

MR. ISACK'S LETTER.

Sparta, (Ten.) 5th September, 1827.

SIR: I find in your paper of the 1st inst. a comment upon the matters lately made public by the communications of gen. Jackson and Mr. Buchanan; and in behalf of my constituents an inquiry therein made of me, for whatever I may know on that subject. As well on account of the relation existing between the people of this district and myself—the frequent mention which I have made during the last two years of the material facts disclosed by those communications, as the allusion made to me in that affair by other prints, I cannot object to the propriety of the inquiry. The names of the persons concerned being already before the public, there remains no considerations of delicacy sufficient to forbid the answer which I have to make to your call.

In the winter of 1824—5 after it was known that Mr. Clay had not received a sufficient number of electoral votes to bring him before the house of representatives as a candidate for president; and before I had heard of any indications being given by him, and his friends, of the course which they ultimately took in the election, I met with Mr. Markley of Pennsylvania, in the lobby of the house of representatives, in the morning a little before the meeting of the house; we were sitting on a sofa on the right wing from the door; Mr. Markley introduced the subject of the approaching presidential election, and spoke encouragingly of gen. Jackson's prospects of success, to which I very readily assented. Mr. Markley, however, proceeded further, and with more than ordinary interest and earnestness, (as I thought,) insisted that general Jackson, if elected, ought to appoint Mr. Clay secretary of state, and urged to me the necessity of having the thing so understood; and said that he wished to see Mr. Eaton about it. In answer to that, I spoke of my own high regard for Mr. Clay, but told him as for general Jackson I could say nothing. I did not know what his intentions were upon the contingency mentioned, and consequently had no authority to communicate anything. My object was to let the matter presented by this part of the conversation rest just where I found it; and that the proposition made should neither become of more or less weight from anything I might say, for I knew nothing that would enable me to incline it either way and I sought to be so understood. Here the conversation ended. The words used in it I have attempted to give, but their import was what I have stated.

After the adjournment of the house on the same day, I met with Mr. Buchanan of Pennsylvania, on the way to our lodgings, about where we passed the enclosure that surrounds the capitol; we walked together about half a mile, taking the pavement on the left side of Pa. avenue. The points on which our conversation turned, I will relate as I now recollect them. Upon our falling in together, Mr. Buchanan let me know that Mr. Markley had been talking with him, and had pressed him for information on the subject of cabinet appointments, in the event of gen. Jackson's election. I soon discovered from Mr. Buchanan's conversation, that the proposition to him had been varied from that made to me in the morning, at least presented in another view. The information which seemed to be sought through Mr. Buchanan, was an assurance to be relied on, that Mr. Adams would not be relieved in the state department. We talked about these propositions, and their probable bearings on the election. I expressed the fullest conviction that gen. Jackson would give no assurance as to who would or would not, be appointed, & that his friends could not say anything on the subject. Mr. Buchanan suggested that he thought the subject ought to be well considered—That an answer would be expected. These I understood to be his apprehensions—If nothing was communicated on which Mr. Clay and his friends could rely: That Mr. Adams would have a manifest advantage over general Jackson in the contest; because it had already been rumored, that if elected, gen. Jackson would continue Mr. Adams in his (then) present office, and this would be turned to the account of the latter; on the other hand the election of Mr. Adams would necessarily leave the department of state vacant. And he insisted that the effect of these circumstances ought to be informed of these matters, and mentioned Mr. Eaton or myself as most suitable to make the communication to him. I perceived and admitted the effect which these circumstances might have on the event, (if such means were to be used and regarded.) I spoke of the supposition respecting Mr. Adams being continued in the state department as wholly unauthorized by gen. Jackson or his friends, so far as I knew. That as to myself, I was so well apprised of the general's determination to remain silent upon all subjects calculated to give direction to the progress of the election till it was over, that I could not, with propriety lay the subject before him, but said that if he, (Mr. B.) thought it indispensable, to go himself and talk with Jackson, the same delicacy which would prevent me, would not apply to him.

don't know whether Mr. Buchanan had concluded to go, or not, when our conversation was broken off by our being joined by Mr. Clay, who had overtaken us. We walked together but a short distance after this, till I took leave and crossed the avenue in the direction toward my boarding house, (Mr. Fletcher's) having went beyond the cross street leading most directly there from the capitol.

My opinion of the character of the answer which gen. Jackson would give to such a communication if made to him, was formed from an acquaintance with the man & his conduct during the canvass. And I felt willing, or rather yielded, that Mr. Buchanan, who was then, and has ever since been, his friend and efficient supporter, should satisfy himself of the general's course, by a conversation with him and I had but little curiosity to know what the result of it was, nor has one word passed between Mr. Buchanan and myself about it from that day to this, that I now remember. I was however told a few days after in very general terms, by Thomas Claiborne, esq. formerly a member of congress from this state, and then at Washington, that Mr. Buchanan had informed the general of some intriguing that was going on, and that, so far as he could, he had put an end to it. From which I took it for granted that the conversation had taken place, and resulted as I anticipated. This is the only definite overture coming within my knowledge, connected with the presidential election, while it was pending before the house of representatives; and these are the material facts in regard to the manner of its communication, to which I was privy.

These conversations, which I have now given, both with Mr. Markley and Mr. Buchanan—and the remarks which follow the latter, is a literal extract from a correct copy of a letter written by me to a friend on the 10th of August last, in answer to one received from him on this subject: since then, I have read Mr. Buchanan's letter of the 8th of the same month, in which I find that he is able satisfactorily to himself, to fix the date of his conversation with gen. Jackson on the 30th of December, 1824, from certain data. I have none that enables me to state the precise time: except for the dates referred to by Mr. B. which I presume are correct, I should have thought it might have been a week or too later—but could not from memory, have fixed upon the exact time with certainty.

I will only add, that when Mr. Clay asked for an investigation of his conduct upon the matters contained in Mr. Krummer's letter, at an early period of the debate, I made some general remarks in favor of it, and voted for the proposition, both generally & with special instructions throughout. I wished the affair then to have been taken up and traced to its origin, by a scrutiny more likely to be effectual, in disclosing the extent and character of the transaction, and the guilt or innocence of the persons implicated, than that which the present investigation affords. After all, it must be admitted that public opinion is the great arbiter here, and that is, or will be formed, upon the evidence of facts and circumstances before it. I have no reason to distrust it; not the inclination, much less the ability to direct it.

I have said, that in the conversation with Mr. Markley, I spoke of my own high regard for Mr. Clay, and I now say that I did so with entire sincerity. True I was the personal and political friend of gen. Jackson, and had throughout the canvass, if not efficiently, at least heartily supported his election; yet it was known to many of my acquaintances, both in Ten. and at Washington, that, (at least down to the period of that conversation), next to gen. Jackson I should have preferred Mr. Clay for the presidency. The mortifying change which my opinion of that gentleman soon after underwent, may be of no other avail than to teach me how much I had misunderstood him.

J. C. ISAACS.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The recent foreign papers received contain little news of importance. The following are a few of the most interesting miscellaneous items.

Sir George McGregor, is in Tottenhamfields Bridewell, for the want of sureties to keep the peace towards lieut. Spong, whom he had challenged.

Mr. Barry O'Mera, the surgeon of Napoleon while at St. Helena, has controverted a vast number of statements, made by sir Walter Scott in his life of Napoleon—and gen. Gourgan is about to put himself in communication with the novel-historian, in consequence of the mention made of him in this very impartial work. So there is a fair prospect that this historical novel will be laid upon the shelf with the other productions of sir Walter's genius, to be regarded as an evidence of the fertility of his imagination, and of the obliquity of vision with which he viewed the character and deeds of the most extraordinary man of modern times.

SPAIN.—Spain seems to be devoted to the fates of distraction and misery. Taxes cannot be collected, the soldiery are suffering from all kinds of privations,

new recruits have been ordered to be levied, new expenses incurred, and the government is without money and without credit. Insurgency has, in several of the provinces, assumed her most menacing shape, and every thing speaks a very speedy convulsion.

The king has very suddenly displaced the general of the police of the kingdom, and also the general of the police of Madrid. The council of state has demanded the re-establishment of the inquisition.

PORTUGAL.—It is again stated that Don Miguel has been or is about to be appointed regent of Portugal, under an obligation to support the constitutional system: a system which is evidently becoming unpopular among the people, and to which an indifference is manifested on the part of the queen and her ministers. The capital is filled with seditious handbills one of which names Saldanah, the dismissed minister, as first consul!

TURKEY AND GREECE.—A letter from J. G. Howe, dated Napoli, July 14, gives a deplorable statement of the affairs of Greece. A rage for power has created divisions and bickerings among the chiefs and the government, which threatens a speedy dissolution of all hopes for the salvation of Greece. Colotroni, whom we were wont to regard as a high souled patriot, is characterised as a sordid wretch, whose progress in avarice and ambition is marked by oppressions allied to the deeds of the bloody and relentless Turk.

The following is a postscript of Dr. Howe's letter:

"P. S. The ship Six Brothers arriving at Napoli from New York, I thought it my duty to advise her not to remain, as trouble is brewing; and I came here in her. This moment letters from Napoli inform us that open war has broken out in the place between Grivas, commander of the upper castle, and Fontumaris, commanding the lower. Grivas is bombarding the place; men, women, and children are killed and wounded every hour; and the English commander lying there has been obliged to threaten in order to save the remaining families: the houses and shops are plundered; a horrid scene of confusion is going on—I go there in a day or two to try to remove the hospital, and shall write you."

During the above affair, Lieutenant Washington, formerly of West Point, who had recently joined the Greek service, was killed by a random shot whilst walking on the beach.

It appears from a letter of Mons. Eyraud, the inflexible and generous friend of Greece, that no less a sum than 93,000 dollars was sent by the French committee to the relief of the Greeks, between the 1st of June and the 8th of August.

A letter from Zante, of August 2d, contains an account of the capture of a Turkish frigate of 36 guns, and a galliot by Admiral Cochrane. The frigate was much cut up, and surrendered in ten minutes. The cannonade was heard at Zante at noon, and the next morning the Hellas with her prizes passed near the island, and proceeded towards Clarenza to anchor and fit out the prizes.

The Greeks have gained a victory in the Peloponnesus. Ibrahim Pacha assembled all his forces to attack the citadel of Corinth, and put himself at the head of the Arabs. The Greeks met him near Vostitza, and compelled him to retreat with loss.

Fire at Jasse.—A letter from Jasse, dated the 3d of August, states the wind abated on the night of the 1st of August, and the remaining part of the city was saved from the fury of the flames. A tract of half a league was covered with smoking ruins, and the streets and squares strewn with dead bodies. The principal warehouses, palaces and churches are in ruins. A great portion of the buildings there were of wood, and the streets, in many instances, laid with wood, instead of being paved.

A Batch of Counterfeiters.—After the conviction of Newbold the counterfeiter, of whom we have made mention, he asserted that a trunk containing 100,000 dollars of counterfeit notes, and a number of counterfeit plates had been placed in his hands by a gang of counterfeiters in Philadelphia, with whom he was connected; that on their apprehension he fled, having concealed the trunk in such a manner that it could never be discovered without his agency, he having first helped himself to \$8,000 of the notes, in attempting to pass which, he was subsequently convicted at Richmond.

Previous to this disclosure, the police of Philadelphia had received intimation that an extensive fraud was about being practised upon the United States bank, by a gang of villains in that city, a part of whom after much diligence were arrested at noon day; they were found in a third story back room of a house in Locust ward, busily engaged in signing, trimming, sorting, &c. three men and two women, were found therein, and one man without hat or coat jumped, from an upper window floor and escaped, literally cutting his way through a glass window.

So complete was the surprise that the whole were taken except the man before mentioned—the ink still wet on their pens, and 30,000 dollars of spurious

United States notes on the table—and 2,000 of good money found on their persons, together with sundry implements of the trade.

On one of the persons was found two keys, one belonging to a trunk, and the other apparently that of a chamber door which were found to fit the lock on an upper story room of a tavern in Race street and a trunk therein—but unfortunately the landlord received an order to deliver the trunk to a man, who packed its contents together with some clothing in his own, and departed—this man proved to be Sutton alias Newbold, and after a very strict enquiry being instituted on or about midnight of the 10th ult. the trunk was found at a tavern on the turnpike road, about half way between the city and Bristol, (Sutton having left the city immediately after making the deposit,) and in this famous trunk was found seven counterfeit plates, principally of banks in the state of N. York, and 125,000 dollars of spurious notes belonging to twenty different banks, near 100,000 of which were of the bank of the United States, 7,000 of Geneva, N. York, 5,000 Norristown, Montgomery county, 1,000 Hartford, 7,000 Newbern, 1,600 Mechanics Bank, New York, 300 Newark Insurance Company, 500 Farmer's Bank of Virginia, 900 Orleans Bank, 400 Manhattan Company, 100 Commercial Bank of Philadelphia, 700 Farmer's and Mechanic's Bank of Philadelphia. In the same trunk was also found about 50 genuine proof impressions of various bank plates, believed to have been cut out of a book that was stolen from the late Gideon Fairman about two years ago.

The remaining members of this villainous band have been arrested in various parts of the United States, and will receive the just desert of their crimes.

Niles.

Canada.—From the following we would infer that the British government regards an insurrection among the inhabitants of this province as a matter not altogether problematical.

We are informed that it is the intention of the government to proceed forthwith in the execution of the measures contemplated, and which received a partial commencement last fall, respecting the fortification of the mountain in the rear of this city, and the erection of such martial works as may be judged expedient for its security and protection. The estimate for these works having been sanctioned by the British government, and no obstacle existing to prevent an immediate beginning, Thomas Porteous esq. of Montreal, Edmond Henry esq. of Laprairie, with several officers of the engineers appointed for that purpose, were engaged on Tuesday last, (in the neighborhood and site of the intended operations,) in valuing such private property as it will be necessary for the government to take into its possession, another means of occupation and employment is thus afforded to the industrious mechanics and laborers, and Canada is to be enriched and secured at the expense of others. It shows the value the British government attaches to the occupation of these provinces, and we indulge a hope that the wealth and resources of Great Britain are to be employed for nobler purposes and more exalted views than to give perpetuity in the new world to the dark, illiberal anti-British and anti-social instructions of the feudal ages from which the old world has long shaken itself free.

(Montreal paper.)

Discovery in Africa.—The following is an extract of a letter from Mr. Ashmun, agent of the Colonization Society, to the Board at Washington.

"An excursion of one of our people in the interior to the distance of about 140 miles, has led to a discovery of the populousness and comparative civilization of this District of Africa, never, till within a few months, even conjectured by myself.—The same individual is now absent on a second journey; the particulars of both, I hope to be able to present to the Board by the next conveyance. In the mean time, it may not be without interest to observe, that we are situated within fifty leagues of a country, in which highly improved agriculture prevails; where the horse is a common domestic animal; where extensive tracts of land are cleared and enclosed; where every article absolutely necessary to comfortable life, is produced by the soil, or manufactured by the skill and industry of the inhabitants; where the Arabic is used as a written language in the ordinary commerce of life; where regular and abundant markets and fairs are kept, and where a degree of intelligence and partial refinement distinguishes the inhabitants, little compatible with the personal qualities attached, in the current notions of the age to the people of Guinea."

Mr. Ashmun proceeds to state, that it has been the policy of the neighboring tribes to shut out as much as possible the colonists from the interior, and even to conceal from them the fact of the existence of such a people as are now found in possession of the country at a little distance from the coast. The reason he states to be, their "desire to possess

themselves of the streams of commerce, by concealing the remote sources of their gains." It is now ascertained, beyond all doubt, that the inland tribe are anxious to open a direct communication with the colony, as a large proportion of the exports from the colony are at present, from these interior regions. It is believed that opening a free passage will double the amount. Arrangements are making accordingly, to effect this object by amicable negotiations with the coast tribes, & Mr. Ashmun thinks there is a promise of speedy and entire success.

Sec. of Soc.

ON THE CAUSE OF RAIN.—Every one must have noticed an obvious connexion between heat and the vapor in the atmosphere. Heat promotes evaporation, and contributes to retain the vapor when in the atmosphere, and cold precipitates or condenses the vapor. But these facts do not explain the phenomenon of rain, which is as frequently with an increase as with a diminution of the temperature of the atmosphere.

The late Dr. Hutton, of Edinburgh, is generally allowed to be the first person who published a correct notion of the cause of rain. (See Edin. Trans. vol. i. and ii. and Hutton's Dissertations, &c.) Without deciding whether vapor be simply expanded by heat, and diffused through the atmosphere, or chemically combined with it, he maintained from the phenomena that the quantity of vapor capable of entering into the air increases in a greater ratio than the temperature; and hence he fairly infers, that whenever two volumes of air of different temperatures are mixed together, each being previously saturated with vapor, a precipitation of a portion of vapor must ensue, in consequence of the mean temperature not being able to support the mean quantity of vapor.

The cause of rain, therefore is now no longer an object of doubt. If two masses of air of unequal temperatures, by the ordinary currents of the winds, are intermixed, when saturated with vapor, a precipitation ensues. If the masses are under saturation, then less precipitation takes place, or none at all, according to the degree. Also, the warmer the air, the greater is the quantity of vapor precipitated in like circumstances. Hence the reason why rains are heavier in summer than winter, and in warm countries than in cold.

INDIANAPOLIS, OCT. 2.

We have taken some pains to ascertain the amount of certain articles imported into this place within the past year. They have been mostly consumed in the county, though similar articles equal to our wants might and ought to be manufactured at home. It is hoped that the facts submitted, will induce exertions to remedy evils that must prove so disastrous to the prosperity of the county. It appears that within the time mentioned, twelve of our merchants and innkeepers, have purchased for home consumption from manufacturers without the county, 76 kegs of tobacco, 213 barrels of whiskey, 200 barrels of flour, 100 kegs of powder and 4500 pounds of spun cotton. The first cost of these articles must somewhat exceed \$5,000 and when we add what has been purchased from other sources by individuals for their private use, and what has been paid for cigars, cordage, linseed oil and hats, it is believed that the first cost of the whole will fall but little short of \$10,000.

Another year will no doubt lessen the importation of some of the articles mentioned. The wheat crop was good and it is thought to be nearly sufficient for home consumption. At any rate, we have been supplied with flour with but slight exceptions, of our own manufacture, in plenty and of a good quality, since harvest. The hatching business it is expected will be carried on in future, as extensively as our wants require. In this article and that of flour, there will be a saving of at least \$3,000. We do not learn that the manufacture of whiskey is increasing. It does not appear that more than 71 barrels of whiskey, distilled in the county, have been purchased by our merchants within the year.

No attempts have yet been made to manufacture tobacco, powder, linseed oil, cordage or cotton yarn.—Journal.

Philadelphia September 26.

About sun-set on Sunday evening, the sky assumed an uncommonly brilliant appearance. It was overcast with dense clouds, from the centre almost to the western horizon, between which, and the termination of the clouds, there was an unsullied sky which extended as far as the eye could see. The termination of the clouds ran parallel with the horizon. The strip, as the sun descended, shone like a lake of living fire gilding the trees, steeples, houses tops and window with a richness of coloring, beyond the art of man to imitate. The heavy clouds remained impervious to the sun beams, and thus by confining them within a narrow compass, increased their brilliancy. As the sun descended, the splendor of the strip diminished, and the coloring was softened, it gradually faded away but did not entirely disappear until more than an hour after the sun had gone down. Numbers of our citizens looked on it with wonder and admiration.