

these "airy nothings" "a local habitation and a name"—the fancies of poetry, and the breathings of prophecy. And yet this gifted man, whose works are familiar to Americans and Englishmen,—whose magic influence is felt wheresoever the language of England is read and spoken—in the far places of the world—even its extremities in the east and the west; for though we could strike the sceptre of King George from his hand when he waved it over our regions, the throne of Shakespeare is yet amongst us, as immovable as the Alleghenies—This wonderful man, whose empire is universal, who had—*"ruled like a wizard the world of the heart."*

And called up its sunshine and bro't down its showers,"
was a wool comber!

I have in my way endeavored to furnish the gentleman from Leicester with my historical reminiscences, from which I hope he will learn that these humble mechanics whom he derides, have exercised a most powerful, direct & decided influence upon the comforts, the happiness, the morals, the wealth, and the power of man. That they have brought to the common stock of human knowledge their full proportion of useful science, invention, and genius—that from their ranks have sprung warriors and statesmen, poets and philosophers.

I could swell the catalogue with many more illustrious names, but I have furnished the gentleman with enough for the present. He may give heed to my facts if he pleases. He may call my statements "tinkling stuff," if it suits him—but I hope he will not again undertake to deride a class of men, who to say the least, are as respectable as any other.

I am sensible, Mr. Speaker, that I have been too discursive, and that much of my matter is foreign to the question; but as the gentleman from Leicester entered upon a wide field, I thought it would be no great violation of parliamentary rule to follow him.

GEN. HARRISON IN COLOMBIA.

We have received says the N. York Journal of Commerce, from our correspondent at Washington, a pamphlet of 96 pages 8vo. entitled "Remarks of Gen. Harrison, late Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to the Republic of Colombia, on certain charges made against him by that government: To which is added an unofficial letter from Gen. Harrison to Gen. Bolivar, on the affairs of Colombia; with notes explanatory of his views of the present state of the country." What space we have to devote to this subject, we cannot better occupy than by giving a detail of the facts in the case, as entered in the journal of Mr. Tayloe, the American Secretary of Legation, and copied into the pamphlet above stated.

October 3, 1829. Having made previous arrangements to visit the family of Mr. Henderson, British Consul General, then resident at Anolaima, Gen. Harrison, Dr. Cheyne, and myself, set out early on the morning of the 27th. We crossed the plain of Bogota, on the road leading towards Honda, and passed over a lofty range of mountains. The descent was long, fatiguing, and dangerous. We travelled about eleven leagues, and arrived at Anolaima at 2 P. M.

After spending two days at that place, it was our intention to return to Bogota. On the evening previous to the morning fixed for our departure, a friend—Mr. Van Rensselaer, arrived, to inform us of most extraordinary transaction which had just transpired in the capital, and which required our immediate return, as it related to us all, but especially to Mr. Henderson. It appeared that an American, (by birth—not in character) an officer in the Colombian service had denounced to the Government the British Consul General as an agent in the military government which was just known to have taken place at Antioquia, and had spoken of the family of Gen. H., as well as other Americans in Bogota, as accomplices in a conspiracy to overthrow the existing government. The absurdity of such charges could be equalled only by the baseness of the informer, who had framed them in order to acquire rank, by the display of pretended devotion to the powers in esse. We learned, too, that his object had been accomplished—that his villany had been rewarded by promotion, and the appointment, of aid-de camp to General O'Leary, who had been sent in command of a detachment of troops to reduce Gen. Cordova—that his venomous slanders had gained credit with a government too willing to give ear to them—and the probable consequence would be our immediate expulsion from Colombia.

The General and Mr. Henderson left Anolaima early on Wednesday morning, (30th) & proceeded, in haste, to Bogota, whilst it was judged advisable that I should go to Guaduas, to advise the General's son, who had been residing there for some weeks, of the facts which we had heard, and to con-

duct him with me to the capital. I reached Guaduas about 6 P. M.

October 14. Yesterday morning Gen. Harrison and myself left Bogota, to visit the salt mine of Zipaquirá, about 35 miles over the plain, in a northern direction. We arrived at 11-2 P. M., and soon after visited the works. Before 2 this morning, we were aroused by a messenger, who had left the capital at 5-1-2 on the preceding evening. He brought to the General, letters from Mr. Albert Gooding, and Colonel Moore. The former gentleman had been arrested and imprisoned, at 1 o'clock, upon the charge of having given to us a dinner, in opposition to the government, on the preceding Sunday. The dinner given by the Government, was in honor of the American Minister, who had been presented on the 26th ultimo, as was usual on such occasions. Gen. Harrison and myself were invited, but we had thought proper to decline; because several members of the Government had imputed to us an intimate connexion with the recent insurrection of Cordova; and no apology had been offered us, when they knew the falsity of their absurd charges. At the request of the General, I informed Mr. Gooding, that, "we would both take pot-luck with him on that day." Mr. Moore informed us that Mr. Gooding had been imprisoned on account of his intimacy with General Harrison, and in order to compel our late Legation to leave the country, as our residence here was prejudicial to its interests—that upon our offering to depart as early as the 18th or 19th instant, Mr. Gooding would be released.

In reply to Mr. Moore, General Harrison stated, that as he communicated to him, yesterday morning, his intention to do so—that he might assure the government of it, and obtain the release of Mr. Gooding; but after having taken this step to release so worthy a fellow-citizen from unmerited punishment, he must protest against the extraordinary course pursued by the Colombian government on this occasion, and demand the reasons which have induced them to adopt it: he demanded the facts upon which they have thought proper to withdraw from him the rights of hospitality, and force him from the country, whilst necessarily waiting for the conveyance provided by his government for his return to the United States.

After breakfast, we visited the Salt Mountain, and then set out to return to Bogota.—Upon our arrival, we were surprised to learn that Mr. Gooding was still confined, although the rigor of his imprisonment had been mitigated by his removal from amongst the common felons with whom he had been confined nearly thirty hours. The government had reposed no confidence in General Harrison's assurance of his intention to leave this city, as soon as he had said, and were persuaded that it was his intention to remain in Bogota until news was received decisive of the fortunes of Cordova. They expressly stated so to Mr. Moore.

October 15. This morning, Mr. Moore addressed an official note to the Government, demanding a statement of the reasons, at General Harrison's request, why they wished to deny him the rights of hospitality, and force him from the country, whilst waiting for the conveyance provided by his Government for his return to the United States. Mr. Moore again waited on the Council, to require the fulfilment of their promise to release Mr. Gooding. They declined doing so, upon the ground that new charges had been brought against him. It has been made known to them, that General Harrison had instigated Mr. Gooding to assassinate Colonel Campbell, M. de Bresson, General Urdaneta, Mr. Vergara and Miranda! General Urdaneta said that the quiet and good order of the city had been entrusted to him by General Bolivar—there were none but raw Militia here—and these were so exasperated against General Harrison and Mr. Gooding, that he would not be answerable for the life of either of them, if the latter were released! Bolivar would never forgive him, were so unhappy an occurrence to take place. He said, moreover, that his words had been misinterpreted to Mr. Moore—that he had not promised to release Mr. Gooding, when General Harrison would give an assurance that he would depart on a certain day—but he promised to release him after General Harrison had actually left the capital. This was a quibble, as the hour of eleven, A. M., had been appointed for his release to-day.

In the evening, between five and six, Mr. Moore again applied to the Council, and offered to become security for the good conduct of Mr. Gooding. The Council consented to accept it, having finally determined to comply with their first promise to Mr. Moore, as it was understood by him. The order was signed by Urdaneta, for Mr. Gooding's release; was sent to the Prefect, and at about eight, he was set at liberty.

At the same time that Mr. Gooding was imprisoned on the 13th, an order was issued for the expulsion of Mr. Henderson, British Consul General, directing him to leave Bogota in three

days. As the plot begins to thicken, an eclairsissement is beginning to take place.—We have now strong grounds to believe that there are base villains in the diplomatic, as well as in the military corps: and that men, who have pretended to be our best friends, have been most active in forming the malignant charges against us, of plotting to overthrow the government, and to assassinate several of its members, as well as the British Charge d'Affairs and the French commissioner.

October 16. After dark, this evening, Mr. Gooding came to our house, and stated that he had just received information, from an unquestionable source, of the entire defeat of the corps which had marched against Cordova, under the command of General O'Leary. Minute particulars of the action were given. I was still in doubt as to the accuracy of the intelligence, when Mr. Moore came into my room, and earnestly advised us to prepare ourselves against an attack, which he had no doubt would be made upon us, if the news proved to be true.—While we were putting the house in a state of defence, he would, himself, endeavor to ascertain the truth, from some of the officers of the Government. Directing Mr. Gooding to remain with us, as his safety might be endangered if he were seen in the streets, he rode over to the town, whilst we were preparing our arms according to his council. After nearly an hour he returned with an assurance, that the whole was a fabrication. The object, it appeared to us, was to ascertain the friends and adherents of Cordova, who, encouraged by such an event, might be induced to manifest their py in the streets, and they would have been cut to pieces by the troops, which, we were assured, were under arms. A commotion of this kind might, also, have induced consequences fatal to ourselves.

October 17. No other important occurrence became known yesterday. To-day a friend came, and earnestly inquired of us whether we had put our signatures to any paper without knowing its contents; he stated, that it was reported that we had carried on a correspondence with Antioquia; that the Government here believed, that as General Harrison had been recalled by General Jackson, that the present Government of the United States would deny us the justice of the demand we should make for reparation for the insult offered us by this Government, so they felt secure of our ruin and dishonor; that it was reported, that the Ministers appointed by Mr. Adams were instructed to interfere in the internal concerns of the new Republics, to which they were accredited; but that those appointed by General Jackson were instructed to pursue a contrary course of conduct. He assured General Harrison that the greatest exertion were making to obtain information which might criminate him, and that his enemies would stop at nothing to effect their object.

We dined with Col. Torrens, Charge des Affairs of Mexico, at 3. An hour before, he had received his passport from the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, ordering him to leave the territory of the Republic in six days. We afterwards learned that the cause of this sudden step was the receipt of a letter from Cartagena, stating, that a letter from Antioquia, received in that city, mentioned that General Harrison and Col. Torrens were both concerned in, and knew of Cordova's insurrection.

An order was signed to-day, by General Urdaneta, directing that we should not be permitted to remain any where, a single day, on our route to the coast. This order was afterwards withdrawn—at all events it is not enforced—nor could it have been, unless a guard had been sent to execute it.

Mr. Moore had repeated applications during the day, for an answer to his note of the 15th: and it was promised to him in the morning—afterwards in the evening—and finally, a note from an officer of the state Department informed him that he should receive it in the morning of to-morrow, (Sunday.)

October 18. We were all day expecting to receive Mr. Vergara's note. In the evening it arrived—it came, pregnant with charges, but proofs, upon which these were founded, are withheld, with the promise of communicating them through Mr. Moore to the Government of the United States.

NEW ORLEANS, April 1.

A fire broke out yesterday between 11 and 12 o'clock A. M. in a house in Custom house st., between Dorsiere and Chartres streets; the progress of the flames was such that it communicated to the adjoining building, and both houses were consumed in a few moments. We are sorry to learn that one of those houses was occupied by Messrs. Stroud and Pew, editors of the Mercantile Advertiser, who have lost the greatest part of their printing establishment, but we have been informed that fortunately for them it was insured.—Bee.

FOREIGN NEWS.

At a meeting of the merchants, manufacturers, &c. of Manchester, a series of spirited resolutions were adopted, in which the distress of the country was attributed to excessive taxation, and in a great measure unnecessary expenditure and monopoly. We extract the following passage from the speech of Mr. Shuttleworth, delivered at this meeting:

"A very slight glance at the immense amount of taxation which has been wrung from the country, will clearly account for the difficulties of our present situation.—From January, 1797, to January, 1817, the gross produce of the revenue exceeded 1,290 millions, and in the same period the public debt was increased 450 millions; so that the total expenditure amounted, in twenty years, to about 1,740 millions [shame, shame!]*—*or an average of eighty-seven millions a year. During a part of this period the expenditure considerably exceeded this average. In the five years, from 1811 to 1815, inclusive, so utterly reckless of consequences were those who then administered the national resources, that the expenditure amounted to £613,423,000, or an average of nearly 123 millions a year. From 1817, inclusive, the expenditure has been about nine hundred millions, which, added to the former sum, makes the expenditure, for a period of little more than thirty years, two thousand six hundred millions—a sum, the mighty vastness of which no human mind has power distinctly to comprehend. [Loud and continued cheers.] It is no wonder that such an enormous drain for the purposes of state should spread ruin through the land, and plunge into almost unbearable misery the laboring population. And let it not be expected that the evil effects of this drain can be lessened, without the most rigid, systematic, and unsparring public economy."

The general distress is likewise fearfully increasing in Ireland. In Dublin alone, as it appears from the books and investigations of the Mendicity institution, the aggregate of those receiving relief from the relief committee, including about 3,000 beggars, living upon casual alms, amounts to 20,000. In the house of commons on the 1st of March,

"Mr. O'Connell presented a petition from certain inhabitants of the town of Drogheda, complaining of great distress. The petitioners stated, that there were 16,000 inhabitants in the town, 8,000 of whom are so destitute of clothing, or fuel, as to be dependent on a subscription for their relief, the amount of which did not exceed £25 a week, and which would not afford more than three farthings per week to each. They also added that the corporation of Drogheda were in possession of lands belonging to certain charities which produced £20,000 a year, and yet they refused to appropriate any of that amount to the relief of the poor. They therefore prayed that means might be adopted for affording them some relief."

In the late debates in the British parliament, Mr. Atwood said—

"The exchequer was receiving twenty millions less than during the war—The landed interest twenty millions less and the laboring classes not half so much as at that former period; in fact, these latter, instead of money were obliged to be content to receive butter, hats, clothes and such like commodities, in exchange for their services; and one instance that he had heard of, carried this so far that a laborer having received a leg of mutton for his labor, and having a child to be baptized, he took his joint to the parson, and begged him to cut off as many slices as were equivalent to the baptismal fee [a laugh and hear, hear.]"

On the question of disfranchising the borough of East Retford, Mr. O'Connell, in reply to lord Howick remarked—

"The argument of the noble lord, that East Retford ought not to be disfranchised, because there were many other places equally corrupt, although that corruption had not been legally established, appeared to him to be most extraordinary. Suppose, during the late heavy snows, a number of wolves (say a hundred and fifty) had rushed from the Pyrenes into the south of France, and that one of them had been so clumsy and inactive, as to allow himself to be wounded, driven up into a corner, and taken, what would have been thought of the man who should have started forward and exclaimed, 'Oh! don't kill this wolf, for there are a hundred and forty-nine wolves who have escaped,' [hear, hear! and a laugh.] Similar to this, however, was the recommendation of the noble lord."

It must to our view be confessed, that the expenses of Great Britain are on a scale unnecessarily large. For example, the Army and ordnance, is 47,000,000—the navy, \$28,000,000—miscellaneous 10,000,000 dollars—making for military purposes, the great sum of 85 millions of dollars a year! Thirty millions more than our whole national

debt! The army, supported by the above estimate, is not less than 130,000 men. Our army is 5,600 men.

The King, for himself, pay of servants, and all household charges, receives about one million seven hundred thousand dollars per annum, about 500,000 dollars more than the pay of our whole standing army. The Royal Family, consisting of thirteen persons, receives about 1,100,000 dollars per annum.—Our president receives 25,000 dollars, per annum. The Vice President and four heads of department each 6,000 dollars a year. These are the highest salaries paid in our government. While they are strikingly favorable in contrast with the British allowances, they admonish us of the fact that our public men are generally underpaid. If Great Britain is on the extreme of profusion, we are on the other of pigardly parsimony."

A Curiosity.—A gentleman informed us a few days since, that a day or two previous, while in pursuit of wild Turkeys in Hart county Ky. in company with a friend, that they discovered on the summit of a knoll or elevation, a large hole, that would admit a man's body without much difficulty. Curiosity led them to make preparations for descending into it, and after the necessary preparations, and having obtained lights and other company they descended, and at the depth of about sixty feet, entered a cavity or room apparently cut out of solid rock, (through which they passed for many feet,) which appeared to be 16 or 18 feet square.—Our informant was the first person who entered the subterranean room, and he said he was not a little surprised, that the first object which met his eyes was a human skull with the teeth all in it. Upon further examination, it was found that the whole place was filled with human skeletons, of men, woman and children.—Except immediately under the small aperture through which they descended, the place was perfectly dry and the bones in a state of great preservation. An entire skeleton of a human body was obtained. They concluded to examine how deep the bones laid, and penetrated through them in one place between four and seven feet, but found them just as plenty as on top, but there seemed to rise an offensive effluvia, as they began to come to where it was a little damp. There was no out-let to the room, and a large snake which they found in there, and which appeared entirely docile, passed around the room several times while they were in it. It is a subject for the speculation of wise men and philosophers, as those who visited it have no conjecture as to the cause of this singular habitation or charnel house of human remains. Watchtower.

Mr. Chilton's abandonment of his party and his principles, produces some noise in the country; not because there is the least importance attached to the somerset itself, but as exhibiting a member of Congress in so detestable and degrading an attitude. When the thing was first announced by the gentleman himself, that he had determined to give the lie to his conduct and professions for several years back; all parties felt so much contempt for him that none would have him. Subsequently however, he showed some skill in publishing gross falsehoods against the present administration, which is considered so good a qualification among the adherents of Mr. Clay, that he has been taken into high favor among them. Mr. Chilton, was not of the least consequence to the Republican party in Kentucky, and while they were anxious for his success when running for Congress, it was only because there was a great principle then involved in the contest. The gentleman who was his opponent was admitted to be his superior in all respects.

There is not half as much noise made over Mr. Kincaid, and we wonder at it, for his adhesion to the Webster party, as there is over Mr. Chilton. It is no doubt mortifying to the pride of our representative, thus to have the great Mr. Chilton, thrust above him in the niche of fame. lb.

An incident occurred a few days since at Smithland, which is worthy of notice. A Mr. Lynch, on his passage to Cincinnati, on board the steam boat Hudson, had in company with him, a little girl, an adopted child, about 6 years of age, who was accidentally precipitated from the deck of the Hudson as she was rounding to. The Fairy, Capt. Buckner, was at that moment approaching, and two of her crew seeing the child fall from the Hudson, sprang to the jolly boat, and by great exertions succeeded in saving it from a watery grave. We are informed by Capt. Buckner, that the prompt and humane efforts of the men who saved the child, were as promptly and generously rewarded by Mr. Lynch, who gave to each of them one hundred dollars. Lou. Adv.