

Communications.

FOR THE FREE PRESS.

Mr. Howard:

As a just tribute of respect to the Rev. Rob't T. DANIEL, I beg leave through your paper, to take some notice of a Sermon, delivered on a funeral occasion, at the house of the late Mr. James Overstreet, deceased. I think it would be injustice to Mr. Daniel to withhold this public testimonial of approbation—"render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's."

It will be recollected, that in this neighborhood he joined the Masonic fraternity; that in consequence thereof, he incurred the censure of many of his Baptist brethren. Having returned into the same neighborhood to perform the last sad and solemn duty of consigning to the dust, the remains of a brother Mason, he selected as a text, that very appropriate passage of scripture, "And God said, let there be light; and there was light." To remove from the minds of his Baptist brethren and others, that prejudice and rancor, which many had imbibed, he took a rapid glance at the origin of Masonry and its benevolent design; he gave an explanation of the many Masonic emblems and figures, contrasted them with the figures that abound in scripture; he spoke of its benefits, in (secretly and silently) drying up the tears of helpless widows and orphans, and causing them to "light up a smile in the aspect of woe." His views were such as every unprejudiced mind must approve. In enumerating its many advantages, its designs and benefits, the excellence and glory of its moral precepts, I was fearful, lest some might suppose it was intended to supercede the Christian religion; but in the sequel of his discourse, his eloquent and pathetic address to unregenerate Masons, removed all doubts. He told them, they possessed much light and knowledge; that the diffusion of knowledge, of brotherly love, and of charity, (distinguishing characteristics of their order,) were excellent of their kind; but the salvation of their own souls was of infinite consequence, and to secure this, the atoning blood of Jesus Christ, should be their only dependence.

I consider Mr. Daniel, a divine alike distinguished for his pious fervor, his acuteness of mind, and deep scripture research. On this occasion the prevailing sentiment was, that he surpassed himself. I myself was transported, and regret exceedingly, that absence from home on business prevented my returning immediately to delineate his discourse (difficult at best) but after a lapse of two or three weeks, I acknowledge my total inability to do it any thing like justice.

A HEARER.

Panama Congress.—Intelligence has been received at the seat of the general government, announcing that the Congress of Panama was in session. We regret to add, that our minister, Mr. Anderson, on his way thither, died at Carthage on the 24th of July. Unless this Congress should continue something like twelve months in session, the U. States will not be represented there, as we have no account of our other minister making any arrangement for setting out on his journey to Panama.—*Pet. Rep.*

The mountainous districts of Virginia are said to be very sickly.

Foreign.

From Europe.—London papers to the 24th July, have been received at Philadelphia. The news from the manufacturing districts of England possess a mournful interest, as will be perceived from the following extracts:

"There never was such an appalling and awful aspect before us; if things continue many months as they are at present, there must be a rebellion before Christmas. 1779 and 1792 are nothing in comparison with 1826, when the extent of commerce and the increase of population are taken into consideration. A cramped circulation, and the destruction of credit and confidence, which it will take years to restore, have paralysed every department of commerce, and brought the country to a state of misery and despair.

The *Manchester Guardian*, of July 15th says—

"Hunger, even when not unjustly caused, will break thro' stone walls; then how much more energetic will it be, when it is occasioned by laws which are at variance with every principle of policy and justice, and every feeling of humanity! At the risk of being accused of exciting the commotions which God knows our greatest desire is to repress; at the risk of their accusation—for duty must be performed—we declare it to be our confirmed and settled conviction, that unless the Corn Laws are repealed, and that at no distant period, the Poor will TAKE the food which they cannot by other means obtain. It is useless to blink the question. The people of England will not starve."

Russia.—The principal article the late papers contain, is the official report made to the Emperor of Russia on the secret societies and alleged conspiracies said to have occasioned the rebellious explosion which signalized his accession to the throne. It is very long—agreeably to the report of the Commissioners, the ramifications of the conspiracy extended throughout the empire, in almost every province of which organized bands of reformers existed. The professed object was the establishment of a representative government.

Horse racing appears to be carried on in Russia upon an extensive scale—67 wersts (43 miles) at a single heat. The European papers mention a race recently run on the Banks of the Don, in which a horse belonging to Count Platoff performed that distance in two hours and five minutes—many fine horses that started in the race, died before they could reach the goal, or immediately after their performance.

Turkey.—It was reported that Constantinople was in flames, on the 24th June; but the Paris *Etoile*, of the 18th July, questions the truth of the report.

The Janissaries, in several of the Turkish towns, had refused to submit to the decree for the abolishment of their order, and the most serious apprehensions were entertained that great difficulty

would arise in suppressing them. The Sultan still remained encamped in Constantinople.

South America.—Capt. Coffin, from St. Salvador, informs that advices had been received there from Rio to the 5th June, which stated that an action was fought near Rio Grande on the 20th May, in which the Brazilians lost 500 men killed. Buenos Ayres was closely invested. Four British, two French, and some Brazilian vessels had been condemned at Montevideo for attempting to pass the blockading squadron.

Colombia.—Capt. Southcomb, arrived at Baltimore in 17 days from La Guayra, reports that at the time of his sailing, business was completely suspended, and that no articles but necessaries of life would sell. Gen. Paez was at Valencia with eight or ten thousand men, and the streets of Caracas and La Guayra were daily patrolled to add to his army. General Bermudez was at Cumana with an army of equal force, prepared to oppose the movements of Gen. P. A British frigate was lying at La Guayra, to protect the British merchants in case of need.

Gen. Paez has been accused of an abuse of his authority, in enrolling the militia of Caracas, suspended from his command, and ordered to appear before the Colombian Senate to answer to the charges brought against him.—Gen. Escalona has been appointed Commandant of Venezuela.

A letter to the editors of the *National Intelligencer*, from La Guayra, dated August 2, says—"Martial law was yesterday proclaimed in Caracas, but has not yet been promulgated in La Guayra."

Bolivar.—It is mentioned in several of the northern papers, on the credit of letters received from Lima, that President Bolivar has entered into a marriage covenant with Miss Hart, of Saybrook, Connecticut, sister of the lady of Commodore Hull, of the frigate *United States*. Miss Hart accompanied her sister on the present cruise of that frigate. The *New York Statesman* expresses a hope that his Excellency will come to the United States and consummate his nuptials in the good old Republican style.

The *New York Commercial Advertiser* gives a rumor from Lima, that the Congress of Peru is about to invest Gen. Bolivar with supreme power in the Republic for two years.

Marvellous.—There is a grave account of a man who has been brought to life after having been frozen under an avalanche for a hundred and seventy years! "Upon my soul it is true—what will you lay it is a lie!" Major Longbow, Munchausen, Ferdinand Mendez Pinto—hide your diminished heads! Mr. Dodsworth, that is the name of the gentleman who has been thus preserved in ice, complains, it appears, of feeling a little stiff in his joints; but, we should think, if they were bathed in mare's milk every day, or

rubbed with sunbeams night and morning, he would soon recover their use. We subjoin the account, merely supplying one very obvious omission—we mean the date of the discovery. It was on the 1st of April, though according to one private letter which we have seen, it is positively stated to have taken place on the 31st of last February.



Charborough,

TUESDAY, SEPT. 12, 1826.

In consequence of a severe attack of indisposition, we were unable to issue a paper last week—we hope that we will not again be under the necessity of urging this, or any other excuse, for the non-appearance of the paper. We believe our patrons may hereafter safely calculate on its being issued regularly every Tuesday.

Foreign News.—The news from abroad begins once more to assume an appearance of interest. The distress among the laboring classes in England, has reached the extremity of human endurance, and politicians look with a fearful foreboding to the commotions which it is likely to produce. The revolt of the Janissaries, in Turkey, may be looked upon as one of the most important occurrences of the day; and which may have a tendency to hasten the downfall of that cruel and despotic government, which nothing but the jealousy of the neighboring Christian powers has sustained for several years. The situation of the Greeks is deplorable: the Morea is completely overrun by Ibrahim's troops, and but little shew of resistance is offered. The arrival of Lord Cochrane, and the revolt at Constantinople, may perhaps again call the Greeks together.

[The Rev. R. T. Daniel, is expected to preach in the town of Halifax, on Saturday and Sunday, the 23d and 24th inst.

Gold.—Another mine has been discovered about half a mile from this town, (says the *Charlotte Journal*), on the plantation of Maj. McComb. It promises to be more valuable than any which has yet been worked in this county. In two days and a half last week, 136 pennyweights were obtained by two washers; but their sole business was to wash, others being employed to dig the earth from the mine and convey it to them. The gold lies in a vein of yellowish earth, and has a slight inclination; its length and depth has not yet been ascertained. Its situation is much the most favorable for working of any that has yet been discovered.

The gold obtained during the time above mentioned, was about fourteen pennyweights a day to each hand employed in washing and digging.

A hint to Drunkards.—The Grand Jury of this county, (says the *Greensborough Patriot*), last week, presented a Juror for being intoxicated in the jury-box, and the Court fined him fifty dollars;