

NATIONAL CHARACTER.

One important result which will flow from the success of the Native American Association will be the formation of a national character. What constitutes national character? That individuality of language, habits, thought, action, and fraternal love which characterise every nation and tribe of people, but the people of the United States. That complete bond of union, that perfect unity of purpose, which distinguishes every section and division of mankind save and except these States. The love of country is deeply imprinted on the heart of every human being—struggle as he may to shake it off, it still clings to him—wander where he will in search of a new country, new friends, and new attachments, his heart, true to its first love, yearns for those he has left behind, and its most devout aspirations are breathed for his native home. Indeed, the more distant the land of his choice from the land of his birth, the more hopeless the chance of returning to his own country and his own kindred, the more intensely does the love of home and of country burn in the bosom of the emigrant. It is right that it should be so. It is an inescapable law of nature, and cannot be evaded. Even the wretch who is cast off by his country for his crimes is obedient to its mandates, and his last virtuous impulse is aroused into action by national reproaches—"Oh! Jerusalem! Jerusalem! when I forget thee, may my right hand forget its cunning," is not more the sentiment of the Jewish prophet who uttered it than of every man who breathes.

Why, then, do I not say that the people of these States are not imbued with this holy spirit? Have they not the same natural impulses as other men, and are they not governed by the same law of human nature? Surely they are, and the natives of these States separate and distinct from the mass of the foreign population, are not meant to be embraced in my exception. It is the heterogeneous compound of Dutch, Irish, English, French, Spanish, Polish, Swiss, and Italian—the incongruous mixture of "Turk, Jew, and Atheist," that excludes the very possibility of forming the great features of the national character in the United States. No common principle of action pervades—no common object occupies the thoughts and desires of such a mass of contradictory elements. In the multiplicity of strange habits and strange tongues, the outline of the American character are with difficulty distinguishable; and the native American has sometimes reason to doubt whether he is in his own or in a foreign country. How often have we witnessed the enthusiasm with which "Erin go brah!" and the "Marseilles Hymn" have been caught up and reechoed in our Theatres, whilst the notes of the national anthems of "Hail Columbia!" and "Star Spangled Banner!" have fallen coldly and almost unheeded upon the ear. These things should not be so, Mr. Editor. We should love our own country and our own countrymen better than the country and countrymen of others. We must cherish our national pride, national customs, and national institutions, or we shall never attain to national character. We must become one people, pursue one object, and be governed by one impulse, if we desire to assume a distinctive place amongst the nations of the earth. To accomplish this, we must not hesitate in a course so obviously indispensable. We must say to the tide of emigration which now threatens to overwhelm us, "thus far shalt thou go, and no farther!" Having erected barriers to the dangerous influx of foreigners, in a generation or two the foreign ingredients now here will be fused into the mass of the American people, and our descendants may feel that when the American people are spoken of, every tribe under the sun are not embraced in the designation AMERICANUS.

Mr. Editor: I will thank you to endeavor to procure, a list of all the foreigners employed by the General Government, and a statement as to when they were naturalized, that is whether before or since they became inebriated, also the places of their birth, and the compensation they are receiving, with the names of the different officers who appoint them.

CORRECTOR.

We will cheerfully comply with the above request provided, our friends in the different departments, will transmit us the best information they have on the subject. As this is a public matter, there can be no impropriety in giving the date, are therefore we hope we shall receive the desired statements in time for our next publication.

Mr. Editor: The following anecdote of Dr. Franklin is so well adapted to the present times, that I hope you will give it a place in the Native American.

"During the administration of Sir Robert Walpole, the transportation of convicts to this country proved a great grievance. Dr. Franklin wrote to the Minister the thanks of the colonies for the maternal care of Britain to the country, so strongly manifested in this instance, and as a satisfactory proof of American gratitude, sent him a collection of rattlesnakes, which he advised him to have introduced into his Majesty's gardens at Kew, in order that they might propagate and increase—assuring him that they would be as beneficial to his Majesty's English dominions, as the British convicts were to America."

Here, we have the sentiments of the great Franklin; the wisest man, perhaps, the world ever knew—a prophetic of the principles of our association; expressed in the strongest manner possible. Yet, the *Albany Argus* says these principles, which Washington and Jefferson, and Franklin approved, are "detestable."—This is a "democrat" for you, with a vengeance!

CURRENCY OF VEGETABLES.—The Norwich Courier tells us that a traveller was recently stopped at a toll-gate in Connecticut by the inability of the good woman in charge to make change. He asked the lady what she should do. She could not tell, unless he would consent to take something which she had to sell. "O yes," said he, "I will take any thing." He handed her the bill, and after a short absence in the house, she returned with a large quantity of catnip, cumfey, mint, mayweed, motherwort, and other medicinal herbs neatly tied up in bunches, which she deposited in the gentleman's carriage, and he drove off.

We are pleased to learn, says the New York Mercantile Advertiser, that the ship Virginia the Liverpool Packet of the 24th is carrying out as many emigrants as she can accommodate, and that as many as can raise the means are preparing to return to avoid the suffering and privation to which they must eventually be subjected by remaining. We say we are pleased, for it will have a tendency to counteract the delusion unfortunately so prevalent in England and Ireland, of the demand for labour in this country. And they will hereafter place no dependence on the lying hand bills circulated through the United Kingdom by which they have been deceived and impoverished.

The question "why printers do not succeed in business as well as brewers?" was thus answered, "because printers work for the head, and brewers for the stomach; and where twenty men have a stomach, but one has a head."

WASHINGTON.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 1837.

"OUR COUNTRY—ALWAYS RIGHT—BUT, RIGHT OR WRONG, OUR COUNTRY."

We beg leave to thank those of our Editorial brethren who have paid us a complimentary notice—not to return our thanks, would imply a want of gratitude foreign to our character. Our paper will continue on its course, despite the false accusations made against it, by interested and venal presses. Professing no party bias, and feeling none, save that natural to a true American, who of course must feel an interest in the country, we have been attacked by a party press. Once for all, we deny any such character, and defy our enemies to point out any sentence in our paper that can be tortured into such a construction; and, if advocating an American feeling in this country, (which we believe is still on the American continent and called the United States) is to run counter to the policy of this or that party, all that we can do is to leave it to our countrymen to decide whether our party should not be the predominant and orthodox one, and all these in opposition heretics to the cause of liberty, honor, and the country.

It is pretended by our opponents that we are anxious to establish the system of exposé facta laws, and to overthrow the rights secured by the Constitution of the United States to the naturalized citizen. This is all idle subterfuge. Those persons who use this argument against us, are insincere, and advance it but to disguise their deep rooted prejudices against any and all attempts that Americans may make to assert their rights of possession to the country. We emphatically say, once for all, that we are for abiding strictly by the letter of the constitution in this and every other particular. Some foolish knave has attempted to ridicule the idea of possession to country as set up by any nation—but had the writer of "Pat-Riot," which was paraded by some old subscriber in the National Intelligencer a few weeks back, reflected for one brief and rational moment upon the subject on which he professed proficiency and brilliant wit, he would have discovered that to be born politically to a land constitutes the rights of nativity. We will explain to this modern Solon. Our fathers were not the possessors by a long line of ancestry to this country. They had no deed to the continent of North America, but they came here and bought the territory of the Indians, or asserting the right secured by the direct providence of heaven, manifested in civilization and christianity, took possession of the rich and fertile fields, benefiting themselves thereby and not injuring the Indians. The cloud of the revolution broke upon the horizon—it darkened along the coast, and the storm of foreign tyranny broke in upon their peaceful homes. The revolution was enacted—the bloody drama in which Washington played the saviour of a mighty race, was carried out and the curtain fell, between the sanguinary throne and the land of freedom, forever and forever. Then dawned the era of possession. Then we commenced ownership by political and dear won rights. Then our fathers received their deed, and we are claiming under that instrument of glorious achievements—under it we are pretending and daring to say, "This is our country, we have a right to dictate to our guests what they shall comply with ere they are permitted to take their final seat among us." The foreigner has as much right to snip upon mine as to prohibit his admittance at all. The right and the power are both in our hands. He is a petitioner. He and I (we speak in a case) are not parties to a suit. We are the grantors—we have all power—he is a mere supplicant—but it is useless to pursue the self evident proposition any farther. Human reason has one indomitable enemy, human prejudice, and until the elements of good and evil cease to be two, and as long as the latter lasts in all controversy, we must expect this opposition to our creed.

We have heard foreigners boast, since the organization of the Native American Association, of their superiority, and in our opinion, super-human attachment to this country. Men, born in other countries, whose nightly prayers are offered up to heaven for the land where rest their fathers bones, and sleep perhaps forever, the beloved objects of their first affections. They boast that they love this country with more ardor than the native to the land itself! Preposterous and far-fetched hypocrisy. They may love the land that feeds them, but they cannot forget the bosom that gave them their first maternal nourishment. The heart rises up in opposition to the idea, and as it is all a matter in which the heart is concerned, the repugnance of nature obtains the victory, and the affections go back on the long voyage to the dear "Old Country."

The brogue never leaves the tongue of the Irishman—the accent never departs from the Frenchman, and the real Dutchman will forever make you smile with his curious burr of the English idiom, and the Yorkshireman, dreaming of his native land, murmurs in his sleep the beloved word of "ome"—he, he never can pronounce. If from the "oily" tongue the forms and sounds of idiom cannot be erased, can the heart and the intellect give up more readily their more permanent impressions? No! It is against nature.

"The shivering tenant of the frozen zone, Boldly proclaims the happiest spot his own."

We remarked in another place that we were native possessors of this country by the right of the revolution. Our fathers contended for freedom, and at the same time for the permanent and entire fee simple possession of the soil. A few foreigners fought on our side—very few in proportion to those who fought against us. When the war was ended, did not these foreigners sit down under our "fig and vine tree and enjoy the fruits of victory?" Have not two generations passed away since those eventful times, and are not their grand children natives in spirit, bone and blood? Unquestionably they are. Then their rights are paid to them in equal proportion to others who contended in the struggle. The claim of gratitude is satisfied—the debt cancelled between them and this country. But shall it follow, that because twenty Irishmen or more died on our fields—because a handful of Poles or Englishmen watered with their blood the tree of liberty, that we shall in a phrenzy fit of gratitude invite all Europe to partake of our Government? The idea is preposterous. We see in fancy the lazar-houses of Europe, and we hear the low chuckle of the poor inmates, when they think of the hoax they are playing off upon us. Gratitude forsooth. Gratitude to the sanctified dead imparts a holier obligation. Gratitude to George Washington dictates that we should treasure up his farewell address in our hearts, and take to our deep and earnest consideration his solemn warning against this very evil of foreign influence, which is crushing down our energies.

EXTRA SESSION OF THE 25th CONGRESS.

As the extra session of the new Congress convenes, on the 4th of September, that is, next Monday week, we have inserted below a copy of the President's Proclamation authorizing that act of the Executive in a call of the Senate and House of Representatives to assemble at the Capitol to deliberate on "great and weighty matters."

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas great and weighty matters, claiming the consideration of Congress of the United States, form an extraordinary occasion for convening them, I do, by these presents, appoint the first Monday of September next, for their meeting at the city of Washington; and hereby requiring the respective Senators and Representatives then and there to assemble in Congress, in order to receive such communications as may then be made to them, and to consult and determine on such measures as in their wisdom may be deemed meet for the welfare of the United States.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the [U. S.] United States to be hereunto affixed, and signed the same with my hand.

Done at the city of Washington, the fifteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, and of the independence of the United States the sixty-first.

M. VAN BUREN.

By the President: JOHN FORSTYTH, Secretary of State.

We call the serious attention of the public to the nervous and powerful communication, signed P, in another column. Our principles have been attacked by newspapers, supposed to be high in influence with the democratic party, and if our correspondent is read, it will be seen how easily the honest truth can shame down the libels and slanders of unprincipled attacks. We do not envy the Editor of the Argus his feelings at reading the remarks of our correspondent. We shall order a paper to be sent to him with a finger mark to call his attention to the communication. He shall have no excuse for not reading it, save the apology of fear.

The "MADISONIAN" has made its appearance. It is neatly printed, and rumor speaks of its editor as an accomplished gentleman. Its tone and character have given rise to much conversation in the political circles of this city. We have only to express a wish that while it appears the organ of a party, it will bend its bow in behalf of the country at large. The people are sick of whining hypocrites and arrant demagogues. Let us have the age of reason and calm discussion.

One word to our friends. The Native American is the vehicle of patriotism and intended to work out the great objects of national justice, and in no event shall be made the channel of personal pique. We have received a communication retorting on "Washington" a correspondent in our second number, in which the writer thinks his feelings have been wounded by that communication. The allusion to a native architect in the piece signed "Washington" is to our eyes, very vague, but in order to prevent further misunderstanding we must insist upon an exclusion of all bitter personal reflections from our columns.

The native American architect, whom our correspondent in reply to "Washington" thinks has been injured, we know and cordially esteem; he has high talents, and his genius is an honor to the country.

For the future, nothing shall be inserted that will outrage our own personal sense of delicate courtesy, which we owe to our fellow men, and our object can be attained by discussing principles without indulging in those personal piques, which weaken the cause advocated, and lower the paper that consents to be the vehicle of the abuse.

When we obtain a copy of our countryman Willis's new Tragedy Bianca, we will enlighten our readers with extracts therefrom. Those "specimens" that have been given to the public, evince a high talent and place Mr. W. on the pinnacle of poetic reputation.

From the New York Mercantile Advertiser.

GROSS OUTRAGE.—A gentleman came yesterday to the Mayor's Office, and complained that an Irishman had lately brought to a hotel in Madison street, from Perth Amboy, eight men and women, all of whom he alleged were most dangerously sick there of the plague called the Ship Fever—and all in one room!!! All these persons were introduced contrary to law, and we learn that the Mayor proceeded forthwith to require prompt justice in the premises.

IMPORTANT.—This is a mutable world, and all things thereon wax old. The tailors have decreed, in their great wisdom, that straps shall no longer be worn to pantaloons. The most direful consequences are to be apprehended from this measure. The legs of our slim dandies, thus let loose, will take flight, and run goodness knows were.—N. Y. Times.

FRONTIERS.—The Mr. Greely imprisoned in the Frederick (N. B.) jail for trespassing upon Madawaska (disputed territory) lands, has been released by the request of the President of the United States.—Sir John Harvey, the Governor of New Brunswick, acceding to the request.

Six companies of the 1st infantry, from Fort Crawford, arrived at Jefferson Barracks on the 21st ult, and four companies of the same regiment from Fort Snelling on the 19th, that the whole regiment is now concentrated at Jefferson Barracks.

A Court of Inquiry will be convened at Athens (Tenn.) on the 25th inst., to examine into the transactions of Brigadier General J. E. Wool, and others under his command, in reference to his and their conduct in the Cherokee country, so called, as set forth in a letter from His Excellency the Governor of Alabama, dated July 3, 1837, addressed to the Secretary of War, and in the joint resolutions of the Senate and House of Representatives of that State, approved June 30, 1837, which accompanied the said letter.

The Court will consist of Major General W. Scott, Colonel W. Lindsey, and Major M. M. Payne; Lieut. W. C. DeHart, Judge Advocate.

THE BUCKEYES. In Hebron, Ohio, there are two sisters, one of whom, 15 years of age, weighs two hundred and eighty pounds—the other is 17 years of age and weighs three hundred and twenty pounds.

CROPS ON THE EASTERN SHORE.—The Snowbird Sentinel of the 15th inst. says:—The season is every way favorable for vegetation. The rain which has fallen so abundantly, will be ample for the latter corn, and that crop may now be considered made. The appearance of the country is splendid. The fields and the forests give every evidence of a fruitful season. And so delicious a temperature of weather continuing during a whole summer, we have no recollection of.

AGRICULTURE OF MAINE. It is estimated by an agricultural gentleman of Maine, that the product of wheat in that state this year will be about 1,600,000 bushels, equal to 320,000 bbls. of flour. Last year Maine imported 150 bbls. flour, and this year she will probably have a considerable amount to export.

The Zanesville Ohio Gazette says that wheat in that place is selling at 18¢ per bushel and Flour at \$6 per barrel.

Several gentlemen "down east," have formed themselves into a company, to obtain what relics they can from the wreck of the first American frigate ever built, viz: the Warren, 32 guns, wrecked at Penobscot, in the revolutionary war.

A man named Gambir was killed in aiding the police to break up a nest of disorderly negroes at Annapolis, and his negro assailant (Wayson) is in jail.

SPORTING IN WISCONSIN.

The gunning season is close at hand when sportsmen may take to their guns. The Woodcock are now in prime order, and may be "bagged" without any infringement upon the "game laws," or the imputation of "poaching." The young pheasants and Prairie hens are also well grown, and in fine condition. The kindness of friends enables us to speak from experience, having been recently favored with a few brace from their well-stored bags. Deer will become abundant as the Indians leave us. They may be regarded as fully in season from the first proximo, and several days since we could not conscientiously refuse a part of a fine saddle of venison presented us by a friend—it proved delicious, though, in sportsman's tongue, it was not killed "secundum formam statuti," or, according to the "rules and regulations of this here thociety." Partridges, Pigeons, and Turkeys are very plenty, and will soon be "fair game." Bear and Elk some distance hence, may also be found. We could make the mouths water of some of our eastern epicurean friends, by a bare enumeration of the many good things, in the fish and fowl line, with which we are blessed, were we so mischievously disposed, but we are too amiable for that, and will no further offend in that way than by telling them a word of our prairie hen, of which we suppose them to know but little, but which we beg leave to assure them is one, if not the chief of our delicacies, and will balance their canvass backs and their oysters: The prairie hen, then, is no less a distinguished bird than the pinnated grouse or heath hen, some few of which are found on Long Island, some part of New Jersey, and the northeastern part of Pennsylvania, and which are so highly esteemed, that they readily command in the New York Market from \$3 50 to \$5 per brace. They are nearly the size of a common barn fowl, and in the fall of the year become gregarious, and are found in large flocks. In summer they go to the prairie. They become excessively fat, do not fly far or fast, and are easily bagged. Their habits are different in some respects from the northern bird of the same kind, and in consequence there is a difference in the color of the meat and its flavor, but they are certainly no less delicious on that account. Come here this Fall, bring your gun along, and your pointer, if you have one, and we'll show you how to do up the prairie hen.—Ter. Gaz. July, 3.

SOUTH AMERICA. The Pennsylvania states that General MacArre, Charge d' Affaires to New Granada, has arrived at Philadelphia from Bogota, which place he left on the 20th June, at which time peace and tranquility prevailed in that Republic.

It is also stated that he has obtained an appropriation from the Congress of that country, for his portion of Colombian claims, settled in 1829, due to some of the citizens of this country.

The Convention with Venezuela, as to the settlement of the preceding claims, as well as for the payment of the foreign and domestic debt, has also been ratified by the Congress of the three Republics, Venezuela, New Granada, and the Equator, into which the Republic was divided, and it is expected commissioners will meet in the month of December next, when all claims will be heard and adjusted. Funds are also provided to pay the interest on the five and three per cents, by New Granada.

From an officer on board the North Carolina, in a letter dated Valparaiso, May 14th, we learn that the officers and crew had a pleasant time at Rio de Janeiro, during their three weeks' stay in that port, were hospitably entertained, and their noble ship greatly admired. So large a vessel had never been seen there before, and it was not disagreeable, or perhaps unprofitable, to astonish the natives with such heavy batteries and numerous decks. The English Admiral was in a small raze, much over-topped by the American line-of-battle ship; and a couple of British regiments, most of them Irishmen, on their way to Ceylon were presented with a spectacle altogether striking to them.

Mr. Lomousoff, the Russian Minister, who was formerly attached to the Russian Legation at Washington, and much attached to this country; Mr. Hamilton, the British Minister; M. de la Roubie, the French; M. Mari, the Belgian; the Chevalier Frytz, the Danish ministers, and others, extended civilities to Commodore Ballard and his officers.

After leaving Rio, the North Carolina was but 49 days out, and had scarcely reached Valparaiso, without icebergs of extreme cold; the thermometer not below 30, although the ship was driven to a high southern latitude, 60 degrees, she behaving admirably, and proving herself as fine a sea boat as ever was built, perfectly easy and comfortable, and so remarkably healthy, that Cape Horn could not be doubled under more favorable circumstances.

The United States sloop of war Vandalia, Commodore Thomas Crabb, arrived at Pensacola, on the 12th August, from Vera Cruz, from which port she sailed on the 3d August, Mr. Robert Greenhow, a passenger in the Vandalia, who had been despatched by our Government, with important communications for that of Mexico, left the city of Mexico on the 30th of July last, at which time all was tranquility throughout the interior as far as publicly known. Santa Ana was quietly residing at Manga de Clavo, near Vera Cruz.

Mr. Greenhow relates that when about to leave Jalapa, at 3 o'clock on the morning of the 2d instant, a violent earthquake occurred; which, on his arrival at Vera Cruz, he learned had caused much danger to the city and produced the utmost consternation among its inhabitants, many of whom took refuge on board the shipping in the harbor. The shock was felt on board the Vandalia, about which it occasioned much agitation of the water.

There had been a mutiny among the negroes at Trinidad, but it was soon put down. A few lives were lost.

SPANISH LAWS.—The law for the abolition of titles was adopted in the Cortes on the 24th of June, by a majority of 112 to 31. By this law, the Treasury will lose 60,000,000 of reals per annum.

The University of Athens was opened by King Otho, on the 15th of May, but not one student had presented himself for admission.

DEATH OF A CARDINAL.—His Eminence Cardinal Peter Francis Galleffi, Bishop of Porto and Civita-Vecchia, Sub-deacon of the Holy College, etc. died at Rome on the 18th June. He was born at Gresene, in 1770, and was raised to the purple by Pius VIII.

The Faculty of Yale College have conferred the honorary degree of Master of Arts on our worthy fellow townsman Dr. Foltz, of the Navy.

ACCIDENT.—We learn that the Hon. John Ruggles, U. S. Senator from this State, was very seriously injured, a few days since, by the falling of a portion of a bridge—and that it is not probable he will be able to take his seat in Congress at the opening of the extra session.—[Portland Advertiser.]

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.—The visitors of this Institution convened on Thursday last and during their sessions, the vacancies occasioned by the death of Dr. Magill, and the resignation of Dr. Warner as professor of Medicine, and Dr. James S. Cabell of Richmond, now in Paris, as Demonstrator of Anatomy and Surgery. Dr. Cabell graduated at the University of Virginia a few years since; we understand he will be here to attend to the duties of his appointment in October next.

There were 202 deaths in New York last week—21 by consumption—11 measles.

BALTIMORE CUSTOM HOUSE BONDS.—We learn that the number of bonds, which have laid over at the Custom House in Baltimore, between the 10th of May and the 20th of August, is two hundred and six—and the amount due on these is one hundred and ninety-nine thousand, five hundred and forty-one dollars and seven cents. Suits on these bonds have been postponed until the first of October next.

THE BANKS.—From the suspension of specie payments up to the first of the present month, the loans of the banks of Philadelphia have been diminished one million seven hundred thousand dollars, and their circulation decreased about one million five hundred thousand dollars.

Strike among the Sultan's boatmen.—The oarsmen of the celebrated Turkish caicks at Constantinople, have struck against the monopoly of the steamers, plying among the villages on the Bosphorus. The Divan were forced to issue an order, by which all good musketeers were expected not to go by infidel steam! Alas! poor Fulton! Even the sleepy Ottoman is roused to rebellion by the fire of your genius.

A Minister from Austria, it is reported, is about to be despatched to this country in the person of Baron Marshall, lately Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the court of Brazil.

The minister of Peru in a letter to the secretary of state, pays the following merited compliment to Mr. Larned, the late charge des affaires to that republic.

"His excellency pays a sacred debt, in acknowledging, in an authentic form, to the government of the United States, that Samuel Larned, the last charge d' affaires near the government of Peru, fulfilled, with the most laudable, ability the functions with which he has been invested; and that he carries with him, on his return to the country of his birth, the strongest esteem and the most sincere affection of the government, and of the inhabitants of the confederation.

"The undersigned hopes that the minister addressed will make known to the president of the United States this testimonial of the friendship and gratitude which Mr. Larned has secured to himself in the discharge of his duties."

A Smyrna paper mentions that a firm has been delivered by the porte to Gen. Cass, American minister at the Tuileries, for a passage up the Dardanelles for the American frigate United States. After a stay of some weeks in Constantinople, General Cass will continue his journey into Syria and Egypt. It was thought at Smyrna that this diplomatist has a political mission. His journey is called a tour of inspection.

We learn from Montreal that the French Minister Plenipotentiary to this country, M. Pointois, and M. Saligny, Secretary of Legation, are on a visit to Canada.

AN AMBASSADOR IN A MEXICAN PRISON.

A correspondent of the New Orleans Mercantile Bulletin, writes as follows from Matamoras, under date of the 31st July:

"The magnanimity shewn by the Texian Government in releasing all the Mexican prisoners in Texas has been but poorly reciprocated on the part of this government, in their treatment of the Texian prisoners now confined in the quarters of this city. Among the number of prisoners taken on board the Texian armed schooner Independence is the Hon. W. H. Wharton, whose situation is truly deplorable, and it would appear as if this government had singled him out to wreak their vengeance upon. Since his arrival at Matamoras, he has been confined in a very small room, bristling with the bayonets of his guard, without the possibility of seeing the light of heaven, except through iron grates—denied the privilege of writing or communicating with any one except his guard—dependent upon his own resources for his daily food, not having been offered this last by the government—half devoured by the fleas, half suffocated by the heat, continually plundered by the guard, denied even medical aid when sick, his regular rest entirely destroyed at night by the horrid screams of the sentinels within a few feet of his bed, render his situation miserable in the extreme.

IMPORTANT NEWS FROM TEXAS.

From the Texas Telegraph. Houston, July 15, 1837.

Since the paper of this week went to press, much important intelligence has been received, which we hasten to lay before our readers in the form of an extra.

Brazos, July 4, 1837.

I stopped the other day two Mexicans, formerly resident citizens of this place, who came here to trade, and look after their stock. They fled from this place the moment it was abandoned by the Mexican Army. They are now from Laredo; they state that the Mexican army has retired to the interior; that civil war is raging there, and that the force in Laredo amounts to 100 cavalry and 60 infantry.

H. W. KARNES, Col. commanding.

Capt. Thompson, who has just arrived in this city, confirms the above statement relating to the Mexican army. He thinks the armies of Mexico will hereafter limit their campaigns against Texas to the vicinity of Matamoras. Gen. Cos arrived at the Brazos San Lazo, just before Capt. Thompson left; the General spoke in the highest commendatory terms of the generosity of our citizens, and declared that Col. Wharton should be released on his arrival in Matamoras, or he would no longer consent to hold a commission in the Mexican army.

Capt. Thompson has brought with him the most satisfactory testimonials of the sincerity of his intentions in espousing our cause. The prisoners who were confined at Matamoras all unite in bestowing on him the most lavish praises for his generosity and untiring exertions in protecting them from insult, and in procuring for them every comfort and convenience in his power. The following letter concerning him will be read with interest; he has many others of a similar import.

Matamorita, July 4th, 1837.

To the people of Texas.—Favored by the interposition of a Divine Providence, we the undersigned, on the night of the 26th June last, succeeded in making our escape from the hands of our enemy, among whom we had been detained prisoners of war, and have just landed at Matamorita. Upon our arrival we learned that Captain T. W. Thompson, formerly of Mexico, had preceded us about three days, and of whose departure from the Brazos de Santiago, we had every previous knowledge; he having fully acquainted us with his purpose of quitting that service several weeks since, and moreover let his intentions of making us the companions of his flight. From unforeseen but urgent necessity, he was compelled to leave sooner than he anticipated, without being able to give us any information of his precipitate movement. But praised be God! we also have been enabled to effect our escape, and rejoice at it most that we thereby have it in our power to bear our full testimony to the untiring kindness and attention that we, as well as the rest of the officers and crew of the Independence, received from Captain T. W. Thompson. But for his exertions in our favor, our condition would have been wretched and well nigh insupportable; by his interposition we were allowed every liberty usual for prisoners of war; and countenanced by him, all the rest of the Mexican officers were induced to treat us with courtesy and respect. For these services and attentions he has acquired our eternal gratitude and friendship, and we feel unbounded pleasure in thus publicly subscribing to his worth as a man, to his merits and skill as a naval officer, confidently trusting that our fellow citizens will, by every means in their power, bestow on Captain Thompson that respect and gratitude which his generous and noble conduct towards their unfortunate countrymen so richly deserve. GEO. WHEELRIGHT, Capt. Texas Navy. ALBERT M. LEVY, Surgeon Texas Navy.

Port of Galveston, July 13, 1837.

To the Hon. Secretary of War, Sir.—The United States sloop of war Boston, Fred. Engle, Esq., commander, came to anchor off this post on the 11th inst., at 4 o'clock, P. M. Reports that she left Vera Cruz on the 1st inst., bound to Pensacola. Lieut. Moore, Purser Sublaw, and Midshipman Rutledge, came off and spent some hours on shore; report that the Mexicans refuse to negotiate with the United States until she revokes the recognition of the independence of Texas; reports Col. Wharton in Matamoras, on parole of honor, and that he will be released on the arrival of Gen. Cos. The schooners Invincible and Brutus were off Campeche banks when last heard of. AMASA TURNER, Col. commanding.

We learn from a late English paper, that there has been 51 sealing vessels fitted out from Newfoundland the present season, of 10,648 tons, and carrying 2,900 men.

DEVAUGHN, Copper, Leecher and Bleeder.—Has on hand and will always keep a large supply of the best Swedish Leeches. He can be found at all hours at his residence on 9th street, three doors north of Pennsylvania Avenue, nearly opposite Guntom's Drug Store.

LEWIS, Lottery and Exchange Office, 5 Doors east of the National Hotel, Pennsylvania Avenue; where he keeps constantly on hand a fine selection of Tickets, in all the various Lotteries now drawing under the management of D. S. Gregory, & Co. All orders promptly attended to.