

CONDITIONS.

The FEDERAL REPUBLICAN is published every Saturday by S. HALL, at three Dollars per annum, payable half yearly in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS inserted conspicuously at 50 cents per square for the first insertion, and 25 for each insertion after.

All Advertisements will be continued, until otherwise ordered, & each continuance charged.

No Paper will be discontinued until all arrearages are paid.

Newbern Prices Current. Corrected 1848.

MERCHANDIZE		From	To
		d.	c.
Bacon	Lb.	15	
Beef	none		
Butter	lb.	35	
Bees-Wax	gal.	28	
Brandy, French	gal.	2	50
do Apple		65	
do Peach		80	
Corn	bush.	80	
Meal			
Cotton	lb.	26	26
Coffee		26	
Ordage		12	14
Flour	hbl.	9	10
Flax-Seed	bush.	80	
Gin, Holland	gal.	2	
do Country		20	25
Iron Timber		12	15
Fine Scantling		20	
Plank		12	
Square Timber		1	50
Shingles, 22 inch.		18	
Staves, W. O. hhd.		8	10
do R. O. do		10	
do W. O. bbl.		20	
Heading, W. O. hhd		18	20
Lard	lb.	60	
Molasses	gal.	30	
Tar	bbl.	1	60
Pitch		2	25
Rosin		2	
Turpentine.		40	
do Spirits	gal.	20	
Pork	none		
Rice		1	20
Rum, Jamaica	gal.	1	10
do W. I.		70	75
do American		60	65
Salt Allum	bush.	50	
do Fine		13	50
Sugar	wt	6	
Tobacco			

POLITICAL.

The South American Question.

From the N. Y. Ev. Post of Feb. 19.

The following letter received from one of our correspondents at Washington, presents this important subject in so interesting, so just, and so imposing an aspect, as should command the attention of every man who feels a due concern for his country's welfare.

"The ordinary business before Congress seems to be going on as usual, and quietly—the question of a provision for the surviving officers of the revolutionary army is still depending, and what will be its form or fate is very uncertain."

"There are however, beneath this quiet surface two or three subjects of importance, which may be brought up during the present session, and discussed, with more animation and zeal than hitherto have appeared in the debates of the present winter. No one surrounded by greater difficulties, than that relative to the independence of the patriot colonies."

"It is understood that the president feels no indifference respecting the exertions of these colonies to establish their independence; but that he is nevertheless desirous of pursuing a cautious course relative to them, and which, while it accords with their views, shall not endanger the great interest of the United States."

"With a firm conviction that the independence of these colonies must materially promote the welfare and prosperity of the U. States, and that so long as the war is confined to Spain and the colonies, there is a little probability that Spain will be able to re-establish her dominions over them our policy can hardly be mistaken."

"If no other foreign power interfere, we shall best promote the views of these colonies and best consult our own welfare, by also abstaining from all direct interference in the war, and from every measure, which may not be retracted with honor, or satisfactorily explained."

"It is scarcely to be doubted that the foreign governments have been sounded, and their policy as respects the war between Spain and the colonies, seems to be impartial and neutral. If the United States pursue a different course may not the powers which have charged themselves with the high police of Europe, instead of confining their cares to the old world be disposed to take into consideration the affairs of the new?—Although in a question affecting the honor or essential rights of the nation, we ought not to be deterred by this consideration; yet in a concern, or calculation, of an interest merely eventual, and in which the main interest is that of third party the same should not be altogether disregarded."

"The knowledge, which is possessed by those who are best informed concerning the condition of the Spanish colonies, is surprisingly defective, and a little satisfactory—their situation may be better, and it may be worse, than is supposed to be—and the object of the commissioners sent out by the president, is to obtain full and more precise intelligence on this subject. To adopt any decisive or irrevocable measure respecting the colonies in the present scanty and ambiguous state of information concerning them, and when more authentic information may, at no distant day, be expected, would seem to be evidence of restlessness and rashness, rather than of moderation and prudence."

"It must not, however be imagined, that the most decided friends of the Spanish colonies, are desirous that the U. S. should take a part with them in the war with Spain; on the contrary, they admit the correctness of the policy that enjoins upon the U. States to remain neutral; but they allege, that without acknowledging the independence of these colonies, & thereby establishing between us and them the full relations existing between us and Spain, the neutrality is only nominal, and they illustrate this allegation by facts, and observations, which if not conclusive, are very plausible. Their counsel therefore is, and such, we are told, will be the advice that they will urge on Congress to give to the President, that the United States shall immediately acknowledge the independence of one, or more, of the Spanish colonies, which, it is said are now in the actual possession of independence, and they assert that such acknowledgment is a measure, which can afford no just cause of offence to Spain; and that it is not only consistent with, but absolutely necessary to, an impartial system of neutrality."

"That it is competent for the nation to follow this advice, nobody will doubt; but all must agree that, in doing so, we subject ourselves to all its hazards and uncertainties."

"In the actual posture of affairs, it may be expedient to suffer this complicated subject to remain with the President a little longer, undisturbed by the interference of Congress."

He ought best to understand the temper and the policy of foreign governments; his station enables him to obtain information and his duty requires of him carefully to weigh the contradictory representations concerning the condition of these colonies—His opinions are believed to be friendly to their independence, and the responsibility of his office is favorable to the prudence of his decisions."

"If the President be pressed by Congress to acknowledge the independence of any of the Spanish colonies, and to exchange ministers with them, however innocent this proceeding may be deemed by us to be, and whatever quotations we may make from the writers in public law, to prove our

right, no man can believe that Spain will see our interference in the same just and harmless light."

"According to the colonial system of Spain the trade with her colonies is a monopoly; and their practice under this system has been to seize and confiscate the ships and cargoes of all interlopers found upon the coasts of the colonies."

"In the early part of the last century, England made war upon Spain to oblige her to renounce this practice; she concluded the war without effecting its object, & Spain has since continued it."

Our acknowledgement of the independence of these colonies cannot abridge the rights of Spain, nor restrain her exertions to enforce her laws of trade, or to reduce the colonies to submission."

"But although it may not impair the right of Spain, as respects ourselves, it will place our trade and intercourse with the new states on the same footing as our trade and intercourse with England, France, or any other nation; and our citizens will have the same right to call upon congress to protect them in this new, equally as in any other legitimate branch of navigation and trade."

"This collision could have but one result—some persons see nothing discouraging in a war with Spain; and a war with Spain alone, would not be formidable—but we cannot be certain, nay we can hardly expect in the extraordinary condition of Europe that other powers may not be drawn in to take a part in a war having for its object the separation of the Spanish colonies. The probability of this event is not diminished by the notorious fact that Spain has taken great pains to circulate through the courts of Europe, an opinion that we are seeking an occasion to go to war with her; that we covet her contiguous territory, and indulge in views still more extensive."

"Although we know that this opinion is wholly without foundation, and that the same is a shameful device which Spain makes use of to cover her injustice, in continuing to deny to us an adequate reparation for the multiplied injuries she has done us; still others do not know this fact; and the opinion is on this account, not the less influential in exciting jealousy nor the less likely to lead certain powers to interpose, first their mediation, and their arms in a war brought on our acknowledgment of the independence of the Spanish colonies; and then by the assistance, which by our interference, may become the occasion of Spain's receiving, the difficulties of the colonies may be multiplied, the danger of their subjection increased, and the period of their independence deferred."

"So little are these views the result of timid conjecture, or of a visionary speculation, and therefore unworthy of the consideration of our statesmen, that they are derived from the only analogous case, with whose history we are well acquainted, the case of our own revolution."

"We solicited France to recognize our independence for a long time before she consented to do so. As soon, however as she resolved on the step, instead of relying upon the innocence of the act, and her right to avow it she looked well into the question, not only of what ought to be, but further, of what probably would be the conduct of England, when she should avow her acknowledgement."

Although she might have sent forth a manifesto in justification of her conduct, demonstrating its innocence and proving by citations from writers on the law of nations, that her recognition could afford no just cause of offence to England; still she well understood that it would be unwise and impolitic to rely on the efficacy of manifestoes or to omit those measures of precaution, which in all probability would be, & which

in fact proved to be necessary."

"When, therefore, the ambassador announced to the English government that France had acknowledged the independence of the U. States, he added thus being determined efficaciously to protect the lawful commerce of her subjects, and to maintain the honor of her flag, France had taken with the United States eventual measures for this purpose."—There was dignity in this proceeding, and the event proved that there was equal wisdom."

"Instead then of endeavoring to convince, and to persuade the public, that the acknowledgement of the independence of the Spanish Colonies, is a mere harmless and un consequential act that we may lawfully do, and which ought not, and therefore will not give offence to others; it behoves those who may be called on to examine this subject, to extend their enquiries a little further to look into the influence of the passions on public measures, and to examine what, according to the course of human affairs, allowing to power, to pride, and to the mortification of disappointment, their natural influence, is likely to be the consequence of our acknowledgement of the Independence of the Spanish colonies."

"If this be done, if it still be deemed both just and expedient to make such acknowledgement, the president will forthwith enter into treaties of friendship and commerce with the new states, not to secure to the United States exclusive commercial advantages, but to prevent such advantage being granted to others—Whether he will also conclude with them treaties of alliance, having for their object the establishment of their independence, and engaging mutual co-operation and succor, are questions of the highest political imports, and the discussion of which will call for the most profound deliberation—He will furthermore give prompt and formal notice to Spain, that he has acknowledged the independence of the new states; that he has formed with them treaties of friendship and commerce; and that the U. S. being determined to protect the unlawful commerce of their citizens, and to maintain the honor of their flag, have taken the necessary measures for this purpose."

"Among these measures should be found the immediate re establishment of the internal taxes, including a land tax; the augmentation of the army; and the equipment of the whole naval force."

"He who believes, and endeavors to persuade the country, that the United States can formally acknowledge the independence of the Spanish Colonies without adopting adequate measures of precaution, ought not to be regarded as a safe and experienced counsellor."

"If the United States resolve to acknowledge the independence of the Spanish Colonies—be it so—but let the nation be prepared manfully to maintain their ground when once taken—and instead of indulging in the hope that this can be effected by orations and manifestoes, let them understand that it must be done by defence and by arms."

"That a general sympathy, and universal good wishes in favor of the Spanish Colonies, in the struggle with their unnatural parent do exist, and are cherished throughout the United States, and this too with unexampled unanimity no man who attends to what is passing around him, will entertain a doubt—and any measures which would promote their success without involving the United States in great and complicated difficulties, would be universally approved."

But in the indulgence of these feelings, we must be restrained by a paramount duty—the welfare and safety of our own country, are the objects of our first

and higher care—while the great interests and honor of the United States are violated, it is to their vindication that the government should first attend; and no remote, or mere collateral policy, should divest, or withdraw its regards from this most urgent duty."

"If the essential rights and the sovereignty of the United States have been and continue to be violated by Spain; if after long and patient negotiations, to obtain an adequate reparation of these injuries, Spain not only persists in refusing satisfaction, but from our forbearance, has of late added insolence to her refusal; will the honor of the nation permit a further continuance of this disgraceful negotiation? will not such continuance sink us deeper in humiliation, and embolden Spain to rise still higher, if possible, in the tone of contempt and scorn?"

"Rather than this—let our Minister in Spain be recalled, let all further negotiations both here and there be broken off—let the whole subject be brought before congress, and let them resolve to truckle to Spain, or to prepare to vindicate the national honor."

"It is more than probable, that this course will have its proper effect on the Spanish councils—those who know them best, will least doubt, a pacific and satisfactory result—Should it prove otherwise the interim will have been employed in those measures, which after this proceeding, cannot be omitted—and the war will call for only a short exposition, to satisfy the world of its justice."

"In such a war, just and necessary, we cannot presume that any other nation will interfere against us; nor doubt, that by the vigour of our arms, and the favor of Heaven, it will be prosecuted to a speedy and honorable issue."

"If Spain force us into a war let South America remember that the enemy of her enemy, is more than half her friend."

From the Genesee, N. Y. Farmer Feb. 19

Self immolation.—The following account of the sacrifice of a Hindoo woman, on the funeral pile of her husband, may be relied on as authentic. It is an extract of a letter from Mrs. S. T. Newton, a resident in Calcutta, to her friends in this country, one of whom has politely favored us with a copy for publication.—Mrs. Newton is a native of Pittsfield, Mass. where her parents now reside.

"CALCUTTA, June 18, 1817.

"I open my letter, my dearest friends, to tell you I have witnessed one of the most extraordinary and horrid scenes ever performed by human beings, namely, the self immolation of a woman on the funeral pile of her husband—This dreadful sacrifice has made an impression on my mind that years will not efface. I thank my God that I was born in a Christian land and instructed in the Christian religion."

This event is so recent, I can hardly compose myself sufficiently to relate it. Last night I could not close my eyes, nor could I drive this martyred woman from my recollection. I am almost sick to day, and I am sure you will not wonder at it. But this ceremony is so much celebrated, and by my countrymen so much doubted, that I was resolved to see if such deeds could be. I have seen and the universe would not induce me to be present on a similar occasion. I cannot realize what I have seen. It seems like a horrible dream."

Yesterday morning at 7 o'clock this woman was brought in a palanquin to the place of sacrifice. It is on the banks of the Ganges, two miles only from Calcutta. Her husband had been previously brought to the river to expire. His disorder was hydropic—(think of the agony this must have occasioned him.) He had now