

MISCELLANY.

OUR COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

Some days ago we received a letter from a respectable Southern Subscriber, requesting us to publish "a list of the different countries with which, under treaty, we are in our commercial affairs on an equality." A document of this description, he writes, has long been wanted, and he has never seen one; in consequence of which, in making a shipment (unless after much research) very few know whether they must pay foreign duty or not.

We have taken trouble to obtain, from authentic sources, the information which our correspondent desires. Although his request was confined to equalization of duties by Treaty, it has been thought best to add to it the cases of equalization by legislation and proclamation, promising that that information also would be acceptable to our readers. The whole information, we have been able to collect from authentic sources, is contained in the following statement:

1. The vessels of the U. States, and their cargoes, are, by Treaty, admitted upon the same terms with National vessels, into the ports of the following Nations:

- Great Britain, by Treaty of 24 July 1815, continued in 1816 and 1827.
Central America, 5th December 1825.
Denmark, 25th April 1826.
Sweden and Norway, 4th July 1827.
Hanseatic Towns, 29th December 1827.
Brazil, 1st May 1828.
Brazil, 12th December 1828.

2. By an act of Congress of 7th Jan. 1826, discriminating duties of tonnage and impost are suspended in the ports of the United States, as respects the vessels of:

- Russia,
The Netherlands, and
Sardinia.

This suspension to continue as long as a similar exemption shall be allowed to vessels of the U. States in the ports of those nations.

3. The vessels of the following nations are admitted into the ports of the U. States, upon the same footing with national vessels, by virtue of Proclamations issued by the President of the United States, under the authority vested in him by an Act of Congress of 24th May, 1828, upon his receiving satisfactory evidence that the same exemption is allowed to the vessels of the U. States in the ports of those nations.

- Grand Duchy of Oldenburg, by Proclamation of 19th Sept. 1830.
Austria, do. 24 June, 1830.
Kingdom of Hanover, do. 1st July, 1837.
Dominions of the Pope, do. 7th July, 1837.

The Tariff—A good augury.—A correspondent of the Banner of the Constitution, residing in Centre county, Pennsylvania, who is said by the Editor to be a gentleman of respectability, says that a powerful effect, in relation to the restrictive system, has been produced upon the public mind in that quarter, through the instrumentality of that paper. He states that several associations had been organized in different townships of Centre and Clearfield counties, called working men's societies; that they meet every Saturday evening and read, and discuss various political subjects—general education—the banking system—lotteries—tariff system—State rights—the powers of the general government, &c.—that the society of which he is a member always have one or more copies of the Banner of the Constitution before them; that they read and form their own opinion, without suffering themselves to be influenced by the "selfish bellowing" of would-be great men; and they have all become anti-tariff, though but short time ago they were all the other side. A meeting of delegates from the several societies was recently held. At this meeting the subject of the tariff system was taken up, and all the delegates were against it.

The following anecdote, related by the writer, shows how fruitless are the efforts of Mr. Clay's friends to destroy the popularity of the President, wherever the means of correct information are at hand:

The price of iron has very much fallen in Pittsburgh lately, and some of the iron masters who are favorable to the American System, are using that fact to frighten our country farmers from the support of Jackson. One of these (a German) came to me the other day: "What," said he, "is the news? they say Jackson is going to ruin the country; he is allowing English iron to come in so cheap that all our iron works will be broken up, and Pennsylvania will go to destruction." I told him "Jackson had not meddled with the price of iron. Congress had taken some of the duty off of tea, coffee, molasses, &c. will you be ruined if you get tea and coffee cheaper than ever you got it before?" He said "No, sure not"—will you be ruined if you get your iron for your plough, harrows and horse shoes for three cents a pound, when now you pay five cents?" "No," well, said he, "what is all this noise about?" "Why," said I, "the English are sending their iron over here cheaper

than our iron masters will make it, and they want you to turn Jackson out and put Clay in, and he may increase the tax on English iron, so that you must pay 100 dollars a ton instead of 75 dollars." Says he, "what right has he or any body else to make us pay more for a thing than we can get it for? I will stick to Jackson, I know he was good stuff."

Letter from Thomas Jefferson to John Adams.

A friend has obligingly selected for us the following letter of Thomas Jefferson, written seven years since. The letter will be read with much interest at this time, and this passage we have italicized will no doubt leave on the mind of the reader a lasting impression of the depth of intellect and accuracy of observation which were the characteristics of the illustrious author.

Albany, 25th Sept. 1823.

Mantoloking, September 4, 1823.

"Dear Sir—Your letter of August the 15th was received in due time, and with the welcome of every thing which comes from you. With its opinions on the difficulties of revolutions from despotism to freedom, I very much concur. The generation which commences a revolution, very rarely completes it. Habituated from their infancy to passive submission of body and mind to their Kings and Priests, they are not qualified, when called on, to think and provide for themselves; and their inexperience, their ignorance and bigotry make them instruments often in the hands of the Buona partes and Iurgides, to defeat their own rights and purposes. This is the present situation of Europe and Spanish America. But it is not desperate. The light which has been shed on mankind by the art of printing, has eminently changed the condition of the world. As yet, the light has dawned on the middling classes only of the men in Europe. The Kings and the rabble, of equal ignorance, have not yet received its rays, but it continues to spread, and while printing is preserved, it can no more recede than the sun returns on its course. A first attempt to recover the right of self-government may fail; so may a second; a third &c. But as a younger and more instructed race comes on, the sentiment becomes more and more intensive, and a fourth, a fifth, or some subsequent one of the ever renewed attempts will ultimately succeed. In France, the first effort was defeated by Robespierre, the second by Bonaparte, the third by Louis XVIII. and his allies, another is yet to come, and all Europe, Russia excepted, has caught the spirit; and all will attain representative government, more or less perfect. This is now well understood to be a necessary check on kings, whom they will probably think it more prudent to change and tame than to exterminate. To obtain all this, rivers of blood must flow, and years of desolation pass over; yet the object is worth rivers of blood and years of desolation. For what inheritance so valuable can man leave to his posterity? The spirit of the Spaniard, and his deadly and eternal hate to a Frenchman, give me such confidence that he will never submit, but finally defeat this atrocious violation of the laws of God and man, under which he is suffering; and the wisdom and firmness of the Cortes afford reasonable hope, that that nothing will settle down in a temperate representative government, with an executive properly subordinated to that, Portugal, Italy, Prussia, Germany, Greece, will follow suit. You and I shall look down from another world on these glorious achievements of man, which will add to the joys even of Heaven. TH. JEFFERSON."

HOLY INFLUENCE.

The following paragraphs are from an article in the New Monthly Magazine, purporting to be from the pen of a Chamois Hunter.

"The Chamois has been confined by its Maker to those icy places of Nature, amidst which that Maker's presence is more immediately and sensibly felt. It has always struck me that the ocean is the fittest emblem, and conveys the deepest impression of God's immensity and eternity, the Alps, of his unapproachable power and everlasting unvariableness. In the sea, wave succeeds wave forever and forever; billow swells upon billow, and you see no end thereof. But magnificent a spectacle as ocean ever is, at all times, and under all aspects, it still cannot be enjoyed without some alloy. It must be seen either from a ship in which man enters much; or from the land, which again breaks the entry of the idea.

"The effect of the scenes among which the chamois hunter lives, is weakened by no such intrusion as this. Man's works enter not there. From the moment he quits the chalet in which he has taken his short rest, until his return, he sees no traces of man; but dwells amid scenery stamped only with its Creator's omnipotence and immutability. Nature is always interesting. Elsewhere she is lovely, beautiful; here she is awful, sublime. Elsewhere she shrouds all things in a temporary repose, again to clothe them in surpassing beauty and verdure. But here there is no change; such as the first winter beheld them, after they sprang from the hands of their Great Architect, such they still are—like himself, unchangeable and unapproachable.

Nor summer's heat, nor winter's cold, have any effect on their everlasting hues; nor can the track or works of man stain the purity of their unmelting snows! His voice may not even reach that upper air to disturb the "sacred calm that breathes around"—that silly silence which holds for ever, save when the lawine wakes it with the voice of thunder! In such situations it is impossible not to feel as far elevated in mind as in body, above the petty cares, the frivolous pursuits "the low ambition," of this nether world. If any one desire really to feel that all is vanity here below; if he wish to catch a glimpse of the yet undeveloped capabilities of his nature, of those mysterious longings, after which the heart of man so vainly yet so earnestly aspires; let him wander the higher Alps, and alone.

"Scenes like this must be seen and felt; they cannot be described. Languages were formed in the plain; and they have no words adequately to represent the sensations which all must have experienced among mountain scenery. A man may pass all his life in towns and the haunts of men, without knowing he possesses within him such feelings as a single day's chamois hunting will awaken. A lighter and a purer air is breathed there; and the body being invigorated by exercise and temperance, renders the mind more capable of enjoyment. Though earthly sounds there are none, I have often remarked, amid this solemn silence, and undefinable hum which yet is no sound, but seems as it were, the still small voice of nature communing with the heart, through other senses than we are conscious of possessing.

"If ever my earthly spirit has been roused to a more worthy contemplation of the Almighty Author of Creation, it has been at such moments as these; when I have looked around on a vast amphitheatre of rocks torn by ten thousand storms, and of Alps clothed with the spotless mantle of everlasting snow. Above me, was the clear blue vault of heaven, which at such elevation seems so perceptibly nearer and more azure far below me, the glacier, from whose chilled bosom issues the future river, which is there commencing its long course to the ocean; high over head those icy pinnacles on which countless winters have spread their dazzling honors; who is there that could see himself surrounded by objects such as these, and not feel his soul elevated from Nature's God? Yes, land of the mountain and the torrent! land of the glacier and the avalanche! who would wander amidst thy solitudes of unrivalled magnificence without catching a portion, at least, of the inspiration they are so calculated to excite? I wonder not that thy sons, cradled among thy even matchless scenery, should cling with such filial affection to the mountain breast that nursed them and veers for their native cot amid the luxuries of foreign cities; when even a stranger born in softer lands and passing but a few months pilgrimage within thy borders, yet felt himself at once attached to thee as to a second home; nor yet can he without emotion the sounds that remind him of thy hills and freedom."

FROM THE BANNER OF THE CONSTITUTION.

An invention has been lately made in agriculture, which is likely to produce as disastrous an effect in that branch of industry, as the discovery of the spinning-jennies and power looms produced in manufactures. It is a mowing machine, by which, upon level ground, one man can cut down as much grass as twenty men with the common scythe. This invention will throw out of employment so many mowers, that the greatest distress may be anticipated throughout the country, should it be generally adopted. We are decidedly in favor of demolishing this hideous weapon, which reminds us of the picture of Time, in the spelling-book, headed by this memorable couplet:

Time cuts down all, Both great and small.

What can be imagined more alarming at the present day, when agriculture is overdone, than to see nineteen out of twenty men deprived of their means of subsistence by a miserable piece of ingenuity contrived by some inhuman anti-working man's interest rogue? If these labor-saving inventions are allowed to go on, the time will come when not more than one person in a hundred will have any thing to do, and the other ninety-nine will positively starve.

The foregoing is what that class of American System reasoners will say, who look upon employment as every thing, and upon the rate of physical power expended upon any given production, as nothing. These people are perpetually crying out, that the chief cause of the sufferings of the poor in England, arises from the introduction of labor-saving machinery into manufactures. They suppose that if an invention takes place, by which one man can do what it before took ten to perform, the public is injured, and consequently, that all such discoveries are pernicious. These wrong heads, however, we believe, are only to be found in cities and manufacturing towns, where the people are not as clear sighted as they are in the pure air of the country; for we will undertake to assert, that there

is not in the whole land a farmer who would not instantly perceive, that if one of his hands could mow as much grass as it used before to take several hands to mow, he could set the others to do something else, and that consequently all that they produced would be so much in addition to what could have been produced upon the old principle of the scythe.—This addition would not only add to his wealth, but it would enable him to give higher wages than before to his workmen, for if instead of having only one hundred tons of hay, he should have, at the end of the harvest, one hundred tons of hay and a thousand bushels of wheat besides, he could evidently afford to give his laborers a more liberal reward.

It is indeed true, that if a new invention in labor saving is introduced into manufactures, it is possible that a temporary loss of employment might happen to a limited number of people. But this would not last long. The effect of the invention would be to make the article upon which it was applied, cheaper.—Cheapsness would increase consumption, and as consumption, very often augments in a greater ratio than the prices fall, the result might ultimately be, that there would be a demand for more operatives than were originally employed. This has manifestly been the case in regard to the cotton-manufacture. Ten persons are probably this day employed in that branch of industry throughout Europe, for one that was employed 30 years ago. But the most palpable example of the truth of this proposition, is in the case of the art of printing. When that art was first put in practice, it was probably as far behind the art as it exists to day, as it was ahead of the manuscript facilities of that period. Those who obtained their living by the labor of writing, no doubt thought that the discovery of printing would ruin them all, by throwing them out of employment—but what was the result? Why, that for every one who could procure employment as a manuscript book maker, probably a thousand obtained employment as printers, authors, editors, bookbinders, paper makers, type foundry, and in the various occupations which are connected with printing; to say nothing of the countless millions whose employments could be traced to the civilization effected by the wide diffusion of knowledge consequent upon the discovery of the art of printing.

Anecdote of the Mother of General Greene.

Among the many ladies who distinguished themselves, for their patriotism, charity, and other good qualities, in our Revolution, there is one whose name ought not to be forgotten, and who, in my opinion, is equal in merit to any that flourished in our country, and there were many at the time.—About the commencement of our Revolution, and as soon as it was ascertained that Nathaniel Greene, afterwards General Greene, intended to join our army, in defence of his country, a deposition of Friends, (commonly called Quakers, and to whose society he then belonged,) by order of their Meeting, waited on him to endeavor to dissuade him from it, and after listening to all their arguments on the subject, he informed them that he felt an irresistible propensity, not to be got over, from joining his brethren in arms. He thanked them for the interest they had taken in his welfare; but he could not comply with their request. When the deputation took an affectionate leave, and left him, his mother, who had been listening with all the anxiety of a fond parent, used her heat endeavors to prevail on him to stay at home; when he told her it was impossible. After a pause, she burst into tears, with this remarkable observation—"Well Nathaniel, if it must go, it is possible that I may hear of thy death; and if it is God's will that it shall so happen, I hope I shall not have the mortification to hear of thee being wounded in the back." Comment is needless—a Spartan mother could not have said more; but Mrs. Greene stands pre-eminently superior to the mothers of antiquity, as her education was so different—she was bred a Christian.

I got this anecdote on board one of the steamboats, some years since, from an old Quaker gentleman of Rhode Island, who informed me he was a schoolmate of the General's, and that his father and General Greene's were near neighbors.

Mr. Berrien.—The following notice is taken of Mr. Berrien in Robertson's Sketches of Public Characters:

The present Attorney General John McPherson Berrien, is from Georgia, but I understand that he is a native of Philadelphia. He is a most eloquent speaker. In the Senate he was a model for chaste, free, beautiful elocution. He seemed to be the only man that Webster softened his voice to, when he turned from his seat to address him. There is not the slightest dash in his manner; it is as grave as it is pleasant. His views are clear, and he meets the subject manfully. In his arguments there is no rhetorical phrase of his constituents, no tirade or abuse against his opponents, or of the section of country from whence they came. He is said to have been a good

judge on the bench and an excellent lawyer at the bar, and surely he was a honor to his party in the Senate. He is now an Attorney General, and a cabinet counselor, as well as counsel for the cabinet. The public man of all parties has great confidence in him, and he stands fair for higher promotion.



Such is the weakness of the human understanding and the limited extent of its knowledge and experience, that no written charter of powers could possibly be passed free from objections, arising out of a want of language sufficiently plain and simple to express beyond doubt and misapprehension the limits of its grants. We have had a most striking illustration of what we have just said in the various and diversified examinations placed upon the wording of a written constitution. There is scarcely a line of it meeting out the boundaries of the General Government, which has not been at some time or other, a subject of discussion in the National legislature as to its original intent and bearing. With how much beauty and accuracy would have regarded, the great and leading powers of mind that enabled them to rear that most perfect fabric of human ingenuity, and to have isolated the limits of their labors at this day, we can only form an estimate from their own language delivered in repelling objections of a different character (which went to the expediency of the form of government about to be adopted) when they offered that instrument to the people of their country, as the sacred instrument of their collected wisdom. They can perform much difficulty in "interfering upon what powers should be exercised by the General Government and what their limits should be, never could they have expected in the dark hour of their continued anxiety for the fate of this republic, when once they were decided upon, and written on the tablet that they should have been the source of so much division, growing entirely out of the language used to define those powers. To the great and leading points which seem to have brought about the most thorough division in sentiment relative to the powers of the General Government these remarks shall learn, in the distant hope, that our plain understanding unobscured by party feelings or party interests and untrammelled by technical distinctions, may work some good, in affecting a better view of this important subject for the better information of our readers. For those whom we have been early taught to learn from the sovereign source from whence derive and legitimate power in republican governments flows. It is to your watchful vigilance in guarding the outputs of our liberties that we fondly look for the perpetuation of our union and the continuation of the many blessings which have hitherto attended us. We know of no subject of greater moment or of more fearful import than the violation of the plain sense, spirit and principles of the federal constitution that ligament which has hitherto bound us together from the most noble incentives, and would as swiftly wait us, with a continuation of the same pacific and friendly relations, in the highest pitch of elevation in the grades of Nations. We have been repeatedly warned of the danger to which we must inevitably subject ourselves if we persist in giving constructive powers to a constitution of limited grants for special and specified purposes. These fond of drawing inferences and reasoning from analogy they should never choose the constitution of the U. S. as their subject. It is too precious an instrument to be trifled with in that airy, metaphysical manner.

Let us take our plain understandings as the best expositors of that which is written down in plain language, and we need not feel the result. We must not entertain many apprehensions as to which side the majority of the people would lean. At the head of the string of specified powers is thus granted to the Congress of the United States "to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises: To pay the debts and provide for the common defence and General Welfare of the Union." It is under cover of that expression of doubtful import that the federal legislature claim to do all things which can advance the commercial and agricultural prosperity of the Union (to use their own language) and to provide more securely against the dangers of foreign and domestic aggression. If those who put a construction upon those terms isolate them from the parts of the constitution to which they have direct reference, then indeed is there some more plausibility in the arguments used in the support of their version of that instrument. But such is not the fair and received mode of construing the meaning of a particular paragraph or sentence to be found in a body of written regulations. All the parts must be taken together and compared—for one frequently has direct reference to the other, as in this instance. The words, General Welfare, refer only to those powers given by the constitution to the National legislature. Their obvious meaning is, that in legislating upon those subjects over which the power is expressly granted by Congress they shall look to the General welfare