

"Too good to be true."—Meeting with these auspicious words at the head of an article in a late Mobile newspaper, we hastily glanced our eyes below, to see what had called forth so expressive an apostrophe. Was it the discovery of the perpetual motion, of the philosopher's stone, or of the elixir of life? Had the rot in the staple of the country been exterminated, or an infallible preventive invented for its destructive fevers? What new blessing was proposed to the human race, or to what fatal evil had an antidote been disclosed? Something of this sort we figured to ourselves when we found that News was to be related which was "too good to be true."

What, then, was our astonishment when we found these words served as a preface to a vague report of the probability of a War between this Country and Spain! With such levity as this do men treat the omens of a state of things which, at all times, imports wretchedness to thousands, sufferings and death to many, and cause and anxiety to all.

Of our readers, we trust, there are few who will not at once be struck with the absurdity of rejoicing at the prospect of an event so pregnant with evil. It appears to be vain to reason against so preposterous a proposition. It would be sufficient peremptorily to deny its truth; yet we cannot forbear a few observations in support of that denial.

It is not inconsistent with our purpose, to allow that War may become necessary, and when necessary is justifiable. Courage and strength are given to men for the protection of their political freedom and personal rights, and to repel encroachments on them, from whatever quarter. This nation has twice been engaged in war; but in each case, war had been waged against us long before we returned the blow, and we had not the choice of alternatives. On other occasions we might easily have been involved in war, and even with this very government of Spain, but for the wise councils which determined our government to prefer a pacific policy, the fortunate results of which our readers are well apprized of.

But, in the abstract, what is there in War which should induce an American politician to consider the rumor of it "too good to be true?" To prevent a greater evil, we allow, war may be resorted to. It is the last appeal of governments. To save life, a limb may be amputated; to extirpate a cancer we scarify the body; and to cure a fever, we resort to what, under other circumstances, would be poison to our health. Shall we therefore wantonly lop off a limb, disfigure our face, or drug ourselves with opium and antimony?

Let us not fall into the error of supposing, because we rose with new strength from the wars in which this nation has been engaged, that it is good to be at war. The policy of this nation is peace. Not to speak of the accumulation of debt, entailing endless taxation on a people, which it infallibly occasions. War engenders a thousand ills which it were well to avoid. It fosters a restless military spirit in a people, which spurns "the dull pursuits of civil life," and in chase of the phantom of glory, seeks for a different field for the exercise of talent, than that which our simple constitution affords. It builds up reputations and fortunes for a few at the expence of the many. It multiplies the number of widows and orphans—of the helpless and bereft; and, under our system of temporary levies particularly, furnishes graves for thousands upon thousands who never have an opportunity to see an enemy. It introduces crimes, too, as well as diseases unknown to a state of peace.

War may be necessary, we have admitted, but it is always a necessary evil.

But perhaps it may be thought there would be something particularly felicitous in a war with Spain. If so, it must be, because she is weak, and we have no occasion to fear her. This motive, for desiring a war with Spain, we are sure, the American people would disdain—for they are magnanimous. Moreover, it would be founded in a great mistake. Once at war with Spain, our commerce would be swept from the ocean. Buccaneers of every nation, and even of our own, would assume her flag; and the Alabama editor would grossly deceive himself if he counted on the maritime weakness of Spain. In this respect, Great-Britain herself, with her thousand ships of war, would scarcely be a more formidable enemy. On the other hand, Spain has little wealth afloat, on which to make reprisals; her treasure-ships will not venture upon the ocean in such a season, or, if a scattering one fell into our power, it would be a small loss to the government of Spain, to counterbalance which, hundreds of our

mercantile fellow-citizens would be ruined by the capture of their private property. But we could take Mexico, it may be said, and indemnify ourselves from its store-houses of the precious metals. Fatal delusion, if this be the prize which gilds the prospect of a war with Spain. If Mexico were already ours, the shirt of Nessus would not be a more fatal gift. What would be its dross in comparison with the blessings we now enjoy! What its boundless territory and bottomless mines, if the possession of it endanger our present blessings, and render insecure the enjoyment of the soil on which we live.

In some governments, war may strengthen the hands of their rulers. In a Monarchy, it enlarges the power of the sovereign, extends his patronage, and surrounds the throne with a false, but not therefore less dazzling splendour. In a Republic, these, instead of being inducements to war, are irresistible arguments against it, where it can be avoided. "War is a game," it has been written, "which were their subjects wise, Kings would not play at." With how much more force may it not be said, of a government of the people, of which their happiness should be the solar principle, that war for any thing less than essential rights would be "the madness of the many for the benefit of a few."

If war should ever again become necessary, let us buckle on our armor, and meet it like men. But far from us be the sentiment, that the news of approaching war is "too good to be true."

We are informed that his Excellency the Governor has appointed Col. JONAS PATTON, of Blount County, Commissioner to superintend the sales of lands recently acquired from the Cherokee Nation of Indians, which, by a reference to his Excellency's Proclamation, published in the present and last week's Register, will be seen, are to be sold at Waynesville, in Payson County, or at such place as or near the site designated for the seat of justice of the intended County, as the Commissioner may deem fit.

Christopher Rankin, the present member of the House of Representatives from Mississippi, has been re-elected to Congress by a large majority over his opponent, George Poindexter.

Tennessee.—The Legislature of this State adjourned on the 24th ultimo, after a session of five weeks. It does not appear that any appointment of a Senator, to fill the term commencing on the 4th of March next, took place. Samuel H. Williams was, for malpractices, removed from the office of Surveyor-General of the 7th District, and William Martin elected in his place. Jacob Peck was elected a Judge of the Supreme State Court, in the place of Judge Emerson, resigned; and William L. Brown was elected an additional Judge of that Court. The Bank Bill, heretofore noticed, was rejected in the Senate, and the act of 1820, authorising the Nashville and old State Bank, to consolidate with the new State Bank, was repealed.

Eleven new cases of yellow fever were reported by the New-York Board of Health on the 14th inst. We regret, most sincerely, to see this dreadful visitation gaining ground so alarmingly in that public spirited and flourishing city.

Pensacola, hitherto considered amongst the most healthy of the towns in the southern section of the Union, has been recently visited by a few cases of Yellow Fever. Exaggerated accounts of it will probably be circulated, and as the emigrants to that place have friends scattered through many parts of the Union, we have thought it well, to prevent unnecessary uneasiness, to give the subjoined statement from the Pensacola Gazette, of the 17th ultimo:—*Nat. Intel.*

"We have it from the most respectable authority, that the Yellow Fever is in town, and we have no doubt of the fact, but as to its continuance here, we have just as little doubt, that ten days hence, there will not be a single case, unless some are imported. It is utterly inconceivable how any infection can range here, as long as our bay continues salt, and the gulph stream breeze continues its daily luxurious office.

"There have been several deaths within the last seven days—say seven or eight, a large and alarming proportion for the population—but we believe there are but five attributable to the terrible enemy.

"All the cases have made their appearance within the past week."

In addition to the above, we have received a note from the Postmaster, under date of the 18th ultimo, which states that the Board of Health had reported no new case of Yellow Fever in the preceding eight days; and adds that not a remaining case existed in town, and all alarm had subsided.

By the schooner Nancy, Capt. Nelson, from Port-au-Prince, we learn, says the Baltimore American, that Capt. Ryan, of the schr. Hancock, from Wilmington, N. C. was under prosecution at that place when he left it. The case stated was, that on leaving Wilmington he had on board a mulatto man as cook, who, in a state of intoxication, in going down the river, had nearly cut off one of his hands.—The Captain sent him back to Wilmington, where he was put under the care of a physician, and his hand amputated and cured. The cook had since arrived at Port-au-Prince, and commenced an action against Captain Ryan, and it was supposed it would cost him the value of his vessel and cargo to get rid of the prosecution.

The Albion.—On Saturday, the 23d July, the body of Mr. William Proctor, one of the unfortunate sufferers on

board this vessel, was found by some fishermen, floating about two leagues off the Old Head of Kinsale. It exhibited no appearance of decay, and appeared perfectly fresh, but when brought to the land it soon changed for the worse. The identity was ascertained by some papers & the cards of this unfortunate gentleman, which were found in the pocket; and what is surprising, though the body remained for upwards of three months in the water, these papers were found very little injured. There were also found in one of the pockets, one Sovereign, a small piece of gold, and a small case with a lock of hair tied up in it. On hearing the circumstance, Mr. Gibbons, the agent of Lloyd's, immediately proceeded to the spot, and had the body decently interred.

Mr. Forbes, of Florida, has obtained a verdict in the Court of King's Bench, England, subject, however to the opinion of the Court, for 3,800 pounds sterling, against Adm^l Cochrane, for carrying off from Cumberland Island, during the late war, thirty-eight slaves. The slaves were in fact received by the noted Cockburn, on board of his ship, and sent by him to Bermuda, but Admiral Cochrane being the chief in command, on the American station, and approving, officially, the act of the former, he was made the defendant in the case. It was contended by the counsel, that as he acted under the orders of his government, he ought not to be held liable for the act.

The New-York papers state, that the ship Florida, lately arrived at that port from Liverpool, brought "important dispatches" for government, from our Ministers at Madrid, St. Petersburg and London. Now, this may be very true in the present instance, though it is rather an uncommon piece of good fortune for one vessel to be the bearer of "important" dispatches from so many distant points of Europe at one time; but we take this occasion to say, that the "important dispatches" which are often announced as having arrived at our sea-ports, very frequently turn out, when they get to Washington, to be packages of foreign newspapers, which our agents abroad occasionally send the Secretary of State, under seal. A man arrives from Europe, having in his care a letter, or a few newspapers, addressed to the government; to give himself a momentary consequence, he states that he is the bearer of "dispatches," which he has reason to believe of great importance; our editors confiding in the statement, and naturally eager to publish interesting intelligence, announce the fact, and the whole country is put on tiptoe to learn what these important dispatches contain. We by no means intend to insinuate that the case of the Captain of the Florida, is one of these; we state it as one that not unfrequently occurs, in which a Consul arrived from Europe, the bearer, it was given out, of "important dispatches." He came on to Washington with all possible expedition, confirming by his haste, the opinion that he brought momentous tidings, while the real fact was, that the "dispatches," about which all the bustle was made, consisted simply of a letter from one of our ministers, stating that he had given permission, if his permission were deemed necessary, to Mr. A. B. the bearer, to leave his consulate on a visit home.—*N. Int.*

Extract from the "Minutes of the Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church," for the year 1822, just published.

Bishops and Superintendents, William McKeadree, Emck George, and Robert R. Roberts.

Travelling Preachers	1006
Preachers admitted on trial this year	185
remaining on trial	124
admitted into full connexion	92
located this year	37
Deacons	155
Elders elected and ordained this year	100
Superannuated Preachers	24
Superannuated Preachers	71
Ministers expelled from connexion this year	2
Ministers withdrawn	0
died	3

	Whites.	Col'd.	Total.
Ohio Conference	34,336	205	34,541
Kentucky do	20,846	2,869	23,715
Missouri do	9,161	588	9,749
Tennessee do	25,823	1,810	27,633
Mississippi do	3,331	1,020	4,351
S. Carolina do	21,290	12,096	33,386
Virginia do	19,329	6,625	25,954
Baltimore do	28,265	9,616	37,881
Philadelphia do	26,500	8,270	34,770
New-York do	22,557	442	23,000
N. England do	19,807	217	20,024
Genesee do	27,182	119	27,301
Total	263,045	44,377	307,422
Do. last year			281,146
Increase in one year			26,276

A correspondent of a London paper communicates the following method of counteracting the effects of laudanum—"Lemon juice, taken immediately, acts as an emetic, and prevents the lethargic appearance of death, and consequently preserves life."

Baltimore, Sept. 9.
Capt. Hamilton, of the brig *Oswego*, arrived here on Saturday, in 48 days from Buenos-Ayres, informs us, that a considerable quantity of flour from the United States had arrived at Buenos-Ayres and Montevideo, which caused that article to fall rapidly.—Produce of the country was very high, and likely to be more so, the demand from Europe being great.

The government of Buenos-Ayres were anxiously expecting a minister from the U. S. with the acknowledgment of their independence. The American Agent, Mr. Forbes, stood high in the estimation of the government and people.

The Fourth of July was celebrated in a handsome and spirited manner, at Buenos-Ayres, by the citizens of the United States, on which occasion an appropriate address was delivered by Mr. Forbes.

Upwards of three thousand dollars have been subscribed in Havana for a religious and patriotic Fete, commemorative of those illustrious martyrs, Portier, Lacy, Vidal, and Bertran de Lis, who died advocating new-born Spanish liberty. An eloquent address to the people of Havana, on this subject, appears in the "Noticioso," of the 6th ult. The celebration was to have taken place on the morning of the 16th.

The Shakers.—It has been decided in Kentucky, that the law which authorizes the imposing fines by a court martial, on the Shakers, for not attending ordinary musters, is unconstitutional and void, as the religious tenets of that society forbid them bearing arms; and the property seized by the sheriff for such fines was restored.

The law of that state increasing the jurisdiction of justices of the peace, from five pounds to fifty dollars, has also been declared unconstitutional, because it deprived the party of trial by jury; and in consequence of this decision, the law was amended so as to provide for a jury trial before a justice of the peace.

Ashes for Manure.—Ashes, as a manure, is very deservedly rising in the estimation of Agriculturalists; but they have hitherto been considered as suitable only for low and moist soils; a cold and sour spot undoubtedly needs them more than any other, but I have, after long experience, found them better than any other manure in all sorts of land. They are, besides their nutritive qualities, an excellent antidote to the ravages of worms and insects; consequently are better calculated for cabbages, turnips, cucumbers, melons, peas and other pulse; the ashes should be spread evenly, and not in too great quantities. Wood ashes are an excellent nourishment for the roots of trees; they restore to trees what has been taken from them. Ashes should always be laid on the surface, for there is nothing in them that will evaporate; their tendency is downwards, and their salts sink too low, if they be put under the surface. They should be spread upon planted ground immediately before rain, which will dissolve and soften their acrimony, for tender plants, in dry weather, will be apt to receive injury from them. A few bushels on an acre are a good dressing for low, grass lands. Ashes in their full strength are certainly preferable for manure, but when leached they answer a very good purpose; the earthly particles are but little diminished, and some of the saline particles remain.

N. J. Eagle.

Fuller's Earth.—The Woollen Manufactories are suffering for fuller's earth of good quality. Any person having a bed of it on his farm, may calculate on its being of more value than a mine of either iron or copper. The presence of a large portion of this silicious earth is the prevailing character of this mineral. It is classed by Thompson as belonging to the soapstone family, and it should be sought for in the neighbourhood of soapstone rocks—or in valleys contiguous to mountains in which silicious rocks abound. When dry it should be very soft and slippery like hard soap; and when thrown into water it should fall into a fine mass resembling the appearance of curds. If this moist precipitate will wash grease out of woollens, and has no sensible grit when rubbed between the fingers, it must approximate towards fuller's earth, and would be well worth a trial on a large scale.

Arsenic.—A man, says an English paper, was poisoned in a very singular manner. His physician described for him a dose of arsenic, and sent it to a druggist to be put up. The druggist having adjusted the scales with the proper weights, turned to get the arsenic; while in the act of getting it, a worm or caterpillar crawled up the scales in which the weights were, and in this situation added its own weight, which occasioned the dose to be too large, and thus destroyed the patient.

Magnanimity.—In 1702, Peter the Great having made several ineffectual attempts on Noteburg, a Swedish fortress, now called Schusselburg, sent Prince Galitzin, Colonel of the Guards, at the head of a select corps, to take it by storm. That officer having, by means of rafts, landed his soldiers close to the fortifications, which advanced almost to the edge of the water, they were received with such intrepidity by the garrison, and exposed to such a dreadful carnage, that Peter, conceiving the assault to be impracticable, sent immediate orders for the Russians to retire. Prince Galitzin, however, refused to obey: "Tell my sovereign (said he) that I am no longer his subject; having thrown myself under the protection of a power superior to him;" then turning to his troops, he animated them by his voice and example, and leading them to the attack, scaled the walls and took the fortress.

Peter was so struck with this exploit, that, upon his next interview with Galitzin, he said to him, "Ask what you will, except Moscow and Catharine." The Prince, with a magnanimity which reflects the highest honor upon his character, instantly requested the pardon of his ancient rival Prince Reppin, who had been degraded by Peter from the rank of marshal to that of a common soldier.

He obtained his request, and with it the confidence of his sovereign, the esteem of Prince Reppin, and the applause of the public. Few circumstances can give more pleasure to a generous mind, than the contemplation of such exalted traits of a great and noble spirit; and our pleasure is heightened when we behold the descendants of such persons enjoying all the honors as well as virtues of their ancestors.

Animal Magnetism.—It appears from the French Journals, that this singular and incomprehensible doctrine has been revived in Paris; and it a statement of certain effects produced by Magnetism, at the Hotel Dieu, during the months of October, November and December, 1820, in presence of seven or eight Physicians, and several other persons, whose names are given, are worthy of reliance, it must be acknowledged that the Commissioners appointed by Louis XVI. with Dr. Franklin in their number, were clearly mistaken; and that Mesmer ought to be regarded as a man of real genius, misunderstood, and persecuted by his cotemporaries.

A detail of several cases has been signed by thirty Physicians, and acknowledged by M. Husson, the Hospital Physician. One of these cases was that of a young girl affected with hysteria & spasmodic vomiting, which nothing could check. She was quite given up, and her end regarded as near. As soon as she was magnetized, the vomiting ceased, and after a few trials she fell into a somnambulism; and experiments the most varied, ingenious and exact, convinced the Doctor that the magnetic influence was real, curative, and entirely independent of the imagination.

In other cases the magnetic sleep became so profound, that neither calling aloud in the patient's ear, shaking, nor even a caustic applied to the upper part of the thigh, and to the epigastrium was able to produce the least sign of sensibility, either by cries or motions.

Dr. Silliman.

True Courage.—An old officer of distinction and tried valor, refused to accept a challenge sent him by a young adventurer; but returned the following answer: "I fear not your sword, but the anger of my God—[dare venture my life in a good cause, but cannot hazard my soul in a bad one; I will charge up to the cannon's mouth for the good of my country, but I want courage to storm hell!"]"

Dutch Cleanliness.—Sir Wm. Temple, observing upon the extravagant neatness of the people of Holland, mentions the circumstance of a magistrate going to visit the mistress of a house at Amsterdam, when, knocking at the door, a tight, strapping North Holland lass came and opened it. He asked whether her mistress was at home? She replied "yes," and with that he offered to go in; but the girl, remarking his shoes were not very clean, took him by both arms; threw him upon her back—carried him across two rooms—put him down at the bottom of the stairs—pulled off his shoes—put him on a pair of slippers, and all without saying a word; but when she had done, she told him he might go to her mistress, who was in a room above.

MARRIED.
In Smithville, on the 12th instant, Mr. John M. Van Cleef, of Wilmington, to Miss Mary Caroline Avery, of the former place.

DIED.
In Fayetteville, on the 10th instant, Mr. Samuel Rogers, paper-maker, formerly of this vicinity.
Very suddenly, a few days since, in Cumberland county, Mr. James Adams,