

# PUBLIC LEGER.

FOR THE PUBLIC LEGER.

Mr. EDITOR.—The Congressional election is rapidly approaching: electioneering hand-bills and circulars from two of the candidates may be found in every tavern and grogshop in the county: Amid all this jarring of discordant interests, it becomes the duty of every well-wisher of his country to investigate calmly the relative merits and talents of the different candidates. Although unused to political writing of every sort, I feel an interest in the present election, and shall endeavor to discuss the qualifications of the candidates in as fair and candid a manner as I am able.

JOHN TEST, is the incumbent at this time; he has been one session to Congress, and the most strenuous of his supporters cannot produce one act of his, during the five or six months the session lasted, evidencing a strong mind or an intimate acquaintance with the theory of our government, or a knowledge of the interests of his constituents. When the session was near a close, when, every moment was valuable, when some of the most important measures were yet to be acted upon, Mr. Test took up several hours of the little time left, to speak on a subject with which he has shown himself entirely unacquainted. The bill he opposed passed the house by a vote of 117 to 66, and every reflecting man, must know it will be a saving to the country of several thousand dollars. Can it be supposed that one hundred and seventeen of the oldest and ablest members of Congress would vote for a bill that would be a loss to the nation. The idea is absurd. Mr. Test, did not understand the principles of the bill. He had been there so long without saying or doing any thing, that he supposed his constituents would forget him; he had remained silent on the two great measures of Internal Improvements, and the Tariff; and he could not present himself before his constituents and ask them for a continuance of their confidence without pointing to some one act, to show him worthy of it; and he made a speech:—I will not attempt to tell how long he was composing it, but I will defy any man to commence reading about the middle of it and tell what he is aiming at. The speech cost the country somewhere about *three thousand dollars*, and what is the country benefited by it. Mr. Test's Circular has been long before the public; and I have not been able to find one man that is satisfied with it. His course with regard to the presidency, is, to say the least of it, a very suspicious one. Can any one suppose that he has no preference or partiality on the subject. Though Mr. Test says so himself, I will not think so meanly of him as to suppose he has no opinion of his own. Almost every man in the community has, ere this, formed an opinion of the relative merits of the different candidates. One fact is sufficient to show Mr. Test's jesuitical policy on this subject.—West of us, his warmest advocate and supporter, electioneers for him among the friends of Henry Clay, because he is favorable to Clay's election; and in this country and Union, his friends support him because he is a friend to Adams. Will the public be deceived by so shallow an artifice? A way with all men who would pursue such a course. In my next I will endeavor to expose some of the absurdities of Mr. Ray's Circular.

L. J. B.

White water, July 21.

(From the Genius of Universal Emancipation.)

## BLACK LIST.

Humanity! Humanity!—It is the general opinion in some parts of the U. S. and of Europe, that the system of slavery does not now partake of that cruel character, in America, that it formerly did; but that the slaves, in general, are treated quite *humanely*. I was, a short time since, present at a meeting of the members of an Abolition Society, where a very animated debate took place, and which turned altogether upon this point. One of the gentlemen, in defending the above doctrine, grew warm—eloquent—almost mad with patriotic ardor, and seemed fully resolved to do away, in an effectual manner, the impression that cruelty toward slaves is still countenanced in this liberty-loving country. I shall, hereafter, for his edification, as well as that of others, who are of the same opinion, furnish a few *appalling statements*; and, if they do not shut up their mouths, will probably create a little distrust in their bosoms as to the correctness of that opinion, which, I will do them the justice to suppose, is based upon information derived from doubtful sources. That a great degree of improvement has taken place, where the opponents of slavery are getting numerous, is certainly true; but of other places, so much cannot be said. Indeed the change is effected very "gradually" wherever it is perceptible.

Some short time since, I have been ve-

ry credibly informed, a man of high standing in an adjoining county, shot at a black man, for a trifling insult (the use of a few saucy words) to a lady. The ball passed through the upper part of the negro's hat; and finding he was not injured, the outrageous tyrant had him taken, most severely flogged, and the wounds, inflicted by the whip, well salted! The black was a slave of a neighbour of his.

In the same section of country, two free coloured men, who could not be easily distinguished from whites, by a stranger, lost their lives, a few years ago, for daring to answer the rude insulting language of some white russians.

In another place, not far from this, a very bright coloured man was recently shot as he was returning home, in the evening, from meeting. His offence was supposed to be, that a young lady, whiter than himself had fallen in love with him! He was held in high estimation by his acquaintances.

It is not a very uncommon thing, in some parts of the U. States, for slaves to be tied up by the wrists, raised a foot, or so, from the ground, their feet tied a little apart, and the end of a fence rail put between them, to hold them steady, when they are flogged till the *humane* one is tired; and after taking a rest he repeats, perhaps two or three times, the *not "cruel"* performance. Some have been known to be whipped nearly, others quite, to death, in this way!

We have heard much of the barbarity of the Turks, the Algerines, and the *uncivilized* inhabitants of other parts of the earth. But it is susceptible of the fullest demonstration that man, possessed of unlimited power over his fellow creature, is *sure to abuse it*; and that, in general, human nature is all in all, the world over.

From the (Virginia) Pacific Monitor.

Feb. 11th, 1824.

"Negro Tom was tried by a called Court on the 4th inst. and condemned to be hung on the 13th of March next.

The Court fixed his price at five hundred dollars, a tax on the state. Query, what advantage does the state derive from this kind of property? Should not the Legislature, to be consistent, pay friend Jackson for his Bull, which was killed by a caucus of his neighbors?"

Thus, it will be seen that the Aristocratic interest, in Virginia is wisely managed to pick the pockets of the poor. The slave of a wealthy man is executed because he is considered dangerous to the public, and all those who pay taxes must help to pay the price of him!—Hire a villain to swear against them, and you might hang them by scores—their masters are paid for them—what need they care!!!

G. U. Eman.

From the Cincinnati National Crisis.

THE TRIO.—Mordecai Menasseh the Jew, my Lord of Buckingham, the chaste and moral Editor of the *Galaxy*, and Dr. Coleman, of scull-cap memory, have lately joined their talents to oppose the election of Mr. Adams. Such a brilliant constellation of principle, genius, and political wisdom, was never before displayed. Timothy Pickering, in his dying struggles, has been *denied* by these priests of the temple. The Colonel while sinking into oblivion has attempted to draw his opponents after him; and it would, perhaps, have consecrated his memory, if he had been even partially successful. We wish the *REVIEW* may obtain all the immortality, that such a canonization can give it—but when we recollect that Noah has been the pander to one of the most disgraceful factions that ever existed in any country,—a faction that has hitherto prostrated the great and powerful state of New York, hurled a Kent, a Spencer, and a Pratt from the bench, and denied to a Clinton the poor privilege of superintending the operations of his own Canal—when we recollect that this same Noah has been a licensed slanderer, a "chartered libertine" in whatever is false and contemptible—we are fearful his services will contribute but little to advance the cause he advocates.

Who has not read the libels of the *Galaxy*: the unallowed attempts to bring religion into disgrace, and the unblushing charges against the most virtuous men, that are found in its pages? Who does not know that its Editor has been indicted, and convicted for his unfounded and malicious slanders? And this man, too, attempts to blacken the fair fame of John Quincy Adams.

Poor Coleman—we leave the Doctor in his brown study—he is harmless after dinner, and shews symptoms of old age, and mental imbecility in the morning. "The last ebbing sand" of his political importance are already visible in the glass; before they completely run out, we would beseech the old gentleman to resign his editorial labors, and hereafter improve the world by his monthly or quarterly dissertations on contagion and the scull-cap.

We could scarcely conceal our laughter, when we were gravely told a few days since, on the authority of one of the acting Canal Commissioners, that the *Western Reserve* would give a powerful vote for Mr. Clay. We had thought, that the intelligent yeomanry of that part of the state, knew the value of their privileges, and would not hesitate to exercise their own opinions in their way. In this belief we are not disappointed. We have but just time to give the following extract of a letter from one of the most eminent men in Ohio, dated

"Warren, Trumbull Co. June 24, 1824.

"Mr. Adams is the candidate of my choice, and I believe will receive a very general support in this part of the state. A meeting was held in this place the present week, the Court being in session, by a number of the citizens from all parts of the County.—The vote were, for Adams 115—Jackson 10—Clay 5—Crawford 3. I believe the vote to be a very true indication of the sense of this county."

The friends of Adams in the Reserve, are rising in their strength, and we have every rational ground to assure our fellow-citizens, that the vote of Ohio is now placed beyond doubt.—*Ib.*

## FOREIGN.

[Selected from various Eastern Papers.]

PORTUGAL.—The news from Portugal is the most important. On the 7th of May the king went on board the British ship Windsor Castle, from which he issued a proclamation. The subjoined extract of a letter, taken from the Gibraltar Chronicle of the 20th, contains a summary of its principal contents, and several decrees published at the same time. The prince Don Miguel was divested of his command of the army, and sent off in a frigate on his travels.

*Extract from a private letter.*

*Tarifa, (Portugal) May 14.*—His Majesty, highly displeased with the Infante's conduct since the 30th of April, came to the determination of manifesting his sentiments; and, that he might do so with the less risk of compromising the public tranquility, he, on the 9th inst. went on board a British ship of war in the Tagus whether he was followed by the Foreign Ambassadors, and there issued a Decree by which he took the command of the army from the Infante, and strictly enjoined the authorities to disregard his orders, or any that might be given in his name. At the same time he caused a Proclamation to the Portuguese to be circulated in which he related his son's arbitrary proceedings and their origin, and pointed out the result they might be attended with. He also ordered the individuals to be set at liberty who had been confined since the 30th of last month, and lastly wrote a letter to his son, desiring him to come on board. H. R. H. immediately obeyed the summons, and was subsequently removed to a frigate, it is said as a prisoner. These are, in substance, the news brought by this day's mail, which you will read at greater length when you receive the newspapers. In this place, some individuals had already been arrested, and vindictive men were improving the opportunity; but thanks be given to his Majesty, who has put an end to this tragedy!

The latest intelligence is from the same paper of May 22d, as follows:—

"By the William and Mary, in 6 days from Lisbon, we learn, that his Majesty had landed, tranquility being completely restored; and that the Infante Don Miguel had sailed in the Perola frigate, according to some for London, and according to others, for H. de Grace, whence he was to set out on a tour through some of the principal states of Europe."

The Queen of Portugal had been sent to a convent, there to pass the remainder of her days.

GREECE AND TURKEY.—It now appears that the late fire at Cairo by which the Viceroy's magazines were blown up, was the work of the ancient Mameluke Chief Ibra. Bey, who is said to have acted at the secret instigation of the Porte which had promised him the government of Egypt. This enterprising chief is a personal enemy of the Viceroy, who had caused all his family to be massacred; and is said to have by a *coup de main* made himself master of the citadel of Cairo, which commanded the city. The Wachabites continued to annoy the Turks, and intestine divisions prevailed in Albania. To add to these untoward events, the plague was raging violently in Alexandria, and it was generally believed that in the event of the failure of next campaign with the Greeks, the Mussulmen would rebel against the Porte.

The course pursued by the patriots is represented as extremely prudent. They had a corps on the frontiers of Macrinoras waiting for an opportunity to favour the party in Albania which might declare against the Porte. No opportunity was lost by the Greeks to annoy their oppressors. Their vessels almost covered the sea, and orders had been issued by the Admiralty at Hydra, to capture all vessels belonging to the Vice-roy of Egypt laden with supplies for the Turkish fortresses.—An article in the Augsburg Gazette, states the amount of the Greek army at 120,000 men, of which 40,000 were ready to march, and that the greatest unanimity prevailed throughout the country. It was considered certain, owing to the difficulties felt by the Porte, that the long talked of expedition for the re-conquest of the Morea, would never leave the Dardanelles.

The London Courier of the 28th May states as a report in the city, that the health of the King of France was in so precarious a state that the next arrivals might probably bring an account of his death.

It has been determined by the near relative of Lord Byron, that his remains should be brought to England, and deposited in Poet's Corner, in Westminster Abbey. The present Lord Byron (lately Captain George Anson Byron) had commissioned the Blonde, 46, ordered to be brought forward immediately at Woodwich, for the purpose of conveying home the body.

The London Courier of June 1, "The question of the recognition of American Independence continues more seriously to occupy public attentions, particularly in the city. We can venture to say that previously to the close of the present session of Parliament, a communication will be made on this question to the house of commons."

SPAIN.—This unfortunate country continued the prey of the monks and royalists; and such was the prospect presented by the agitated state of the public mind, in consequence of the outrages of the adherents of the monarchy, that Ferdinand had considered it essential to safety to renew the treaty with France, by which it has been stipulated that the army of occupation is to remain in the peninsula until January, 1825.—Considerable alarm also prevailed on account of the appearance of a failure in the harvest, or the prevalence of a great drought, which had caused the price of grain to be doubled.—Symptoms of the yellow fever likewise shown themselves at Valencia, where the prisons were filled with the victims.

SOUTH AMERICA.—Accounts from Brazil of the 22d May, confirm the intelligence formerly received, that Ferdinand had finally rejected the mediation of England as to South America, and that he would never consent to the independence of his ancient colonies, but would leave the matter to the decision of a Congress of European Sovereigns. The London Courier of the 25th May states, on the authority of letters from Madrid, that "the expedition fitting out at Cadiz is in a state of great forwardness, and will consist of 3000 men, who are to be ready by the beginning of July." This statement has been disputed by some of the papers, who were reiterating the Editor of the Courier, who seems to consider the design of Ferdinand on his "ancient colonies" no longer problematical. The renewal of the treaty for the occupation of Spain by the French during a longer period than originally intended, certainly gives color to the statement that a great proportion of the troops of the former were intended for S. America.—We should suppose that this measure so obviously intended on the part of France to promote the views of the Spanish monarch, will not be viewed with indifference by the British government, which has so pointedly declared, that any foreign interference in the dispute between Spain and the colonies, would be considered as a motive for recognising the latter without delay.

From the Philadelphia Gazette.

The following vessels of war are now equipping for sea with all possible despatch, to wit: North Carolina 74, Commodore Rogers; Commodore M'Donough; Hornet 22, Capt. Kennedy; Ontario 22, Captain Nicholson; Shark 12, Lieut. Stevens; Peacock 12, Lieut. Skinner; Storeship Devon, Lieut. Gamble.

The Washington Gazette presumes that a considerable portion of this armament is intended to shew itself along the coast of South America, and we trust the presumption is correct.—The appearance of a squadron of observation in those seas, will have more effect than all the fiery speeches and threatening resolutions of Congress.

It is not that we desire war, that we are in favor of a decided policy. On the contrary, it is from a conviction that the best way to preserve peace is to be prepared for war that we reprobate the *talking* propensity of our statesmen, and commend the conduct which promises to be more efficient. For Congress to have committed itself by "an expression of opinion" at the last session, would have been useless, and might ultimately have proved impolitic. It was enough for the President to assume a decided tone. Even for him to have spoken as he did, would have been *madness*, if he had not some assurance that Great Britain would pursue a similar policy.—Now, in case that power should not persist in her first intentions, we, also, can with honor draw back, and accommodate our policy to change of circumstances, since only one branch of the government has committed itself on this great question.

The interest of Great Britain is, however, too deeply involved, to suffer us to indulge the suspicion that she will for light reasons change her policy: and if we only shew ourselves in earnest in our negotiations, all will yet well. The neglect of Congress to complete the naval peace establishment, puts it out of the power of the President to give all the *demonstrations* of a decided policy which are desirable, but the force which he has at command, may, by judicious arrangements, be, perhaps, sufficient.

There has been a net gain to the state of New Hampshire, of \$2,799 61, from the labour of the convicts in the Penitentiary, during the past year.