

thorities of the two powers would come into frequent and violent collision. The administration of the law would be interrupted by penalties evaded; and, in the general entanglement of jurisdictions upon the frontier, it is feared that public justice would not be well sustained. It would be impracticable for either power to enforce its revenue system, and should the tariffs of the two countries differ essentially, as must be the case, nothing but the enforcement of the most cruel and unpopular laws could possibly secure the just collection of custom-house dues.

The undersigned, in discussing this question, begs to call the attention of the honorable the Secretary of State to the fact, that the annexation of Texas would ensure to the United States the complete command of the Gulf of Mexico. There is no point on the whole coast of that magnificent sea more admirably suited to the purposes of a naval depot than Galveston; and, situated as it is, in the midst of interminable groves of live oak, ships of war might be built and equipped for sea, as it were within sight of the very forests out of which they were constructed. This country having already a vast interest to protect on the shores of the Gulf of Mexico, the concentrated trade of the West, at New Orleans, of Alabama, at Mobile, and of the Florida cities, would find, in the possession of Texas, the means of occupying a position of decided supremacy over the waters of the Gulf; and it is questioned whether even the possession of Cuba would bring with it those facilities of controlling and keeping in check the pretension of a rival power, which would accrue from the extension of the limits of the United States to the line of the Rio del Norte.

It is most respectfully suggested whether the annexation of Texas would not contribute to ensure the peace of the Indian frontier of the two countries, and thus extend to the farthest southwest the boundaries of civilization and the protection and privileges of order and good government. By her admission into the Union, the present Southwestern States could be easily protected from the numerous tribes of the Camanches and other savages now accumulated on their frontier, and it is questioned whether any thing would so impress the minds of the Indian warriors with a sense of our power as the union of the two people, whom, even divided and single handed, they found to be invincible in arms.

The undersigned most respectfully represents to the honorable the Secretary of State, that in this paper he does not presume to have presented all the inducements to the union of the two republics. He has not thought it respectful to trespass upon the attention of the honorable the Secretary of State, either by an extended detail of the resources of Texas, or the mutual benefits involved in a treaty of annexation. The mineral wealth of the country, comprising valuable mines of silver & lead, immense strata of iron and coal, and salt-springs in great abundance, has not been properly appreciated. Nor has the undersigned thought it necessary to allude to the immense fur trade which would be thrown into the lap of the enterprise of the United States by the annexation of Texas. The great aid and facilities which Texas, as an integral part of this Union, might render to the adventurous traders who, in caravans, penetrate from Missouri to Santa Fe, and in general to the inland trade of the U. States, with the countries bordering on the Pacific, have all been left unexplained; and the undersigned throws himself upon the courtesy of the honorable the Secretary of State in desiring him to believe that, as he has not entered into any of the details of such a treaty of annexation as Texas might propose, but confined himself to the submission of the proposition itself, so he has not thought fit to discuss severally all the various interests involved, but merely has subjected them to a general, and, he trusts, a candid review.

In closing this paper, the undersigned appeals to the honorable the Secretary of State, and referring him to the details of the history of the Texian revolution herein set forth, asks in the name of national honor, humanity, and justice, if a nation whose career has been marked, like that of Mexico, by a constant violation of the most solemn treaty obligations, by a series of the most licentious revolutions, by a most shameful prostitution of the lives, liberties, and the property of her people, and, in short, by every act of perfidy and cruelty recorded in the history of barbarians, has not thereby forfeited all claims to the respect of the Governments of civilized nations? Look to her continued interruptions of the peaceable citizens of Texas, industriously engaged in the improvements of their estates and in the actual aggrandizement of the Mexican empire; to her demolition by military force of the constitution of 1824; to her bloody war of extermination under President Santa Anna; to her butchery of those gallant Texians who surrendered their arms under the sacred flag of a capitulation in which their lives were guaranteed; and pronounce, if the enormity of her misdeeds entitles her to be any longer considered, the undersigned will not say a nation of responsibility, but even of humanity. The undersigned, however, forbears to continue this appeal, so irrelevant, and perhaps so unnecessary, to the due consideration of the subject under discussion. The

world will do ample justice to the magnanimity of Texas in forbearing to visit upon the heads of the recreant tyrant and his captured host that retaliation which their offences against the laws of nations and the rights of mankind so signally deserved.

In conclusion, the undersigned most respectfully begs leave to congratulate the honorable the Secretary of State upon the spectacle exhibited in this discussion, and which is so honorable a commentary upon the excellency of the Government of this country, viz: a sovereign, free, and warlike people, fresh from the field of their own victories and glory, seeking to surrender their nationality as the price of a place among the United States, to become participants of the wisdom of its laws, and the renown of its arms.

The undersigned, minister plenipotentiary and envoy extraordinary of the republic of Texas, apologizes to the honorable the Secretary of State of the United States, for the great length of this note, and begs to tender to the honorable the Secretary of State renewed assurances of his most distinguished consideration.

MEMORANDUM.
To the Hon. JOHN FORSYTH,
Secretary of State of the U. States.
[Here follows the reply of Mr. Forsyth, which we published week before last; we shall publish Gen. Hunt's rejoinder in our next.]

Report of the Convention.
Of Merchants, which assembled at Augusta, Georgia, on the 10th Oct. 1837, for the purpose of taking into consideration the subject of direct Southern Importations.

The Select Committee raised for the purpose of ascertaining and reporting what measures will in their opinion, most effectually contribute to the accomplishment of the great object of this Convention, ask leave to submit the following report:

The committee are deeply impressed with the importance of the duty assigned to them, and have bestowed upon it all the attention their limited time would permit. They regard the present derangement of the currency and exchanges of the country, however we may deprecate its causes, as furnishing an occasion, which if wisely improved, will relieve the staple growing States from a state of commercial dependence, scarcely less reproachful to their industry and enterprise than it is incompatible with their substantial prosperity.

The staple growing States, while they produce two-thirds of the domestic exports of the United States, import scarcely one-tenth of the foreign merchandise which is received in exchange for it. Almost the whole of the foreign commerce which is founded upon the productions of our industry, is carried on by the citizens of other States, causing their cities to flourish, while ours have been sinking into decay. In the opinion of the committee the period has arrived, when our citizens are invoked by the united voice of interest and patriotism, to put an end to this voluntary tribute, amounting annually to something like ten millions of dollars. It is believed that the quota of Georgia and South Carolina alone amounts to not less than three millions of dollars. It may not be disguised, however, that this extraordinary and unequal state of our commercial relations had its origin, more in the fiscal operations of the federal government than in any supposed deficiency in the industry and enterprise of our citizens. The high duties imposed by the tariff of 1816 upon the productions of southern industry, and the still more enormous duties imposed by those of 1824 and 1828, combined with the unequal system of depositing and disbursing the revenue thus collected, almost exclusively in the northern cities, operated as a bounty to the commerce of those cities, which the most persevering industry and enterprise on our part, could not have overcome. Great and obvious as were the natural advantages of our southern cities, they were more than counterbalanced by those operations of the government. And whilst we stood amidst the ruins produced by misgovernment, many of our citizens were utterly unable to account for the phenomena, and some of our charitable neighbors supposed it to be owing to the curse of Heaven upon our domestic institutions.

Every practical man, however, will at once perceive, that the deposit of almost the whole of the government funds in the banks of the Northern cities was equivalent to a loan of a like sum without interest, and that the immense sums disbursed by the government at the same points, operated even more decidedly to give those cities an undue ascendancy. One of the most obvious and salutary consequences which we may confidently anticipate in the reduction of the duties and the withdrawal of the government deposits from the banks, will be the restoration of the southern cities to a condition of comparative equality in the business of foreign commerce. In a fair and equal competition it cannot be doubted that they will be able to exchange our domestic productions for the manufactures of Europe, by a direct trade, more advantageously, than the northern cities can do it, by a circuitous process, involving intermediate transfers and agencies, all increasing the risk and expense of the operation.

There never was presented to the capitalists of the south and southwest such an opening for profitable enter-

prise, and they are invited by the most powerful considerations to improve it. Now that the fiscal operations of the federal government have been so greatly reduced, and the field of competition fairly opened, if they should still look on with listless apathy, while the mighty current of our own peculiar commerce is flowing literally by them, to nourish distant cities and fertilize the barren hills of distant communities, we must then acquiesce in the judgment which the world will pronounce, that we deserve our destiny. But the committee indulge the confident belief that such reproach will no longer rest upon us. The public spirit of our people has been roused into action, they have been awakened to a sense of their condition, and all are prepared to cooperate, in their respective spheres, in the great work of throwing off the shackles of our present colonial condition, and establishing our commercial independence upon a lasting foundation.

The staple growing States never can be practically independent and enjoy the full measure of the bounties which Providence has so bountifully provided for them, until the commerce which is founded upon their valuable productions shall be carried on by their own merchants, permanently resident amongst us, whether they be native or adopted. The pursuits of commerce must be realized, the commercial class must be elevated in public opinion to the rank in society which properly belongs to it. The avocation of the merchants, requires as much character and talent, and is of as much dignity and usefulness, as any other pursuit or profession, and the senseless prejudice which would assign to it an inferior rank, has been blindly borrowed from those ancient republics and the modern despotisms, whose policy was to regard war as the only honorable pursuit. As agricultural productions, which find their market principally in foreign countries, constitute the almost exclusive sources of our wealth, the mercantile class is as indispensable to our prosperity as the agricultural. Their interests are indispensably identified, and whatever affects the prosperity of the one, must have a corresponding influence on the other. How much, then, does the general welfare of the staple growing States, depend upon diverting into the pursuits of commerce, a larger portion of the capital, the character and the talent which have been hitherto directed too exclusively to agriculture and the learned professions? It is the deliberate opinion of the committee that no change could be made in our pursuits that would so largely contribute to the public prosperity, and that those public spirited citizens who shall take the lead in this new career of useful enterprise, will deserve to be regarded as public benefactors. The prevailing habit of investing almost the whole proceeds of our cotton crops in land and negroes has produced a constant tendency to over production in this great staple, and nothing but the extraordinary increase of its consumption in the great market of the world, has prevented us from experiencing the ruinous consequences of our mistaken policy. In this view of the subject, every dollar that shall be diverted from the production of cotton to some other profitable pursuit, will be so much clear gain to the planter and to the country. It is a well established principle, in political economy, that an excess of supply beyond the efficient demand, diminishes the price of an article, more than in proportion to the excess, and that deficiency of supply increases the price in a corresponding degree. For example, it is believed that if the present cotton crop of the United States should be only 1,200 bales, it would produce a larger aggregate sum to the planter than if it should prove to be 1,500 bales, the price being more enhanced than the quantity would be diminished. It was upon this principle that the Dutch East India Company, actually burnt one half of their specie that they might obtain more for the remaining half than they could have obtained for the whole. Let us pursue a still wiser policy. Instead of burning our surplus, let us direct the capital and industry that produce it, to other profitable pursuits, which will open new sources of wealth, and at the same time increase the value of those already in existence. In connection with this view of the subject, the policy of raising every supply, which the soil will produce, cannot be too strongly recommended. By whatever specious reasons a contrary policy may be countenanced, experience proves them to be fallacious. If every planter would raise his own supplies of the various productions of the soil and of the animals which feed upon these productions, it would tend greatly to limit the excessive production of our great staples, and increase at the same time the independence and the income of the agricultural class.

The committee will now proceed to examine a little in detail, the advantages of the Southern cities for the business of foreign importation, compared with those of the Northern cities. In the first place house rent is much higher in the latter than in the former, a very important element in the calculation. In the second place freight is habitually higher from Europe to the Northern than to the Southern cities, for the plain reason that ships coming to the South for cotton would have to come in ballast if they were not freighted with merchandise. All the other elements that constitute the cost of importation are believed to be as cheap in the Southern as the Northern cities. It is then demonstrable that foreign merchandise can be actually imported and sold in the former at cheaper rates than in the latter places. When to this we add the expenses of transshipment at New York or Philadelphia, the loss of interest and insurance to the Southern cities, and the expenses of landing and storing, then it will be apparent that the merchants of the south or southwest will find it greatly to their advantage to make their purchases of foreign merchandise in our cities in preference to New York or Philadelphia.

The same course of reasoning will show that our cotton can be exported directly from our own seaports with similar advantages over the more circuitous route of the Northern cities. It seems, therefore, perfectly clear to the com-

mittees, that our capitalists who shall enter into the business of importing foreign merchandise, cannot fail to realize ample profits, and yet supply the merchants of the interior on terms more advantageous than they can obtain from the Northern importers. They have every natural advantage in the competition, and are invited by every motive, public and private, to embark in the business and reap the rich harvest that lies before them. It cannot be doubted that the merchants of the interior will give them a preference, since, to the motives of interest, those of patriotism would be super-added.

Among the measures which will most effectually promote the great object which has brought this Convention together, none are more prominent, than the completion of great works of internal improvement, by which the Southern Atlantic cities are to be connected with the valley of the Mississippi. In aid of the individual capital and enterprise engaged in these works, it is believed that the patronage of the States interested, might be wisely and beneficially bestowed. Their completion would greatly promote the system of direct importations through our own seaports; and these importations would greatly promote the completion of the works in question. They are parts of one great system, and will mutually sustain each other. If Georgia and South Carolina, with that harmony and concert of action which the inseparable identity of their interests so strongly recommends, would bring their undivided energies and resources to the completion of those lines of communication, connecting their Atlantic cities with the navigable waters of the West, the day would not be distant when our most ardent hopes and sanguine anticipations would be realized.

The committee beg leave to suggest to the Convention another measure, which, in their opinion, would be eminently conducive to the great object we have in view. One of the obstacles in the way of establishing a system of direct importations, is the want of the requisite capital applicable to that object. The country, it is believed, contains a sufficiency of capital, if motives could be presented, to give it a proper direction. To effect this, the committee can suggest no measure, which, in their opinion, would be so effectual as a law limiting the responsibility of copartners to the sum which they shall put into the copartnership. A large portion of the capital to which we must look for carrying on the business of direct importations is in the hands of planters, and men of fortune who have retired from business, who would be willing to put a portion of their surplus capital into importing copartnerships, under the management of men of character and capacity, but would never consent to make their whole fortunes responsible for the undertaking. If they actually contribute a certain amount of capital, and the public is apprized that their responsibility extends no farther, it is obvious that the credit of the concern will rest upon the substantial foundation of the capital paid in. Nothing can be more fair as it regards the public, and nothing would so effectually direct the capital and enterprise of our citizens into channels where it is so much wanted. The committee think it would be expedient to memorialize the Legislatures of the Southern and South Western States on this subject, and recommend to the Convention the appointment of committees for that purpose.

Another measure which would greatly facilitate the establishment of a system of direct importations, would be for the formation of a connection and correspondence between some of our banks and some of those in England by which each should have a standing credit with the other. This would enable the banks here to furnish the merchants who might wish to purchase goods in England, with letters of credit, upon receiving adequate security. The bearer of such a letter having to pay interest only from the time he actually drew the money to pay for his purchases. This would prevent the loss of interest which he would incur if compelled to provide himself with money before he set out on his adventure. Cotton purchasers from England would derive some benefit by obtaining similar letters, from the banks there, upon those of our banks, with which they should have an established credit.

If in addition to these facilities, our banks would establish agencies in Europe, and advance a limit, upon the notes issued to them, it would greatly contribute to accomplish our common object, by enabling our citizens to export their own cotton, as well as to import their own merchandise, without the intervention of any Northern agency.

In concluding their report the committee cannot but express their strong conviction, that the success of this great movement, towards the emancipation of the staple growing states from their commercial trammels, will depend more upon individual enterprise, sustained and supported by an enlightened public opinion, than upon any measures of legislation, however important they may be. The business of direct importations must be commenced at once, for if the present occasion is permitted to pass away unimproved, no equally propitious may never occur. The committee recommend the convention to adopt the following resolutions, in furtherance of the views expressed in the foregoing report.

1. Resolved, That in the opinion of this convention the present conjuncture in our commercial affairs is eminently propitious for the establishment of a system of direct importations, thro' our Southern and South Western cities, and that we are called upon by every consideration of interest and of patriotism to throw off the degrading shackles of commercial dependence.

2nd. Resolved, That with a view to induce public spirited capitalists to embark in this business, the people of the staple growing States be recommended to give public manifestations of their determination to encourage and sustain importations through their own seaports.

3. Resolved, That two Committees be appointed by the President of this Convention to memorialize respectively, the Legislatures of Georgia and South Carolina on the subject of limited partnerships.

4th. Resolved, That it is a sacred duty which the citizens of the Southern and South Western States owe to themselves, their prosperity, and their country, to give a decided preference (where the terms are equal) in procuring their supplies, to our merchants who carry on a direct trade with foreign nations.

9th. Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention be tendered to the committee for their able and patriotic report.

10th. Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention be tendered to the President and Secretary, for the able manner in which they have discharged their duties.

11th. Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention be tendered to the Trustees for the use of the Presbyterian Church.

12th. Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention be tendered to the citizens of Augusta for their hospitality.

13th. Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention be tendered to the directors of the Geo. Insurance and Trust Company for the use of their room by the committee.

14th. Resolved, That the proceedings of the Convention and the address to the people of the Southern and South Western States be printed in pamphlet form and extensively circulated, and that the delegates from Augusta be appointed a committee to superintend the publication.

15th. Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention be tendered to the Delegates from Augusta for their liberality in defraying the expense of the publication of the proceedings of the Convention.

Committee appointed under the 3d Resolution.
For S. Caro.—ALEXANDER BLACK,
DAVID ALEXANDER,
CHARLES J. SHANNON,
JAMES ADGER,
S. G. BARKLEY,
For Georgia.—AUGUSTUS H. KENAN,
ADAM JOHNSTON,
LANCELOT JOHNSTON,
BENJAMIN E. STILES,
SEABORN JONES.

Committee to prepare the address:
GEORGE M'DUFFIE,
THOS. BUTLER KING,
HENRY H. CHAMPELL,
ABRAM H. CUPPELL,
JAMES GADSDEN.

THE STAR
RALEIGH, NOV. 1, 1837.
TEXIAN ANNEXATION.
We publish this week the very able and eloquent letter of Gen. Hunt, the Texian Minister, proposing a negotiation for the annexation of Texas to the United States. The reply of the Secretary of State to this letter appeared in this paper two weeks ago. We shall take peculiar pleasure in laying Gen. Hunt's rejoinder to Mr. Forsyth before our readers next week. We shall, nevertheless express, on the present occasion, a few opinions on the subject.

Gen. Hunt traces the history of Mexico from the adoption of the Federal Constitution under Victoria, through her almost constant revolutions, down to the period of Santa Anna's capture. And it is obvious, that the Texians, although deeply imbued with the high principles of liberty—jealous of their privileges as brave men who had even expatriated themselves, feel almost exclusively for justice and good government upon Mexico, from whom they had received inducements to settle in Texas. Thro' every vicissitude of affairs they evinced an unshaken devotion to the Mexican constitution of '24, under which they emigrated, and whose provisions and guarantees they were entitled to claim as their own. And Gen. Hunt conclusively shows, that up to the year 1830, the people of Texas had taken but little concern in the series of political convulsions which had so closely followed one another in the interior of Mexico—that so long as they were left unmolested in the enjoyment of their rights, they were not disposed to participate in the internal commotions of other States; and that even after their rights had been invaded, they manifested no disposition to excite against Mexico, and especially the constitution of '24, any of the other States—but simply claimed the exercise of their chartered rights. But in 1830, their rapidly growing strength and steady adherence to republican principles began to attract the notice and to excite the jealousy of the government of Mexico; and an arbitrary law was passed, prohibiting the further introduction of American citizens. Almost simultaneously with this arbitrary order, and other unjust exactions urged upon her citizens and enforced at the point of the bayonet, Santa Anna had established himself upon the ruins of the federal constitution of '24; and in '32 the people of Texas, entertaining no hope for the political redemption of Mexico, or a wise and equal administration of the laws, were left no other alternative than that of an appeal to arms. Every one is acquainted with the struggle that ensued, and the complete and glorious triumph of Texas—a struggle immortalized and consecrated by the blood of a Crockett, a Bowie, a Travis, a Fannin, and a host of other chivalrous and intrepid patriots. The achievement of Texian independence was accomplished by the valor of Anglo-American arms—by the wisdom of Anglo-Americans, and her excellent constitution and form of government modeled by them upon the institutions of their mother-land. And, as Gen. Hunt nobly remarks:

"Texas seeks to be annexed first and foremost, because she is a nation of the same blood with the people of the United States. She claims annexation by the kindred ties of blood, language, institutions; by a common origin, by a common history, and by a common freedom."

Her gallant sons were born upon our soil; and they exist in the conviction that at Goliad, San Antonio, Concepcion and San Jacinto they attested the legitimacy of their Anglo-American blood; and appealing to victories in the cause of liberty—to the sacred ties of consanguinity—to the excellency of institutions similar to our own—and to the value of a surrender of national sovereignty, "they ask if the single star of Texas is not worthy to be added to the brilliant cluster on their mother flag."

But there are other inducements to an annexation which appeal to interest rather than patriotism—and which should surely arrest and powerfully influence the fanatical policy of the North. These inducements we will not pretend to enumerate—they are ably exhibited by Gen. Hunt.

Gen. Hunt's rejoinder to Mr. Forsyth completely dissipates the argument of Mr. Forsyth that "the annexation of Texas would involve the United States in a war with Mexico." He shows that, under General Jackson's adminis-

tration, negotiations were attempted for the purchase of Texas from Mexico, before the independence of Mexico had been acknowledged by Spain—this so certain was this government in acquiring the territory of Texas that the office of Governor was actually tendered to Gov. Buntin of this State—and observed, "if the act of the annexation of Texas would involve the United States in a war with Mexico at this time, the undersigned is at a loss to perceive why a similar result was not anticipated when Spain in event of a cession of Texas by Mexico—Texas is now an independent State. Her relations are vastly different from what they were when a province of Mexico; and if her acquisition by purchase from Mexico, a power whose independence was unacknowledged by the mother country, was considered constitutional and politic—as involving no question of war with Spain—we ask, if the cession of Texas was thus considered in respect to Spain, by General Jackson and "the party," with what shadow of reason can the pledged "follower in the footsteps" of that same "illustrious chief," or that same party, now oppose an annexation, when she offers herself free from all entanglements with either Spain or Mexico?

But aside from every question of war, or constitutional right, it is perfectly obvious that Mr. Van Buren has, on this momentous question, taken one of those positions for which he is so distinguished. He appears to lean to no particular section of the Union—but gravely advances the questions of war and constitutionality, which are calculated to postpone the discussion of the subject, and thus himself avoid the responsibility of any decisive move in the matter; or, what is more probable, encourage or invite the people of Texas to seek such alliances with other foreign powers as will forever prevent their annexation to this Republic. He knows full well, where his popularity lies, east—and where it can be strengthened more by opposing, upon pretences however reasonable, the annexation of Texas. The Northern people, with Mr. Van Buren, are almost unanimously against Texas, both because they are jealous of any accession of strength to the South, and because they are bitterly opposed to slavery, and deprecate its extension. These are the grand reasons of their uncompromising opposition. The question will no doubt be fully discussed during the next session of Congress, and its results may tell powerfully and decisively upon the destiny of these States.

We observe that some of our exchange papers have published the letter of Mr. Forsyth. Why do they not publish the letters of General Hunt?

Richard K. Frost, a Thompsonian or steam doctor, in New York, has been arrested, examined and held to bail, in the sum of \$5000, to answer an indictment for murder, in the mal-treatment and death of T. G. French, a young man, 18 years of age, teacher in the Collegiate Grammar School of Columbia College. It appeared in evidence that the deceased was afflicted with a slight cold, when he visited the Infirmary, and placed himself under the treatment of Frost; that he was provided with an apartment and a dose of "composition tea"; and that on the day following the "regular course" of Thompsonian practice commenced on lobelia and steam baths; which, on the 5th day, resulted in the death of the patient. The body was disinterred, and upon the testimony of Doctors Chaceau and Rogers, from a post mortem examination, the jury returned the following verdict:

"It is the opinion of this jury that the death of the deceased was occasioned by a general congestion of the internal organs, and a complete prostration of the whole nervous system, produced by the administration of deleterious and improper medicines, and other improper treatment while in the Infirmary under the direction of Richard K. Frost."