

THE WESTERN SUN.

From the Press of *ELIHU STOUT*, Publisher of the Laws of the United States.

[Vol. 8.]

VINCENNES, (IND.) SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 12, 1817.

[No. 32.]

THE WESTERN SUN,

IS printed on every Saturday, at Two Dollars per annum, if paid in advance, or Two Dollars and Fifty Cents, at the end of the year, for which a note will be required.

No subscription can be withdrawn until all arrearages are paid.

Advertisements conspicuously inserted on the usual terms.

Advertising customers will note on their advertisements the number of times they wish them inserted.—Those sent without such directions will be continued until forbid, and must be paid for accordingly.

South American Capitals.

BUENOS AYRES, from an American Correspondent. Buenos Ayres is situated on the river Plate, about 220 miles from its mouth. The harbor is probably the worst in the world owing to the shallowness of the river, which is not more than from 16 to 18 feet from isle Lobos, (150 miles from its mouth to this place) and also to the pomperoes, or high winds, accompanied with rain, which commence in an instant, and blow with unabated fury for 3 or 4 hours. The British guard frigate stationed at this place has lost, during three tornadoes, in 2 months, 44 men and 3 officers. The town of Buenos Ayres contains about 50,000 inhabitants, 12,000 of whom are militia, 1000 (probably) regular troops, principally blacks and Indians. The government is vested in the hands of the supreme Director, who is chosen by the people. There is also a congress whose members have been sitting for two years with a salary of \$10,000 per annum, for the purpose of choosing or framing a constitution but have not yet succeeded. The city is large and built generally of brick; the streets run in right angles, but are extremely narrow and dirty, few of them being paved. A stranger, used to see none but North American or European houses, would think himself, on his arrival here, to have been transported into a prison yard—as all the houses, at least those that have their windows fronting the street, have iron gratings; but many of them stand back in courts. The richest and most handsome buildings are the churches, consisting of above 25; of these the Iglesia de St. Jago, which has a convent attached to it, is the richest and largest, the building alone occupying eight acres of ground. This church contains the flags taken from the British arms in 1807, when the city was recaptured by the natives from them. These churches and convents are filled with monks and friars who live in great affluence, extorted from these ignorant and bigoted people; for if ever a set of bigoted hypocrites and assassins existed on this earth, they are here to be found. From 6 in the evening until 8 in the morning, the churches are filled with these wretches, on their knees, pretending to supplicate the Supreme Being for a remission of sins; but the greatest proof of their *in-genuity* exists in a long knife, which each of them carries in a belt round his body—and which accounts for the fact, that few nights pass without some one or more being assassinated.

The women here, generally, are not very beautiful; their complexions are dark—but there is something so attractive and lovely in their eyes as to make them interesting at first sight; proffered love they are always ready to return—and I believe that their disposition in this respect originates in the exclusively confined life which they lead at home, without ever being permitted to associate with our sex; for it would be thought the height of indecorum for a young lady to be seen in company with any man, except he was a relation. This is restraint and slavery; it is therefore natural that they should incline to licentiousness.

There is a theater here—and I think it will only be necessary to mention the price of admission, *twenty-five cents*—from which you may easily judge of its value.

As to commerce, trade, &c. everything is at a stand. The country is very pop-

ulous—the soil is rich, and cattle in great abundance. A good horse may be bought from 50 cents to 10 and 20 dollars—a bullock from 2 to 7 dollars—and sheep may be procured, 100 miles in the interior, at 6 1-4 cents each. Fruit trees are in great abundance; they consist of the peach, apple and pear—also the orange, lemon, fig, olive, &c. and the grape vine, which grow all over the country. These latter being a novel sight to a stranger, produce at first an agreeable sensation; but when we recollect that those trees are the *only* ones to be seen here, we naturally regret our noble North American forests, so useful to the husbandman and the mechanic, which decorate the face of nature and are so grateful to the eye. Wood is so very scarce that they burn, together with a few limbs of trees, the fat of oxen, sheep, &c. Indeed you may see every day waggons loaded with fat meat, to burn in furnaces and other places. You may think that a country in which meat &c. is in such abundance, must be very rich; on the contrary, owing to the slovenly and torpid disposition of the inhabitants, it is one of the most miserable in the world. All they seem to think of is their priests and bigotry. Yesterday I was accosted by a decent-looking old man with a small silver crucifix—and what do you suppose he requested of me?—That I should kiss it, and then give him money for the priest to get the soul of one of his friends out of purgatory.

MEXICO. The capital of the Spanish dominions in North America, is one of the finest cities built by Europeans in either hemisphere. The architecture in general is of a very pure style, and the edifices very beautiful. Many of the monuments in this city, which frequently cost a million and a half of francs, would appear to very great advantage in the principal streets of Paris or Berlin. The public buildings are very numerous; of which the first that deserves notice is the Cathedral was 94 years in building. The University of Mexico was founded in 1551, and has 13 professors. The students amount to 400. The buildings are magnificent, the chapel and grand hall being the most beautiful in the city. The academy of fine arts is a noble building, and the collection of casts more complete than is to be found in any part of Germany. It is provided with professors in Architecture, Sculpture, Painting, Engraving, and Mathematics. An European is astonished on seeing the Appollo of Belvidere and the group of Laocoon, which are masterpieces. Instruction is communicated gratis at this institution. The hospital contains 1400 children and the annual revenue is 10,470l sterling.

In the treasury, 100 workmen are constantly employed in coining money. In this city most of the Spanish money is coined; and from the commencement of the 16th century, more than 6500 millions of dollars, in gold and silver, have been issued.

Mexico contains 38 convents and an inquisition. The revenues of the Archbishop are 100,000 dollars.

The study of mathematics and astronomy is much cultivated in this city. The architectural works carried on for the establishment of the city, are very expensive. The theatre is an elegant edifice, and the two aqueducts by which the city receives fresh water, are worthy to notice. These are three squares, each containing an elegant fountain; besides these there are ten others in the city. The city of Mexico is remarkable for its excellent police. It is governed by a Mayor and 12 Aldermen. The city is beautifully illuminated with large reflecting lamps, and the troops in garrison are from five to six thousand.

The baron de Humboldt says, "with the exception of Petersburg and Berlin, there does not exist a city equal to Mexico for the elegance, regularity and breadth of streets; the extent of the squares, and uniform level of the ground on which it stands. The streets are of great breadth so that the city covers a vast extent of ground; they are well paved, and intersect each other at right angles.—The more populous parts of the city extend in length four English miles in a straight line. The city is a place of immense commerce and the shops display a profusion of gold, silver

and jewels. The streets called Goldsmith's is lined with the shops of these mechanics, who find employ from the vast quantities of gold brought in to the city. Nineteen millions of dollars are coined in this city annually.

The Spanish ladies are of distinguished gallantry. The Spaniards are commonly clothed in silk, their hats being adorned with belts of gold, and the slaves have necklaces of gold silver pearls and gems. Cane says, that in his time, (1640) there were supposed to be 15 000 coaches in Mexico, many of them adorned with gold and gems the people being so rich that it was imagined one half of them kept carriages. This city by late accurate enumeration, contains upwards of 200,000 inhabitants. The baron de Humboldt says that, although he had seen Lima, Philadelphia, Rome, Paris and Naples, Mexico has left an impression of grandeur which he can never forget, which he partly attributes to its majestic situation.—Beautiful avenues of elms and poplars lead in every direction to the capital. Its physical situation possesses inestimable advantages. Placed on an isthmus washed by the south sea and Atlantic ocean it appears destined to possess a powerful influence over the events which agitate the two continents.

SOUTH AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

We find in the National Intelligencer a translation of a part of the new work Mr. Pradt, "concerning the colonies and present revolution of America" In that portion of the work which has appeared in English, the writer most clearly demonstrates the inability of Spain to reconquer her revolutionary colonies, and shows the insurmountable difficulties which she will have to encounter in the attempt to prevent the establishment of their independence. He states the population of Spain at eleven millions; that of Spanish America at fifteen millions. He proves that with this inferior population; with the expense and delays of fitting out expeditions for America; with the small military force which she will have to send at any one time; with her natural sluggishness, Spain cannot subjugate, or retain in vassalage, those colonies which abound in wealth, in extent of territory, in natural advantages for her defence, in bad roads, rivers, and mountains, which it is difficult for an enemy to penetrate. South America now supports Spain with her specie; twelve millions of dollars annually flow into her public coffers from the American mines; this resource will be cut off from the mother country, and be applied to the invigoration and maintenance of the patriot cause; to the allurements of American, French, and German officers into its service. Whence then will the cabinet of Madrid derive the means for the prosecution of the contest with any energy, or for any considerable time, against the colonies?—They must fail in the effort; and though the acquisition may progress slowly, we consider it certain that the South Americans must eventually obtain their independence.

From the National Intelligencer.

The Western Country

From the accounts which reach daily we are induced to believe that in no one year since the adoption of the Federal Constitution, has the "tide of emigration" set so strongly westward as the last. The rapid advancement of the Atlantic states in population, added to the prodigious influx of European superabundance, have sent forth thousands and tens of thousands to inhabit our remote western forests, where no "man's tread" has ever been consigned before. Looking only a few years through the vista of futurity, what a sublime spectacle presents itself! Wilderness, once the chosen residence of solitude or savages, converted into populous cities, smiling villages, beautiful farms and plantations! The happy multitude, busy in their daily occupations, manifest contentment and peace breathing their gratitude and prayers only to the great King of Kings! The wild Indian, taught by mild persuasions and example, is become an enthusiast in the cause of civilization—behold him cultivating his

fields, or at his cabin door studying the Book of Life. The Mississippi rolls her proud waves as before, but her bosom is ploughed by thousands of keels, and her surface whitened by thousands of sails, bearing the produce of millions of industrious citizens to its destined mart! What a scene—how beautiful, how grand!—yet not ideal: another century will realize it. Yes—this fine country is destined to become the firmest foothold of the Genius of American Liberty—and should he ever be driven from the Atlantic shores, he will take his stand on the loftiest peak of the Alleghany, and shout to his votaries—"Here is my hold—here have I erected an empire beyond the reach of despots, which shall still endure when the stream of time shall have been drained into the vast ocean of eternity."

Method of Salting Butter.

Take sugar one part, saltpetre one part, and clear strong salt two parts; beat them well together and put by the preparation for use; of which take one ounce for every sixteen ounces of butter, and mix it thoroughly with the butter as soon as it is freed from the buttermilk. Butter salted in this manner and put down in close tubs with a little melted butter poured over the surface, to fill up every little vacuity before the top is put on, will keep good for many years. Butter prepared as above is not fit for use till it has stood at least a fortnight, but then may be kept perfectly sound for years.

CHEAP GOODS!!

SAMUEL HILL, & Co.

NEARLY OPPOSITE C. H. GREATER'S TAVERN, HAVE JUST RECEIVED FROM BALTIMORE.

A Large Assortment of

DRY GOODS, HARDWARE, QUEENS WARE, SCHOOL STATIONARY, BOOKS, LIQUORS, GROCERIES

—ALSO—

1 Case Elegant Straw Bonnets. These Goods were selected by themselves, and will be sold very low FOR CASH.

Vincennes, June 6, 1817 27-tf

NOTICE.

The Co-partnership lately existing between JOHN LONG & THOMAS COLMAN ceased to exist on the 15th ultimo JOHN LONG. THOMAS COLMAN. Vincennes, July 1, 1817. 31—3w.

TO FARMERS.

The subscriber informs the public, that he continues to purchase fat cattle, veal calves, sheep and hogs—for which he will pay cash.

THOMAS COLMAN.

July 1, 1817.

31—tf.

WHEREAS REBECCA REEL my wife, has left my bed and board without any cause, I caution all persons against harboring or trusting her on my account, as I will pay no debts of her contracting.

FREDERICK REEL.

Gibson County, June 6, 1817. 31—3*

Notice

ALL those indebted to the estate of William H. V. Dubois decd. or having any demands against said estate, are requested to apply to J. Call, Esq. who is authorised to settle the affairs of said estate.

THOS. HEMPSTEAD,

Administrator of Wm. H. V. Dubois decd. Vincennes, 3, July 1817. 31—5w

J. CALL.

WILL practice Law in the Circuit Courts of Knox, and the adjacent counties—he resides at the "Vincennes Hotel." Vincennes, 14, Feb. 1817. 11|tf