

ry salutary effect. The benevolent provision of the act, under which, the protection has been extended alike to the commerce of other nations, cannot fail to be duly appreciated by them.

In compliance with the Act of last Session, entitled "An act to abolish the United States' Trading Establishment," Agents were immediately appointed, and instructed, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, to close the business of the trading houses among the Indian tribes, and to settle the accounts of the Factors and Sub-factors engaged in that trade, and to execute, in all other respects, the injunctions of that act, in the mode prescribed therein. A final report of their proceedings shall be communicated to Congress as soon as it is received.

It is with great regret I have to state, that a serious malady has deprived us of many valuable citizens at Pensacola, and checked the progress of some of those arrangements which are important to the territory. This effect has been sensibly felt in respect to the Indians who inhabit that territory, consisting of the remnants of several tribes, who occupy the middle ground between St. Augustine and Pensacola, with extensive claims, but undefinable boundaries. Although peace is preserved with those Indians, yet their position and claims tend essentially to interrupt the intercourse between the eastern and western parts of the territory, on which our inhabitants are principally settled. It is essential to the growth and prosperity of the territory, as well as to the intercourse of the Union, that these Indians should be removed, by special compact with them, to some other position, or concentrated within narrower limits where they are.

With the limited means in the power of the Executive, instructions were given to the governor to accomplish this object, so far as it might be practicable, which was prevented by the distressing malady referred to. To carry it fully into effect in either mode, additional funds will be necessary, to the provision of which the powers of Congress alone are competent.—With a view to such provisions as may be deemed proper, the subject is submitted to your consideration and, in the interim, further proceeding are suspended.

It appearing that so much of the act, entitled "An act regulating the staff of the Army," which passed on the 14th April, 1818, as relates to the commissioners will expire in April next, and the practical operation of that department having evinced its great utility, the propriety of its renewal is submitted to your consideration.

The view which has been taken of the probable productiveness of the lead mines, connected with the importance of the material to the public defence, makes it expedient that they should be managed with peculiar care. It is, therefore, suggested whether it will not comport with the public interest, to provide by law for the appointment of an agent skilled in mineralogy to superintend them, under the direction of the proper department.

It is understood that the Cumberland road, which was constructed at a great expense, has already suffered, from the want of that regular superintendance and of those repairs, which are indispensable to the preservation of such a work.—This road is of incalculable advantage, in facilitating the intercourse between the Western and Atlantic states. Through it the whole country, from the northern extremity of Lake Erie to the Mississippi, and from all the waters which empty into each, finds an easy and direct communication to the seat of government, and thence to the Atlantic. The facility which it affords to all military and commercial operations, and also to those of the post office department cannot be estimated too highly. This great work is likewise an ornament and an honor to the nation. Believing that a competent power to adopt and execute a system of internal improvement, has not been granted to congress, but the power, confined to great national purposes and with proper limitations, would be productive of eminent advantage to our Union, I have thought it advisable that an amendment of the Constitution to that effect, should be recommended to the several States.

A bill which assumed the right to adopt and execute such a system, having been presented for my signature, at the last session, I was compelled, from the view which I had taken of the power of the General Government, to negative it, on which occasion I thought it proper to communicate the sentiments which I had formed on mature consideration, on the whole subject. To that communication, in all the views in which the great interest to which it relates may be supposed

to merit your attention, I have now to refer. Should Congress, however deem it improper to recommend such an amendment, they have according to my judgment, a right to keep the road in repair, by providing for the superintendance of it and appropriating the money necessary for repairs. Surely, if they had the right to appropriate money to make the road, they have the right to appropriate it to preserve the road from ruin. From the exercise of this power, no danger is to be apprehended. Under our happy system, the people are the sole and exclusive fountain of power. Each government originates from them, and to them alone, each to its proper constituents, are they respectively and solely responsible, for the faithful discharge of their duties within their constitutional limits.—And the people will confine their public agents, of every station, to the strict line of their constitutional duties, there is no cause to doubt. Having, however, communicated my sentiments to Congress, at the last session, fully, in the document to which I have referred, respecting the right of appropriation, as distinct from the right of jurisdiction and sovereignty over the territory in question, I deem it improper to enlarge on the subject here.

From the best information that I have been able to obtain, it appears that our manufactures, though depressed immediately after the peace, have considerably increased, and are still increasing, under the encouragement given them by Tariff of 1816, and by subsequent laws. Satisfied I am, whatever may be the abstract doctrine, in favor of the unrestricted commerce, provided all nations would concur in it, and it was not liable to be interrupted by war, which has never occurred, and cannot be expected, that there are other strong reasons, applicable to our situation and relations with other countries, which impose on us the obligation to cherish and sustain our manufactures. Satisfied, however, I likewise am, that the interest of every part of our Union, even of those most benefitted by manufactures, requires that this should be touched with the greatest caution, and a critical knowledge of the effect to be produced by the slightest change. On full consideration of the subject, in all its relations, I am persuaded, that a further augmentation may now be made of the duties on certain foreign articles in favor of our own, and without affecting, injuriously, any other interest. For more precise details, I refer you to the communications which were made to congress during the last session. So great was the amount of the accounts for moneys advanced during the late war in addition to others of a previous date, which, in the regular operations of the government, necessarily remained unsettled that it required a considerable length of time for their adjustment. By a report from the First Comptroller of the Treasury, it appears that on the fourth of March, 1817, the accounts then unsettled, amounted to one hundred and three millions, sixty eight thousand, eight hundred and seventy six dollars and forty one cents, of which on the 30th of September, of the present year, ninety three millions, one hundred and seventy five thousand, three hundred and ninety six dollars and fifty six cents, had been settled, leaving on that day a balance unsettled of nine millions eight hundred and ninety three thousand, four hundred and seventy nine dollars and eighty five cents. That there

had been drawn from the treasury, in paying the public debt, and sustaining the government in all its operations and disbursements, since the fourth of March, 1817, one hundred and fifty seven million, one hundred and ninety nine thousand, three hundred and eighty dollars and ninety six cents the accounts for which have been settled to the amount of one hundred and thirty seven millions, five hundred and one thousand, four hundred and fifty one dollars and twelve cents, leaving a balance unsettled of nineteen millions, six hundred and ninety seven thousand, nine hundred and twenty nine dollars and eighty four cents. For precise details respecting each of these balances, I refer to the report of the Comptroller, and the documents which accompany it.

From this view it appears, that our commercial differences with France and Great Britain have been placed in a train of amicable arrangement, on conditions fair and honorable in both instances to each party; that our finances are in a very productive state, our revenue being at present fully competent to all the demands upon it; that our military force is well organized in all its branches, and capable of rendering the most important service in case of emergency, that its number will admit of; that due progress has been made, under existing approbations in the constructions of fortifications and the operations of the Ordinance De-

partment; that due progress has in like manner, been made in the construction of ships of war; that our navy is in the best condition, felt and respected in every sea in which it is employed for the protection of our commerce; that our manufactures have augmented in amount and improved in quality; that great progress has been made in the settlement of accounts, and in the recovery of the balances due by individuals; and that the utmost economy is secured and observed in every department of the administration.

Other objects will likewise claim your attention, because, from the station which the United States hold, as a member of the great community of nations, they have rights to maintain, duties to perform, and dangers to encounter.

A strong hope was entertained, that peace would, ere this, have been concluded between Spain and the independent governments south of the United States in this hemisphere. Long experience having evinced the competency of those governments to maintain the independence which they had declared, it was presumed that the considerations which induced their recognition by the United States, would have had equal weight with other powers, and that Spain herself, yielding to those magnanimous feelings, of which her history furnishes so many examples, would have terminated, on that basis, a controversy so unavailing and at the same time, so destructive.

We still cherish the hope that this result will no longer be postponed. Sustaining our natural position, and allowing to each party, while the war continues, equal rights, it is incumbent on the United States to claim of each, with equal rigour, the faithful observance of our rights according to the well known law of nations. From each, therefore, a like co-operation is expected in the suppression of the piratical practice which has grown out of this warrant of blockades of extensive coasts on both seas, which, considering the small force employed to sustain them, have not the slightest foundation to rest on.

Europe is still unsettled, and although the war long menaced between Russia and Turkey has not broken out, there is no certainty that the difference between those powers will be amicably adjusted. It is impossible to look to the oppression of the country respecting which those differences arose without being deeply effected. The mention of Greece fills the mind with the most exalted sentiments, and arouses in our bosoms the best feelings of which our nature is susceptible. Superior skill and refinements in the arts heroic gallantry in action disinterested patriotism enthusiastic zeal and devotion in favor of public and personal liberty, are associated with our recollections of ancient Greece. That such a country should have been overwhelmed, and so long hidden as it were from the world, under a gloomy despotism has been a cause of unceasing and deep regret to generous minds, for ages past. It was natural, therefore, that the re-appearance of those people in their original character, contending in favor of their liberties, should produce that great excitement and sympathy in their favor which have been so signally displayed throughout the United States. A strong hope is entertained that these people will recover their independence, and resume their equal station among the nations of the earth.

A great effort has been made in Spain and Portugal to improve the condition of the people, and it must be very consoling to all benevolent minds to see the extraordinary moderation with which it has been conducted. That it may promote the happiness of both nations, is the ardent wish of this whole people, to the expression of which we confine ourselves; for, whatever may be the feelings or sentiments, which every individual under our government has a right to indulge and express, it is nevertheless, a sacred maxim, equally with the government and people, that the destiny of every independent nation, in what relates to such improvements, of right belongs, and ought to be felt, exclusively to themselves.

Whether we reason from the late wars, or from those menacing symptoms which now appear in Europe, it is manifest, that if a convulsion should take place in any of those countries, it will proceed from causes which have no existence, and are utterly unknown in these states in which there is but one order, that of the people, to whom the sovereignty exclusively belongs. Should war break out in any of those countries, who can foretel the extent to which it may be carried, or the desolation which it may spread? Exempt as we are from these causes, our internal tranquility is sure, and distant as we are from the troubled scene, and faithful to first principles, in

regard to other powers, we might reasonably presume, that we should not be molested by them. This, however, ought not to be calculated on as certain. Unprovoked injuries are often inflicted; and even the peculiar felicity of our situation, might with some be a cause for excitement and aggression. The history of the late wars in Europe furnishes a complete demonstration, that no system of conduct however correct in principle, can protect neutral powers from injury, from any party; that a defenceless position, and distinguished love of peace, are the surest invitations to war; and that there is no way to avoid it, other than being always prepared and willing for just cause, to meet it. If there be a people on earth, whose more especial duty is, to be at all times prepared to defend the rights with which they are blessed, and to surprise all others in sustaining the necessary burdens, and in submitting to sacrifices to make such preparations, it is undoubtedly the people of those states.

When we see that a civil war of the most frightful character rages from the Adriatic to the Black Sea; that strong symptoms of war appear in other parts, proceeding from causes which, should it break out, may become general and be of long duration; that the war still continues between Spain and the Independent governments, her late Provinces in this hemisphere; that it likewise menaces between Portugal and Brazil, in consequence of the attempt of the latter to dismember itself from the former; and that system of piracy of great extent is maintained in the neighboring seas, which will require equal vigilance and decision to suppress it, the reason for sustaining the attitude which we now hold and for pushing forward all our measures of defence with the utmost vigor, appear to me to acquire new force.

The United States owe to the world a great example, and by means thereof, to the cause of liberty and humanity, a generous support. They have so far succeeded, to the satisfaction of the various and enlightened of every country. There is no reason to doubt, that their whole movement will be regulated by a sacred regard to principle, all our institutions being founded on that basis. The ability to support our own cause, under any trial to which it may be exposed, is the great point on which the public solicitude rests. It has been often charged against free governments, that they have neither the foresight nor the virtue to provide, at the proper season, for great emergencies: that the course is imprudent and expensive; that war will always find them unprepared, and whatever may be its calamities, that its terrible warnings will be disregarded and forgotten, as soon as peace returns, I have full confidence that this charge, so far as relates to the United States, will be shewn to be utterly destitute of truth.

JAMES MONROE.
Washington, December 3, 1822.

THE VINCENNES DISTILLERY.

THE undersigned has taken the above Establishment for the purpose of Manufacturing WHISKEY. Where they have on hand, and intend keeping a constant supply of the best quality of Rectified Whiskey; warranted inferior to none manufactured in the country.

They will exchange WHISKEY and KENHAWA SALT of the best quality at a reduced price, for Wheat, Rye, Corn, or Stock Hogs, delivered at their distillery, or at the Vincennes Steam-Mill.

—ALSO—
The highest price in CASH will be given for good Maple

Char Coal,

Delivered at the Distillery.

JOHN C. REILEY & Co.

Vincennes, May 22, 1822.—17-1f

NOTICE.

THE Books of "Charles Smith's Vincennes Steam Mill Company," are placed in my hands for settlement. It is wished & expected that those things which are Ceasar's, will be rendered unto Ceasar."

G. W. JOHNSON.

Nov. 11 1822.

42-1f

A Complete assortment of Magistrates Blanks for sale at this office—also Blank Deeds. Blank NOTE BOOKS for sale at this office.

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