

# NEWBERN SENTINEL.

BY JOHN A. BACKHOUSE.

LIBERTY...THE CONSTITUTION...UNION.

At \$3 Per Annum, in advance.

NEWBERN, N. C.—VOL. XXI—NO. 36.

WEEKLY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1837

**TERMS**  
The Sentinel is published weekly at \$3 per annum payable in advance.  
Advertisements, by the year, \$15.00 for two squares or less; and five dollars for each additional square. By the number, 75 cts. for the first insertion, 37 1/2 for each continuation.  
No subscription received for less than six months, and no paper discontinued until all arrearages are paid, except at the discretion of the Editor.  
On all letters addressed to the Editor, the postage must be paid.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

From the Texas Telegraph.  
GEOGRAPHY OF TEXAS.

**County of Bexar.**—This county is a portion of the former jurisdiction of Bexar, its boundaries have not been defined. This description will be confined to the section of country comprised between the valley of the Rio Frio and the eastern border of the valley of the Sibiolo, embracing the valleys of the Medina, the San Antonio and the Sibiolo, which for fertility of soil, salubrity of climate and beautiful scenery may be considered the garden of Texas.

**Surface.**—The whole section is a continuous series of undulations forming what is termed the rolling prairie, except a small portion at the north a few miles above Bexar where a range of hills extends from north east to south west, across the county, forming a dividing ridge between the Guadalupe and Medina. The streams are generally lined with narrow borders of forests. The remainder of the county is open, and decorated with numerous scattered Mesquite trees and post oak groves which generally crown the summits of the rolling swells.

**Streams.**—The San Antonio, Medina, Sibiolo and Salado are the principal streams. The San Antonio is formed of four springs which issue from the foot of a small eminence four or five miles above Bexar and among their waters about a mile above this city, form a river fifty yards wide and four or five feet deep; this stream is very rapid, it flows over a pebbly bed and its waters are remarkably pure and wholesome, such is their transparency that small fish may be seen distinctly at the depth of ten feet. The Medina is about a hundred miles longer than the San Antonio; above its junction with this stream, it is however quite narrow, being generally for a hundred miles above its mouth only a few yards wide, it is a sluggish stream flowing over a marly bed. The Sibiolo resembles the Medina, but is considerably smaller; it flows over a rocky bed, and its water is remarkably clear and wholesome. The Salado is a short rapid stream, flowing over a marly bed; its waters like all the streams of this section, are sweet clear and wholesome.

**Mineral Waters.**—Near the Sibiolo about thirty-three miles from Bexar, is a mineral spring, its waters have for ages been held in high estimation by the aborigines for their medicinal qualities.

**Minerals.**—Great quantities of limestone are found in all parts of this section; flint and several varieties of sandstone abound on the San Antonio and Sibiolo. Here are also numerous beds of a natural cement, resembling slacked lime; which when formed into mortar, becomes hard as stone, and is much used as a building material.

**Soil and Productions.**—The soil consists generally of a dark sandy loam, exceedingly rich and productive. Some of this has been cultivated more than fifty successive years, and yet seems to have lost none of its original fertility. The facilities of irrigation are such in the valleys of these streams that their waters may easily be directed over a surface of one million of square acres, capable of producing the most abundant crops of corn, cotton, tobacco, indigo, sugar, rye, oats, millet, and various culinary vegetables; wheat also was formerly raised in considerable quantities. The Mesquite grass carpets the whole section and continues green throughout the whole year, furnishing a never failing pasturage.

The Nopal or Prickly Pear abounds in this section, and often forms dense impenetrable hedges, eight or ten feet high, and covering whole acres of ground. Its fruit attains an extraordinary size and possesses an excellent flavor.

**Forest Trees.**—There are few varieties of forest trees, the Live Oak predominates, the Pecan also is abundant and its fruit is exceedingly large. Cypress is found on the Medina, the Mesquite tree is thinly scattered over the whole county; this is a "species of the locust," generally about the size of a Peach tree and bearing a long slender pod sweet to the taste and often used by the Indians for food, this tree also yields excellent gum, like gum arabic. Beside these, there are the Red Oak and Post Oak.

**Towns.**—Bexar, the county seat is the only town. It is situated on both sides of the San Antonio, about twenty miles above its junction with the Medina, and is one of the oldest towns in North America, containing many ancient structures which recall to mind its former greatness, and the many vicissitudes of fortune which have characterized its singular and interesting history. It contained a few years since eight or ten thousand inhabitants, the present population is only about one thousand. Nature seems to have destined it to become one of the first cities of America.

The Alamo is situated at the north east part of the town on the left bank of the river. It is a tradition prevalent in Texas, that Bexar derives its name from the Spanish word *Abajo*, and that it was applied to this town in consequence of a swarm of bees having formed their hives in the temple of the great Church, at the precise period that the first Anglo-Americans settled in Texas; the tradition also states, that bees had never been seen in the country previous to this identical period. There is probably more of romance than truth in this tradition, as the transatlantic archetype of Bexar has existed in Old Spain for centuries.

is a large oblong walled enclosure containing about an acre of ground; the wall is about eight or ten feet high and three thick. Since the fall of Travis and his heroic band it has been dismantled; and no longer a fortress, it remains to designate the Thermopylae of Texas.

Below Bexar scattered along the banks of the river are many large and beautiful edifices, built of massive stone. They are styled Mission and generally consist of a fortress and a church. In these the pious fathers of former days with the sword in one hand and the Bible in the other, gathered the wild bands of the prairie to bend the knee at the shrine of the Holy Virgin.

Most of the inhabitants of this county are of Mexican descent. Emigrants from the eastern part of Texas, and the United States are now continually arriving with their families, and there is every reason to believe that in a few years this county will contain a more dense population than any other portion of Texas.

**Climate.**—The climate of this region is delightful and probably not surpassed by that of any portion of the Globe. The summers are never oppressively warm, but are admirably tempered by cool refreshing sea breezes which prevail during the warm season, the winters are exceedingly pleasant and comfortable; snow scarcely ever falls even to the depth of an inch, and although most of the rainy weather occurs during winter there are but very few cloudy days. Indeed such is the salubrity of the climate that previous to the war, there were many Mexicans who had resided in the vicinity of Bexar, for more than a century, and still enjoyed excellent health.

**Austin County.**—Is bounded on the North by Washington county, on the East by Harrisburg county, on the South by Brazoria county, and on the West by Colorado county. No official return has yet been furnished of its specific limits. The little Caney forms a part of its Northern boundary, Big Creek a part of its Southern, and the main fork of St. Bernard, the Western boundary.

**Streams.**—The Brazos flows through the Eastern part of this county. Its principal Western branches are the Little Caney, Mill Creek, Williams' Creek and Jones' Creek; a few small Eastern branches of the San Bernard flow through the Western part. The water of all these creeks, especially that of Mill Creek, is sweet and wholesome.

**Surface.**—This county is uniformly level at the South, but gently undulating at the North. All the streams, even those quite small, are lined with forests from a few rods to three or four miles wide. The remainder of the county is an open prairie.

**Forest Trees.**—These are principally Live Oak, White, Red and Post Oak, Pecan, Cottonwood, Ash, Elm and Holly.

**Soil and Productions.**—The soil of the northern and eastern portion is of an excellent quality, yielding in ordinary seasons, of corn 60 bushels to the acre, of cotton from 500 to 800 lbs. of ginned cotton; of sweet potatoes 300 bushels; Irish 100 bushels; two crops of these last are frequently raised in one season. The soil of the western and southwestern part, is somewhat sandy and much less productive than the eastern portion. Between the San Bernard and the Brazos is an immense open prairie, the soil of which is better adapted to pasturage than tillage. Rye, oats and millet thrive well; and peaches, figs and melons are produced in abundance.

**Towns.**—The principal settlements are along the Mill and Caney Creeks, and the Brazos. There are no large towns. San Philippe de Austin, the county seat and formerly the capital of the Brazos jurisdiction, is situated on the west bank of the Brazos, at the northeast corner of an extensive prairie about 70 miles above Columbia. It contained 600 inhabitants at the commencement of the war; at the approach of Mexican army, it was fired by one of its own citizens, who, Farthian like, preferred to behold his home a desert rather than the shelter of a Tyrant. It is now slowly rising from its ruins, and promises to attain its former size in the course of a few years.

Richmond, situated at Fort Bend, on the west bank of the Brazos; thirty-five miles below San Felipe, and the same distance above Columbia, at the present head of navigation on the Brazos, is a place of considerable importance and promises to become one of the largest inland towns in Texas. Its site is part of an elevated beautiful prairie, the soil of which is very fertile and productive.

The inhabitants of this county are mostly settlers from the southern and western states of the Union; many however are from New England. They generally enjoy excellent health, especially those residing on the San Bernard, the Caney, Mill and Williams' creeks. The whole population of the county is about 2000.

**Climate.**—The climate is so uniformly temperate, the ordinary clothing of the New England, and middle States is used by the inhabitants as the ordinary clothing of the country. The summer skies are remarkably serene and beautiful and are occasionally diversified by towering piles of 'Thunder clouds' careering along the water courses, and shedding down gentle refreshing showers. The heat of summer is seldom oppressive, as a sea breeze springs up almost with the regularity of sunrise, increases in strength until about two or three o'clock in the afternoon, and then gradually declines towards sunset. The nights are quite cool. The winter resembles a protracted "Indian Summer," with the exception of a few bleak piercing "Northwesters," which are a singular peculiarity of the climate of Texas, they prevail between the months of November and April, and generally succeed a season of a few rainy days and southerly winds. They burst forth so suddenly that commonly the first notice of their commencement is a sudden

gust of wind which almost checks respiration, pushing wide open the unlatched doors, and sweeping the unwary traveller's hat several rods from his head; severe cold immediately follows and the thermometer frequently falls 15 or 20 degrees in the successive fifteen or twenty minutes, the clouds generally disappear a few hours after their commencement, leaving a clear cold sky. Three days is generally the extent of their duration. Snow is almost unknown in this country, and ice is seldom found more than half an inch thick, the cattle therefore feed out in the pastures throughout the whole winter.

## QUERIES

FOR STATESMEN AND LEGISLATORS.

1. Is it or is it not a fact, that the government of England, through the bank and bankers of that country, have forced their manufactures into this country beyond the usual demand?
2. Is it or is it not a fact, that this was done to lessen their Poor Rates, and break down the rising and rival manufactures of the United States?
3. Is it or is it not a fact, that some of our countrymen, at home and abroad, have suffered their avarice to overcome their patriotism, in furthering this to us, suicidal scheme?
4. Is it or is it not a fact, that an inequality of fortune, hostile to social intercourse, has suddenly got root and growth among the people, so lately contented and happy here?
5. Is it or is it not a fact, that the public morals are the main and indispensable support of free or republican governments?
6. Is it or is it not a fact, that the public morals of this nation have depreciated to a great extent, within a few years past?
7. Is it or is it not a fact, that the creation of the stock of one bank, on the credit or paper of other banks, adds nothing to real capital?
8. Is it or is it not a fact, that such new banks, without an addition of capital, may be monopolized by adventurers, who are all borrowers, and have nothing to lose or risk?
9. Is it or is it not a fact, that such fictitious banking is most prevalent in the United States, for the last thirty years?
10. Is it or is it not a fact, that all banks established before that innovation, have been forced to rely on fiction also, and lose the benefit of their solid capitals?
11. Is it or is it not a fact, that this deteriorated system of banking, has been the principal domestic cause of the inequality of fortune and denigration of morals above mentioned?
12. Is it or is it not a fact, that the earnings of the farmers and planters, which were employed in improving their lands, or loaned to neighbors for such purposes formerly, are drawn into towns to the detriment of agriculture?
13. Is it or is it not a fact, that lands in Maryland, and some other states, were sold for more hard money forty years ago, than the same lands have been selling for paper, at any time since that period when banks began to be multiplied?
14. Is it or is it not a fact, that this capital is, generally, invested in stocks of banks, and by them, loaned to merchants, to increase the importation of foreign goods; or to speculators in such articles as add nothing to the real wealth of the country?
15. Is it or is it not a fact, that the number of the state banks increased during the existence of the bank of United States, as well as the issues of bank notes?
16. Is it or is it not a fact, that the prices of the notes of all the banks varied, according to the credit of each, and the distance at which they were offered for sale?
17. Is it or is it not a fact, that the rates of exchanges upon distant places varied, according to the balances of trade between them?
18. Is it or is it not a fact, that the bank of the United States bought and sold bills of exchange, as any capitalist might have done, having as it had, the command of the public revenue, as collected?
19. Is it or is it not a fact, that all commercial countries except England and the United States, are without any certain means of exchanges by banks, and depend on the course of trade?
20. Is it or is it not a fact, that there are loans for internal improvements, guaranteed by cities and states and exclusive of the stock of banks, in which the money of widows or orphans may be safely invested, and remittances made from place to place, within the United States, as well as London or Liverpool?
21. Is it or is it not a fact, that if the government should again receive bank notes, and demand all securities from deposit banks, these, like all other banks, may suspend, and defraud the government again?
22. Is it or is it not a fact, that the system is so fastened on the people by the states, in their separate capacities, that the remedy, to be safe and effectual, must be in the states?
23. Is it or is it not, the duty of congress, to guard the public revenue from the suspensions of specie payment hereafter, and from other abuses of this new banking system?
24. Is it or is it not a fact, that if a bank of the United States, like the last, would or could regulate the currency, to transfer that authority to a single score of directors, would be a treacherous dereliction of duty on the part of congress to whom the people have confided so much of their sovereignty?
25. Is it or is it not, the most eligible way for congress to avoid this, and so far, check the circulation of unsound money, to confine the receipts and payments of the national treasury to the legal specie currency only?

## LABORING CLASSES IN EUROPE.

We invite attention to the following extract from a late number of the North American Re-

view. It is admirably calculated to show the advantages possessed by the laboring classes of this country, over those of almost every portion of Europe. The truth is, with a good government, a government that in all its movements seeks to promote "the greatest good of the greatest number," to carry out the principles, the triumph, and the struggle of seventy-six—to extend equal and just political rights to all and to render this great confederacy what she was designed to be by her founders—the model and example for all enlightened and liberal nations of the earth;—this country would stand upon the very highest moral elevation; while her people contented, prosperous, and happy, would cling with patriotic pertinacity to the institutions of their fathers, and view with apprehension, every effort to subvert or peril a single principle of the revolution. With a bad government careless and regardless of the rights and happiness of the many, and anxious only for political power, it may be feared that even this land, so favored by Providence and by nature, will one day present a spectacle any thing but gratifying to the heart of a true patriot—will, in fact retrograde in the scale of nations, and instead of becoming glory of the friends of liberty and liberal institutions, will descend and degenerate into the scorn and mock of tyrants—the by-word of those who believe that man is not capable of self-government. We give the annexed paragraphs, as well with the object of shewing the advantages enjoyed by our honest yeomanry, and industrious mechanics, in contrast with those of other countries, as with a hope that seeing their true position, and superior blessings, they will guard the integrity of their country with the more vigilance, and endeavor to preserve and perpetuate a system that guarantees such important privileges.

"In Norway the ordinary food of the peasantry is bread and gruel, both prepared of oatmeal, with an occasional mixture of dried fish. Meat is a luxury which they rarely enjoy.

In Sweden the dress of the peasantry is prescribed by law. Their food consists of hard bread, dried fish, and gruel without meat.

In Denmark, the peasantry are still held in bondage, and are bought and sold together with the land on which they labor.

In Russia, the bondage of the peasantry is even more complete than it is in Denmark.—The nobles own all the lands in the empire, and the peasantry who reside upon it are transferred with the estate.

A great majority have only cottages, one portion of which is occupied by the family, while the other is appropriated to the domestic animals. Few, if any, have beds—but sleep upon bare boards, or upon parts of the immense stoves by which their houses are warmed.—Their food consists of black bread, cabbage, and other vegetables, without the addition of any butter.

In Poland the nobles are the proprietors of the land, and the peasants are slaves. A recent traveller says, "I have travelled in every direction, and never saw a wheaten loaf to the eastward of the Rhine, in any part of Northern Germany, Poland or Denmark. The common food of the peasantry of Poland, 'the working men,' is cabbage and potatoes, sometimes, but not generally, peck, black bread and soup or rather gruel, without the addition of butter or meat.

In Austria, the nobles are the proprietors of the land, and the peasants are compelled to work for their masters during every day except Sunday. The cultivators of the soil are in a State of bondage.

In Hungary their state is, if possible, still worse. The nobles own the land, do not work, and pay no taxes. The labouring classes are obliged to repair all highways and bridges, are liable at all times to have soldiers quartered upon them, and are compelled to pay one-tenth of the produce of their labor to the church and one-ninth to the lord whose land they occupy.

Of the people of France, seven and a half millions do not eat wheat or wheaten bread.—They live upon barley, rye, buckwheat, chestnuts, and a few potatoes.

The common wages of a hired laborer in France, is \$36.50 for a man, and \$18.75 for a woman annually. The taxes upon them are equal to one-fifth of its net product.

In 1671, there were 700,000 houses in Ireland. Of these, 113,000 were occupied by paupers—and more than 500,000 had no bread. The average wages of a laborer is from nine and a half to eleven cents per day.

Among the laboring classes of the industrious Scotch, meat, except on Sundays, is rarely used.

In England, the prices of labor vary, the Nottingham stocking weavers, as stated by them in a public address, after working from fourteen to sixteen hours per day, only earn from four to five shillings a week, and were obliged to subsist on bread and water, or potatoes and salt."

From the Newburyport Herald.  
THE CIVIL WAR IN SPAIN.

Within the last four years, there have been 214 engagements between the Christians and Carlists, in Spain, in which 314,158 men have been killed. The cause of this bloody civil war in that country is as unknown to many of the people of the U. States as are the horrors and bloodshed with which it has been attended. An account of its origin we give briefly as follows:

According to the ancient laws of Spain, women could inherit the throne as well as men. The old family being extinct about the beginning of the last century, the crown was bestowed upon a French prince, of the house of Bourbon, and the Saliclaw adopted as a part of the new settlement. The late King Ferdinand married in his old age (for the fourth or fifth time) a young princess of Na-

ples, by whom he was very anxious to have a son, to whom he might transmit the crown. The fruit of marriage proving a daughter, he hastily collected together a mock Cortes, and partly by force, partly by persuasion, partly by bribery, induced them to alter the organic law of the kingdom in favor of the young princess; thus excluding, by a decree made expressly for the occasion, his brother, who was the rightful heir. This was so obviously unjust, as being a selfish violation of the tenure by which the present family occupies the throne, that popular discontent, soon after the death of the old King, broke out into open resistance: Don Carlos was banished the kingdom, but soon returned, and put himself at the head supporters of his cause.

His partisans comprise the hardy mountaineers of the Basque provinces, while the adherents of the existing Government embrace the population of the more fertile provinces of the South. Don Carlos has been defeated in battles a hundred times, yet always seems to have risen hitherto with additional strength from the fall. The Basque provinces, by which he is supported, contain the most republican population in Europe. The Basque are a laborious people, of high spirit and independent habits, who have ever maintained their rights against the monarch of Spain, while the other provinces have long since sunk into a death-like state of slavery and misery. Ex-President Adams says, that in travelling through this part of Spain, he was struck with the democratic habits of the people and the happy, cultivated appearance of the country, which more than other in Europe reminded him of his own New England. These people have their own laws, vote their own taxes, and supply their own contingent to the national forces. They are essentially free.

ORIGIN OF YANKEE DOODLE.—From Judge Martin's History of North Carolina:

"In the attacks made upon the French posts in America, in 1755, those against Niagara and Frontenac were made by Gen. Shirley, of Massachusetts, and Gen. Johnson, of New York.

"Their army during the summer lay on the Eastern bank of the Hudson, a little south of the city of Albany. In the early part of June, the troops of the Eastern provinces began to pour in, company after company; and such an assemblage of men never before thronged together on such an occasion, unless an example may be found in the ragged regiment of Sir John Falstaff. It would have relaxed the gravity of an anchorite, to see the descendants of the Puritans marching through the streets of that ancient city, and taking their stations on the left of the British army, some with curls as various as the rainbow; some with their hair cropped like the army of Cromwell, and others with wigs, the locks of which floated with grace around their shoulders. Their march, their accoutrements, and the whole arrangements of the troops, furnished matter of amusement to the British army.—The music played the airs of two centuries ago, and the tout ensemble, upon the whole, exhibited a sight to the wondering strangers to which they had been unaccustomed.

"Among the club of wits that belonged to the British army, there was a Dr. Shackburg attached to the staff, who combined, with his knowledge of surgery, the skill and talents of a musician. To please the new comers he composed a tune, and with much gravity recommended it to the officers as one of the most celebrated pieces of martial music. The joke took, to the no small amusement of the British. Brother Jonathan exclaimed it was nation fine, and in a few days nothing was heard in the provincial camp but the air of Yankee Doodle.

"Little did the author in his composition then suppose that an air made for the purpose of levity and ridicule, should be marked for such high destinies.—In twenty years from that time that National march inspired the heroes of Bunker's Hill, and in less than thirty, Lord Cornwallis and his army marched into the American lines to the tune of Yankee Doodle."

General Jackson's dictation.—The letters from Gen. Jackson to the editor of this paper, recently published, have been the subject of so much calumny and misrepresentation, that we owe it to ourselves to say a word in reference to the motives which actuated us in publishing them.

They were introduced in an editorial reply to the charge by Judge White, that General Jackson was solicitous to establish "a Bank of the United States, founded upon the moneys of the United States, and attached to the Treasury Department." The address containing the charges was published by Judge White simultaneously at Memphis and Knoxville, the two extremes of the State of Tennessee, both a long distance from the residence of General Jackson. The object of publishing it at these extreme points, was to act upon the approaching election, before General Jackson could have time to refute its calumnies and falsehoods. In exhibiting this bugbear of a national bank, it was the object of Judge White to subvert the interests of the Bank of the United States. The editor of this paper felt it to be due to Gen. Jackson's fame that his letters should be published, to disabuse the public mind from the falsehoods of Judge White. No other motive could have called forth these letters from their privacy. No man can read them without being convinced that General Jackson is opposed to a national bank of any and every description, and that the charges of Judge White are utterly false and calumnious. We trust our democratic contemporaries will do us the justice to re-publish the above statement *Globe*.