

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

From Niles' Weekly Register.

GREAT BRITAIN.—We have extracts from English papers to the 24th July. It then appeared that the crop of wheat, (about the failure of which these papers lately told us so much), would be an average one. The distress of the laboring poor continues, and there was not at present any prospect of relieving it. The people were meeting in large numbers, and they were gloomy and sad, in general, but not so much disposed to riot as heretofore. They were evidently becoming more and more miserable. The wages of women and children, in some places, had been reduced to *one penny a day*—the price of articles had been greatly diminished in the hope of increasing the sale, but without effect, the markets being glutted. For instance, a piece of goods that lately cost 3s. 6d. paid to the weavers only, was selling for 5s. 9d. The cotton spinners, in general, it seems, will be hardly pushed to sustain themselves from becoming bankrupts. Business, of every description was languid. The people, in the manufacturing districts, were reported as supplying themselves with arms. We think that society in England, by the increase of the people pressing upon the means of subsistence, by the corn-laws, the taxes, the excises, by tythes and the poor rates, has nearly reached a point that will command some great changes in the policy of the country—for, as before observed, the people must live. Reformation may not take place for some time to come—the poor may yet subsist through the aid of those whom they have enriched, but these supplies will not last; and some radical changes must be effected to place the people in a condition suitable to the new state of things to which they have been introduced by the revolutions that have taken place in the commercial and manufacturing interest of most nations, and the many improvements that have taken place in almost every country.

From *Colombia* we learn that Paez still held the command in Venezuela, &c. and nothing effectual had yet been done to dispossess him of it.

PORTUGAL.—The following are given as some of the fundamental principles of the new constitution which the emperor of Brazil has granted to the people of Portugal, the throne of which he has abdicated in favor of his daughter. They are so liberal, that fears are entertained of an opposition to them on the part of Spain—in which nothing short of a dark and gloomy despotism is agreeable to her rulers. But Spain will be compelled to submit.

The legislative power consists of a chamber of peers and a chamber of deputies. The first hereditary and the latter elective. The elections are like those of France by means of electoral colleges. The right of suffrage is sufficiently extended to suit even the most democratic. The deputies are always elected for four years, and the legislature must sit three months in each year—the sessions to be public—the majority of votes to decide—complete freedom of speech and privilege from arrest to the members—and no peer or deputy to hold any office except that of minister of state or privy councillor. The duties and forms of the two chambers are precisely those of the English parliament. The king is the supreme head of the state and irresponsible. His ministers, however, are responsible. The judges are appointed for life, and removable for bad conduct only. Juries to decide questions of fact. The Catholic religion to be that of the state, but all others tolerated. No monk to enjoy any political rights. No amendments of the constitution to be made until after four years probation. The civil and political rights of the subject to be inviolable. No laws to be retro active. Private dwellings not to be invaded, except by officers of the law armed with legal authority. All citizens to be equal in the eye of the law, and all equally eligible to civil, political and military employments. Liberty of person and security of property guaranteed. No person to be persecuted or molested on account of his religion. A new civil and criminal code to be drawn up. The rack, torture and branding for ever abolished. No restrictions to be imposed on any sort of pursuit or profession.

The king has the moderating power, in nominating peers, convoking the cortes extraordinary, sanctioning their decrees, proroguing or adjourning the cortes, or dissolving the deputies when the safety of the country requires it, convoking another chamber; nominating or dismissing ministers of state, &c. As chief of the executive, he names bishops, magistrates and most civil and political officers; commanders by land and sea, ambassadors, and agents, &c. directs negotiations, makes treaties, declares war and peace; accepts or refuses the decrees of the pope, &c.—He must swear to the constitution.

The judicial power is independent, and composed of judges and juries for the civil and criminal laws. The king is authorized to suspend a judge in certain cases, but only on complaint preferred through the proper channel, which seems designed only as a check on them for good behaviour.

With the preceding principles, and those that are naturally attached to them—it is possible that the Portuguese will become possessed of as large a portion of the rights of human nature as they are, at present, able to understand and preserve. Mind has been so debased in most of the old monarchies of Europe, that a generation or two must pass away before the people are sufficiently improved to enjoy those blessings which the combined power of the "altar and the throne" have deprived them.

[From the Louisiana Messenger, July 28.]

TEXAS.

By a gentleman direct from Austin's settlements, we learn that the settlements there, and those on the Colorado, are not apprehensive of any attack from the Indians which they cannot repel. Occasional skirmishes between the whites and them have taken place ever since the settlement of the country—but it is not anticipated that any increased or combined attack will be made immediately. We state this fact, because the State Gazette of New-Orleans seemed to hold out the idea, some time since, that the savages were making increased preparation for war, and that the President of the United States ought to look to the defence of our citizens on this frontier. We have not heard either, of any expedition set on foot by the settlers, to inflict an injury upon the Indians—but we have heard that at St. Antonio (which is 200 miles beyond Austin's village, and under the protection of Mexico) recruits are making for the defence of that place—they propose to raise two hundred men.

The editor of the Gazette remarks, that he has no information as to the names of the tribes, and the number of each, who inhabit the neighboring provinces of Mexico, and says, "we are as much in want of light to day as we were yesterday."

The Indians who trouble the Mexican provinces are the Camanches. They are the most powerful and warlike tribe of Indians in America. Were they organized together, they can bring into the field 15,000 fighting men, as has been ascertained by the Mexican Government. They inhabit a country which commences not far west of this, which extends to the sources of Red River, in the Rocky Mountains, and even beyond that to the western ocean. They are all well armed for savages—most of the warriors having a gun, a spear, and an arrow. They are tall, robust and muscular—some of them measuring six feet six inches in height; but the more common size is near six feet; they are said to be the largest race of men in North America. There is no instance, we believe, where they have ever united their forces to any great extent, for purposes of mischief.

They wander, most of them, through a trackless and dreary wilderness, from year to year, without any fixed place of residence. It is impossible to conciliate them, which is owing principally to their unsettled state—they are scarcely ever your neighbors for two weeks at a time. We believe that their separation into many parties has given rise to other names for some of them—but we understand that most of the Indians between this and the ocean are of that tribe. We submit this brief outline of the tribe, from the authority of a gentleman, who left that country not many days since. But it is not in our power to give the geographical position of those countries, west, and south west of us—nor is there any thing said of them on the map of the United States, by which the reader can tell how the country lies.

Our informant states that seventeen were killed at St. Antonio, from January until April by the Camanches—three of whom were Americans, the others Spaniards. These acts were committed by small parties of the tribe at different times—who save themselves by flight. He states that the two hundred men recruiting will be sufficient for the defence of that place.

Austin's grant is said to be settling fast, and the people engaged in their domestic pursuits, in security.

"Westward the star of empire takes its way."

The Richmond Enquirer, in an article not more conspicuous for its dignity of tone, than for its judicious selection of epithets, has made an attack on Western interests and feelings, through Mr. Wright, one of the most able and upright Representatives in Congress from Ohio. The public dinner given to Mr. Wright by his constituents has elicited this elaborate compound of unfair statement and sickly argument; and the president and guests are assailed with the accustomed delicacy and moderation

of the opposition presses. In reply to the mark of Mr. Wright, that "the West never had a voice in the Cabinet Council," the Enquirer asks if "his own Ohio" has not Mr. McLean, and had not Mr. Meigs, in one of the principal departments of the Government? Did the Enquirer seriously intend this as a reply to Mr. Wright? Did it propose by this insinuation, to create an impression that the Postmaster attempts to exercise an influence in the Cabinet? If not, how can this appointment be regarded as an answer to Mr. Wright? The real cause of this soreness on the part of the Enquirer, is an unwise and premature jealousy of the West. If there is to be a Western interest raised, and this should be brought to act in conjunction with the Northern interest, "what" says the Enquirer, "what have the poor Southern States to hope for?" Not much, Heaven knows! if all the editors and advocates display as little judgment and foresight as the editor of the Enquirer, and some other editors south of the Potomac, whom we might mention. If there be a rising power in the West, which is destined to have an active influence on our policy—and will the Enquirer deny that there is?—should not wisdom and patriotism suggest to the Southern editors to assume a tone and spirit of conciliation towards this growing influence? Can any thing be more impolitic than this perpetual recurrence to Southern feelings and Southern interests, as separate and distinct from national feelings and interests? When doubt and jealousy creep into the bosom of a family, what is the inevitable result?—disunion. Does not the injudicious course of some editors, and politicians of the South tend to the same result? We will not attribute to the Enquirer a desire to produce this result; but unless its editor be acting under the influence of an infatuation of the most deep and dangerous character, he cannot deny that such must be the ultimate consequence of jealousies so selfish, and assaults so illiberal. If there must be a competition between the different sections of the country, let it be a rivalry in virtue and intelligence, and if the West, in such a struggle, should bear off the laurel we would not hesitate to exclaim—"Palmam, qui meruit, ferat."—*National Journal*.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H. Aug. 19.

In 1810 there were in New Hampshire but 12 manufacturing establishments, with 5956 spindles; and the whole amount of woollen, cotton, flaxen and tow cloth manufactured by them and by families throughout the state in that year, was only 3,374, 135 yards. There are now in this state more than fifty cotton and woollen factories, and the amount of cloth manufactured annually, cannot be far from 30,000,000 yards. Some of the towns in the vicinity of Portsmouth have within a few years been wonderfully changed from agricultural to manufacturing pursuits. The factory establishments of Newmarket, Dover, Somersworth, Berwick, &c. have made our neighborhood a manufacturing district, and the future good or bad effects of this pursuit, must in time have a great influence upon our prosperity.

In 1822, that part of Somersworth called Great Falls, contained but two dwelling houses. Now the eyes of the visitor are greeted with a pleasantly situated and beautiful village of between sixty and seventy buildings, chiefly erected within the last two years, either built of brick, or painted, and many of the same size and appearance, laid out with so much regularity, that if exhibited in a picture, it would partake too much of formality to appear natural. This is exclusively a manufacturing village—nothing is to be seen but what has some relation to the establishment.

Here are four factories—one for cotton, built of wood, 5 stories, (including basement and attic) 35 feet wide and 65 feet long, containing 1600 spindles, and manufactures 7000 yards No. 20 cotton cloth weekly.

One of brick, 5 stories, 45 by 156 feet, containing nearly 6000 spindles, and will manufacture from 16,000 to 18,000 yards No. 40 cloth per week.

One of brick, 6 stories, 49 by 120 feet, exclusively for broadcloths.

One recently erected, of brick, 6 stories high, 49 by 390 feet, for cotton and woollen manufacture. This is the most extensive building devoted to manufacturing purposes in New-Hampshire, if not in N. England.—There is also a building of brick, 4 stories high, 32 by 134 feet, occupied as a dye-house, for the manufacture of carpets, &c. another house of brick, 3 stories high, 28 by 100 feet, for drying.—A building of brick, 35 by 65, for trip-hammers and machine shops. There is also an extensive range of work shops; 40 dwelling houses of wood, two stories high, 24 by 40 feet; 5 extensive boarding houses; 5 brick blocks, 3 stories, 30 by 80 feet each; 3 stores, and a great number of

buildings occupied by mechanics, ingenious and elegant brick hotel, high, has also been erected, where a traveller meets with good accommodations. The village contains about 1500 inhabitants—about 1000 of whom are employed in the factory books. This establishment is situated on Salmon Falls river, a few miles from tide water. The resources of the river are abundant, having extensive ponds for reservoirs. The full control of the Great Falls Company, feet, and only about one-sixth of the river will be used for the factories.

From the *Genius of Universal Emancipation*.

AMERICAN CONVENTION.

The following notice has been communicated for publication in the *Genius of Universal Emancipation*; and the newspapers, generally, in the United States, are requested by the committee to insert it for the information of the public at large.

To the Abolition and Manumission Societies in the United States.

An adjourned meeting of the annual session of "the American Convention for promoting the Abolition of the African race," will be held at Baltimore, on the 25th day of October (10th month) next. Those Societies heretofore represented, are to send delegates. By order of the Convention.

EDWIN P. ATLEE.

HECTOR COFFIN.

Extract from the Constitution.

"The Convention shall be composed of such representatives as the respective societies, associated to protect the free persons of color, or to promote abolition of slavery in the United States, may think proper to appoint; so that the number from any one State, not exceed ten."

MORALITY OF SEAMEN.—It is a surprising circumstance to all friends of civility and religion, and generally to the citizens of this country, that the efforts made to improve the minds and morals of common seamen in American merchant service, have proved so successful. The introduction of libraries of books, of an appropriate character, on board our ships, and the appointment of religious services at regular intervals, have contributed in no small degree towards the wonderful change that has occurred during a few years in the morals of that hard working and hitherto situated class of our citizens. Their churches, under the direction of benevolent and zealous individuals, sprung up numerous in our seaports; these have assisted much in producing the result we have mentioned. The result we have mentioned may now safely be affirmed that the navy possesses more orderly, decent, moral seamen than are to be found in American service at the present time. A striking instance of this may be the letter to an American missionary, the 10th of April last, from the captain of a vessel from Baltimore, then in the ocean, in which they feelingly state their guilt of their souls at hearing that their Creator and blessed Redeemer beseech the missionary to join his with theirs for the pardon and conversion of their much offending captain. The people of this country should cherish a spirit which has thus been awakened. Nothing can shed more lustre on our character than religion and morality.

Freeman's Journal.

It appears that the City Council of Savannah has recently passed an ordinance providing that all grocers who retail liquors less than a quart shall pay an annual sum of 75 dollars for a license; those who sell by the quart and upwards shall take out a license of 45 dollars. This appears to us to be acting in spirit of some suggestions recently made in a Northern paper, that a tax of this character would, in its practical operation, check the vice of drunkenness; and it was the motive of the City Council act is one which entitles that body to respect of the moralist and the statesman. It has drawn down, however, on that an expression of a different kind, from grocers of Savannah, who, at a public meeting, have determined that the imposition of this tax is a grievance affecting only the interests of grocers, but of no citizen whatever, whose occupation is not affected by the strides lately taken by the City Council. This reminds us of the alarm of Gov. Troup, at the strides of the General Government. The grocers have further determined, (following the State authorities,) to stand upon their rights, not to place themselves "in the attitude of humble supplicants," but to eject the City Council altogether. Acting on this resolution, a Grocers' Ticket has been issued.—*N. Journal*.