on contracts, &c. to do so on oath.

Tuesday, Dec. 22.—The subject of the subject, reported against making a provision for a Map of the State. Mr. Davidson presented a bill concerning the Catawba Navigation Company: Mr. Burgin offered a resolution for an appropriation of \$1500, to improve the road from Pleasant Garden in Burke, to N. Birchfield's on the Blue Ridge. Mr. Mitchell, from the com. of inter. improvement, reported against making an appropriation to improve the road from Wilkesboro, via Trapp Hill, to the Virginia lead mine road. Mr. Johnson made a motion, that witnesses summoned before justices of the peace, be paid. Mr. Montgomery of Orange, offered a resolution to request our Senators and Representatives in Congress to resist the re-chartering of the U. S. Bank. The bill to increase the tax on Gates across public roads, was postponed indefinitely.

House of Commons: Wednesday, Dec. 16.—Mr. Polk presented a bill to authorize Tho. L. Cowan, to erect certain gates, which passed 3 readings, and was ordered to be enrolled. The bill concerning the 1st regt. Stokes militia; and the bill relative to the passage of fish up Peedee and Yadkin rivers, finally passed this house.

Thursday, Dec. 17.—Mr. Bethel presented a bill to disqualify members of assembly from holding any lucrative office; Mr. Wiseman, a bill to amend the act incorporating the town of Lexington, Davidson county: Mr. Neill, from a select committee, reported, in relation to the Hickory Nut Gap road, that the commissioners had faithfully expended the money heretofore appropriated for said road: the com. of finance reported as inexpedient, the taxing of incomes held by citizens of this state in corporations chartered by the State. A long time was spent on the new county bill.

Friday, Dec. 18.—Mr. Wyche, from the committee of finance, recommended the rejection of the bill to amend a part of the 4th section of the revenue law of 1829, concurred in by the balance of the day was spent on unimportant private business, and the new county bill.

Saturday, Dec. 19.—Mr. Cannon proposed an inquiry as to the practicability of closing the session of the legislature the present month: the petition of sundry citizens of Haywood, relative to a road in that county, was rejected: the committee of Internal Improvement reported adverse to the resolution relative to a Rail Road from Fayetteville to Campbellton, the condition of the funds not warranting any appropriation for that purpose.

the same com. reported adverse to an appropriation for a road in Buncombe.

Monday, Dec. 21.—Mr. Lorenz presented a bill concerning working on the roads in Lincoln county; Mr. Swain, a bill concerning the Buncombe turpicks company; Mr. Stokes, a bill relative to the appointment of certain general and field officers. Mr. O'Brien offered certain resolutions, for requesting of the General Government 100 muskets and two brass field pieces, for Capt. Patridge's contemplated Military Institution at Oxford. Mr. Newland offered a bill to authorize the sale of certain Cherokee lands in Macon county.

Tuesday, Dec. 22.—Mr. Alexander presented a bill to amend the present militia laws in relation to Volunteer Companies: Mr. Swain presented a bill to improve the road from Old Fort in Burke, to Asheville in Buncombe. Mr. Pearson presented a resolution calling the attention of Congress to making provision against counterfeiting Bills, &c. on the U. S. Bank, which was laid on the table.

FOREIGN NEWS.

LIFE FROM EUROPE.

By the ships Charlemagne from Havre, and Wm. Thompson from Liverpool, the New York Enquirer has received French papers to 21st, and English to 16th of November.

England. The King has been indisposed, but only slightly.

France.—Count de Bourdonnaye has resigned his office as minister of the interior, and Baron Muntzel is appointed a member of Privy Council.

Austria.—The Courier Francaise says: Diplomatic communications between Austria and England are very active at this moment. It is added that the two Cabinets of London and Austria approximate to Russia, and to draw her into a new Holy Alliance, of which the Emperor Nicholas would not form a part.

Turkey and Russia.—It appears that a misunderstanding has arisen between the Turkish and Russian Plenipotentiaries at Adrianople. At least, so says the Augsburgh Gazette. The Pacha of Scutari declared to Genl. Diebitzsch (in the early part of Oct.) that he would give him time till the 15th, to evacuate Adrianople, and that unless he complied, he would be forcibly driven out. The Pacha obey no orders—the Grand Vizier at Chumia has refused to give up the seals of the Empire. Another conspiracy against the life of the Sultan has been detected.

We learn by letters from Adrianople, that Gen. Diebitzsch has given orders to Gen. Krassowsky to hold himself in readiness to attack the Pacha of Scutari, in case he should disobey his command. As the Pacha of Scutari is occupied by the Turkish troops, a deputation to Gen. Diebitzsch, to implore him to prevent the entrance of the Pacha, so greatly is he dreaded on account of his cruelty. A considerable number of families intend to quit the city if the Pacha should occupy it, as they know that he is not likely to respect the amnesty promised by the Sultan. Gen Diebitzsch who is well acquainted with the character of the Pacha of Scutari, has taken measures to reduce him by force, if such a course should become necessary.

Greece.—It is stated in an article from the Ionian Islands, that an armistice de facto has been established between the Greeks and Turks of the continent.

Spain.—It is stated in a letter dated Madrid, Nov. 6, that a corps of 4,500 men is about to embark for Cuba.

Portugal.—Don Miguel wants a wife—it is said that he has made proposals to a Sardinian Princess.

State Bank.—The following is an abstract of the situation of the Bank of North Carolina, on the 19th May, 1829: specie, \$40,792, 24; foreign notes and bills of exchange, \$460,663, 30; foreign bank credits, 138,651, 49; Augusts and State Bank stock taken for debt, \$28,340; Due from the State of North Carolina, \$86,340; Due from Individuals, \$2,305,102.07; Stock unpaid, \$1,450; Real estate in Banking houses and lands taken for debt, \$130,720.09; Internal bills and checks, \$15,213, 29; Total, \$3,246,965, 08.

Cape Fear Bank.—Specie, \$43,520; Notes of the Bank of the United States, \$2,152; funds at the north, \$116, 055; Due by Banks in North Carolina, \$134; Notes of other Banks and deposits bearing interest \$7,929; Notes of other Banks on hand, not at interest, \$29,924; bills of exchange \$24,472; real estate, including Banking houses &c. \$20,756; Debt, consisting of Notes discounted and Judgments, \$996,001; total \$1,375,214.

Bank of Newbern.—Amount of Bonds, notes, &c. due the parent Bank, its branches and agencies, \$113,214 dollars; Stock taken to secure debt due the institution 4,020 dollars; specie, 36,087 dollars 33 cts. real estate, 46,000 dollars; amount due from other Banks 20,000; Total, 1,774,588; Dols. 33 cts.

Washington.—Mr. Causici received \$10,000 for the statue, recently placed on the Washington monument in Baltimore. He was engaged on it sixteen months.

Salisbury:

JANUARY 5, 1830.

The Hon. John C. Calhoun, Vice President of the U. S. arrived in Washington, on Friday, the 11th ult.; and took his seat, as President of the Senate, on Monday, the 14th.

Public Documents.—From the length of the Fourth Auditor's Report on the Accounts of the Navy Department, we are obliged to defer its publication till next week. In the preceding columns of this day's paper, will be found a summary of the contents of the Reports from the Secretary of War, Secretary of the Treasury, and Post Master General, as soon as we can find room, we will give the substance of these able and interesting documents more in detail.

THE SENATORIAL ELECTION.

The following extract of a letter, from a member of Assembly to his friend in Caswell county, is published in the Milton Gazette.

"Raleigh, Dec. 9, 1829.

"DEAR SIR: You will see from the newspapers of this place, that we progress rather slowly in business; the truth is, the members generally took so much interest in the Senatorial Election, that they could not attend as they ought, to other concerns. After balloting once or twice every day, for ten days, you may suppose that the members became very much worn out with it. At the 12th balloting, Gen. Stokes withdrew, and the name of Col. Charles Fisher was put in nomination. Mr. Fisher's run was a very fine one, and greatly alarmed the friends of Mr. Meares. On the 3d balloting, however, he fell off some votes, which was occasioned by a circumstance well understood here:—Judge Donnell's friends had consented to withdraw him on Monday morning, and a number of Mr. F's friends agreed to vote for him to give him a respectable vote to withdraw with fully intending to return to Mr. Fisher on the next balloting. But matters took a different turn. When Judge Donnell was withdrawn, our friend, Mr. Brown, came out, and this left every thing as far from a conclusion, as ever; and, but for the magnanimous course of Mr. Fisher, we might be balloting yet for a week to come. Mr. Fisher, called aside some of his friends, and told them that he had made up his mind to withdraw; his friends strongly opposed the step, but he said it must be so, and it was accordingly done, and Mr. Brown was elected on the first balloting.

Mr. Fisher, by his manly course on this occasion, has done himself great credit; nothing but a decisive movement of this sort, could save the party, and give the republicans and the West, a Senator; and lucky for us, that we had to deal with a man who was capable of making the sacrifice of personal distinction, for the good of the cause. I believe if Mr. Fisher could have come single handed with Mr. Meares, he would have beat him; but I believe he is very well satisfied as it is, as he offered with great reluctance, saying, that his private affairs, rendered the step improper. I have been thus full in giving you the history of this contest, thinking you would be glad to hear the whole. Your Friend,

PENITENTIARY IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Mr. Fisher, member from this town, submitted, in the House of Commons, on the 15th inst. the following resolution:

Resolved, That the joint select committee on that part of the Governor's Message which relates to the establishment of a Penitentiary, be instructed to enquire into the expediency of appointing some intelligent person to visit the Penitentiaries of other States, for the purpose of collecting facts and information concerning the system, particularly as to the best plans for the buildings, the arrangement of the cells and construction of the workshops; as to the sum that may be necessary to complete an establishment suited to North Carolina; as to the discipline and management of the same; as to the species of manufactures best suited for the interior of a Penitentiary in this State, and generally, such other information as is calculated to explain the operations and usefulness of the System, in other States.

In introducing this Resolution, Mr. Fisher observed, (says the Register) that from what they had heard of the experience of the Penitentiary System in several of our Sister States, he believed that the people of this State were generally favorably impressed in respect to it. Indeed, there could be no doubt that justice, humanity and sound policy called loudly for an amelioration of our Criminal Code. But, however desirable the proposed change in our System may be, he should be unwilling to undertake it without more particular information on the subject than we at present possess, and he had therefore submitted this Resolution. He had no doubt that under our present system, many criminals escaped punishment altogether, from the unwillingness of juries to take the lives of their fellow-creatures, for any thing short of murder in the first degree; but they would have no hesitation to put such offenders to hard labour and solitary imprisonment. Fifteen or twenty years ago, Mr. F. said,

this subject underwent a thorough discussion in our Legislature, and was then rejected by the casting vote of the Speaker of the Senate. Since that period, considerable improvements have been introduced both in the mode of erecting Penitentiaries and in the management of them. They are now found to be not only best calculated to graduate the punishment of crimes, to do away in a great degree the sacrifice of life, and afford offenders an opportunity of reformation, but are also the cheapest mode of punishing offenders, to the Government. In some of the States, indeed, the labour of their Prisoners, have afforded a profit to the public, after defraying all the expenses of the Establishment. Mr. F. added, that as the State would in a few years have nearly half a million of dollars liberated from the existing Banks, a part of it would not, he thought, be better employed than in erecting a Penitentiary.

Thomas Dew, Esq. of Rutherfordton, has been elected Major of Cavalry, in the 10th brigade. Peter O. Pica, has been elected Brigadier General of the 13th brigade; Nathan B. Whitfield, Brigadier General of the 13th brigade. John J. Paster, has been elected Brigadier General of the 3d brigade.

The Hon. Messrs. Carson and Cawley will accept our respectful acknowledgements, for the Public Documents with which they have favored us.

The Senate of Virginia adjourned on Saturday, 19th ult. over till 1st Monday in this month.

Georgia Statistics.—In the Georgia legislature, there are 89 farmers, 2 farmers and mechanics, 29 lawyers, 12 doctors, 6 merchants, 3 mechanics, 1 steam-boat agent, and 7 absent, 100 of them are married; 15 bachelors, and 3 widowers; the oldest is 59, the youngest 22.

The Mail, &c.—It is very seldom we utter any complaints in relation to the Post Office and the Mail; for we are well apprised of the extreme difficulty, and in fact impossibility, of giving satisfaction to all who have business connected in any way with that department. Irregularities, which are caused by the mere accidents, and the most unavoidable of casualties, are not unfrequently attributed, either from ignorance or malice, to gross negligence on the part of the agents of government. We know something about the complexity of the Post-Office concerns; and of the hopeless chance which those intrusted with their management, have of escaping frequent censure. Hence, we can feel the injustice which is often done to postmasters and mail contractors, in the reiterated complaints made against them; and are less disposed, therefore, to mingle our voice in the general chorus of complaint.

But the irregular arrival, at this place, of the Washington City papers,—especially the United States Telegraph, which, at this season particularly, is the most valuable journal we take,—is a source of so much vexation, that we are induced to break silence on the subject. We generally get our latest intelligence of the proceedings of Congress, either through the Alexandria Gazette, the Richmond, Petersburg, Norfolk, and sometimes Raleigh papers; and it has so happened, that we have read later Washington news in the New-York papers, than we were enabled to do in the Washington papers themselves.

The New-York Courier and Enquirer, of the eighteenth of December, reached Salisbury, in the due course of the mail, on Christmas day, the 23d,—which came this year on Friday, although, according to the Messrs. Gale's Almanac, it is to happen next time on Thursday, whereby old Time is made to "advance one step backwards," as a Georgia militia captain would say.—The paper was received just at the moment when our edificatory gave token by the snuffing up of divers savoury odors, that we were to enjoy the (to a Printer) luxury of dining on a fat turkey; of course, with a fresh New-York ENQUIRER in our hands, only eight days from the great commercialemporium of the New World, our appetite craving none of the dainties on the dinner table, and the contents of the paper were devoured; for we would not forego the "feast of reason and flow of soul" which that interesting journal always affords, for the most sumptuous Christmas dinner, with a beggar's appetite to give it the greater relish. While the latest UNITED STATES TELEGRAPH, a paper which we read with equal interest and profit, which came to hand on the aforementioned day, was of the 5th inst. of December, not so late by three days as the New-York paper, although the last mentioned is more than 300 miles farther to travel than the other. Indeed, it is quite common to receive by the same mail, the Enquirer of later date than the Telegraph.

We cannot divine the cause of these irregularities. From the systematic manner in which the business of the Telegraph office is transacted, the substantial envelopes used in packing, it is not reasonable to presume the fault lies in the mode of conveying the papers to Salisbury. We are not, however, to be suspected of any delinquency in this particular, besides the vigilance and promptness with which the Post Master discharges the duties of his office, the fact that the papers do not arrive at this office regularly, is conclusive as to blamelessness.

We make these observations with the hope that they may induce an investigation which will lead to the detection, and a consequent correction, of the irregularity complained of.