

THE ARGUS.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1832.

The American schooner "United States," Captain Coutts, arrived here from Philadelphia yesterday, in fifteen days but we understand she does not bring any late European news, than that previously received by way of Kingston, Jamaica.

A MARK OF OUR CONVERSION.—Sincerity has too long distinguished the conduct of our worthy Ruler, to excite suspicion in the public mind, as to his motives, in replying in a strain so unusual to the loyal and dutiful, and very respectfully signed address, presented by so highly respectable a body of citizens, as the Tailor, Butcher, Grocer and Solicitor of the parish, on the 6th instant: and time alone will show, whether the men upon whom His Excellency has lavished unmerited praise, and invariably treated with uncommon courtesy and civility, will ungratefully continue in spite of the condescending kindness and friendly professions of regard for their interests, therein expressed by him, to oppose his measures—measures calculated to remove those jealousies, which had existed, long before he came amongst us, between the different orders of society, and to cement and bind their interests more closely; to drive out of our breast, all malice and ill will, and ensure us contentment and happiness: in fine, to enhance the value of all descriptions of property, and render us "a happy and an united people."

Refer to His Excellency's Speech, to the first refractory House of Assembly; refer to his Speech at the proroguing of the previous House; to his numerous messages to that body, on different subjects, when they blindly and obstinately refused to accede to his views; and what a just impression must it leave upon the mind, of his disinterested notices—his "anxiety for the peace, happiness, and prosperity of these Islands," and his "unceasing efforts to alleviate our interests." When we compare the state of these Islands, previous to his assuming the reins of government, with the present time—how deeply his virtues, his transcendent abilities, and the wonderful success, which has crowned his labours for our welfare, is impressed upon us, and in the grateful overflowing of our nature, we exclaim, with Shakspeare's Jew—"A Daniel!" "O how we honour thee!"

NASSAU, April 9th, 1832.

To the Editor of the Bahama Argus. Sir—The address to His Excellency, published on Saturday last in the Royal Gazette, and signed by 51 inhabitants and fresh-landed inhabitants in the community, accompanied with a degree of play for the desperation to which the cause of the country has at length arrived, when it requires the aid of such a weak and fulsome attempt to abuse the understandings of men who will not become the willing victims of misrule, nor the partisans of a man who ferments the feelings of a class of fellow subjects into jealousy—who, instead of allaying the contentions and differences that have for so long a period existed, endeavours, by assumed prerogatives, to augment them.

The coloured population of these Islands have thrown themselves into the arms of a falling faction, who are opposed to measures having the interests of the country in view—who entertain no feelings of fellowship towards them—and who, to gratify their ambition and vanity, their till yet disappointed hopes of crushing entirely our prosperity, would go any lengths, assume any garb, to the art the interests of the slaveholders, and to secure themselves offices and power.

Many of the coloured subjects are men of property, and men who have many recommendations to the serious consideration of the House of Assembly. Their property, like that of the whites, consists principally of slaves—on which they chiefly depend for the degree of competency they now enjoy; and they should bear in mind, that their identification with this little band, or faction, is recognized in no other light, than a virtual pledge of their willingness to hold their slave property; and the time is not far distant, when their own signatures will be produced to confound arguments in defence of their right to such possession; and when they will be cast upon the world as beggars, unworthy the commiseration of their fellow men—inasmuch as they were a PARTY to their OWN DEFEAT.

I would, Mr. Editor, ask the coloured people what would be the use of those privileges for which they contend, if they, to ensure success, lose the only source of their wealth, by which they would be enabled to enjoy them, with credit to themselves and prosperity to the state? I would enjoin them, by every tie they owe their country—by every tie which should bind them to those who assisted them in the days of their poverty, and who fostered their enterprising spirit when developed—by the ancient respect they entertained for their white brethren in these Islands; I would enjoin them to consider what avail the enjoyed rights of the white population, when employed to purge the land of the hired emissaries to the Abolitionists of the Mother Country, or when employed to counteract the encroachments of justice, of misrule, and of ambition.—It must be apparent to every thinking and observing man, that they have not

a society of the force which a fanatic and unjust government has, when backed by a strong naval power and standing armies, to enforce obedience to, and establish as the law of the land, orders detrimental to our interests, and which can never be consented to by the Colonial Legislature. Witness the threat of Great Britain, to enforce "fiscal regulations," for the truth of the foregoing position. I would not endeavour to mislead the coloured class by any sophistry; but I would endeavour to dispel the illusion wrought by the hired fanatics of the Mother Country—I would assist them to discard those pimps and their master, who have, by falsehood and political dishonesty, alienated their minds from their true friends—the friends of their country—the only admirers of their conspicuous virtues—and the only persons whom they can depend, either in prosperity or adversity. I would entreat them to desist from signing and implying their consent to addresses which they had no voice in adopting; and which are a series of invectives against the House of Assembly—the only source whence they can acquire privileges, without compromising the safety of their property. I would advise them to support the members of the late House of Assembly, not this factious crew, (Messrs. Kerr, Nesbitt and Malouin,) who look for their reward to the generosity of the Abolitionists; and when this tempestuous era has passed away—when the wounds that have been inflicted by our internal enemies are healed—then let them bring forth their claims, arrayed in the modest garb of truth, before the collected wisdom of the Colony; and the men who have sworn to watch the interests of their constituents, and of the country, will not, I AM CONFIDENT, deny them all the rights which their wealth and their respectability entitle them to possess.

I am, Mr. Editor, Your's and the coloured people's friend, LEONIDAS.

That many of the coloured class are men of property, is true; but these, we may say without exception, reside upon the Out Islands, and are more jealous of that property than of the possession of a few empty privileges, and are strenuously and openly opposed to the mistaken philanthropy of Sir J. C. Smyth, and the saints in the Mother Country. It is only the working class of free blacks and coloured persons, on this Island, over whom the Smythian faction have gained an ascendancy, and made the tools to accomplish the ruin of the land and Slaveholders; but we would ask these deluded people, by whom they are at present supported, and whence they expect to receive employment in their several trades, if the property of the landed and slave proprietors, is taken from them, or rendered valueless? The fable of the belly and the members at war, is very appropriate.—Ed. Argus.

APRIL 11th, 1832.

To the Editor of the Bahama Argus. Sir—My disposition inclines me to retirement. Withdrawn from almost all society—occupied, as well as amused, by the cultivation of my grounds, and the improvement of my premises—occurrences that have taken place here, I have been, until lately, as ignorant of, as if I were an inhabitant of the Pyrenees. Such, however, has been, and unfortunately still is, the discontent that prevails among us, that it has intruded itself even into my privacy. I always detested politics: they lead to disputation, give rise to angry feelings, and frequently to ill blood. I therefore avoided, when more in society, and when parties existed, of identifying myself with either; rather preferring to have imputed to me, selfishness, indifference, or any other epithet, which men, who are more easily excited than mine are, thought proper to apply to me. Involuntarily am I now forced from my retirement, conceiving that apathy, any longer, would be a crime; and that it is a duty which every man owes to his family, as well as to society, to oppose, with all his power, the ruinous and degrading measures, that are adopted by the present Governor. From my habits in life, many of the grievances of which the inhabitants complain, I was totally ignorant of: I, however, have been made acquainted with them all, and I have satisfied myself, by taking some trouble, as to their correctness. They have been so canvassed, and by publications so frequently exposed, as to be understood, as well here as elsewhere, that it would be superfluous to recapitulate them. Since that, I have week has produced some novel, some degrading precedent, sufficient to convince the most incredulous of the truth of all that has been asserted, of the very extraordinary acts of the Executive; as well as to raise apprehensions, that there is no act, however atrocious, no rights dearer to a British subject, and by our constitution secured to us, that would be taken into consideration, whenever the accomplishment of any favourite object is meditated, or the gratification of vindictive feeling against any unfortunate man who has displeased him, and whom he has in his power.

These may appear to be strong expressions, coming from a man, so long almost an anchorite; but passions which, from situation, have for a time escaped from being called into action, may, like the smothered spark fanned by content which bursts forth into irresistible violence. The discontent which prevails to such an alarming height, is not small degree, to every department of government. It may not be proper to particularize: it is sufficient to state, that the interests of military men are so materially concerned in being on a good understanding with their commander, that it can be only occurrences of a serious nature, affecting their feelings, as men of honour, that could withdraw them altogether from his presence, except when duty calls, or a command enforces.

The attachment of the natives to their rock, is so remarkable. Caprice, the desire of change, would never convert them here, who have reared children in their own country, property, friends, and a home, in which, during the two last years, peace and happiness reigned; for counter change of climate vastly different from that which their lives they have experienced, and to raise field of faculties, and inconveniences without number. (Should their cause, only, could have induced such a step, so remote from their interests—so painful to their feelings. During the recollection of the oldest inhabitant, the present anomaly, confusion and disgust, were never before witnessed here. Some little differences existed at the time General Grant was appointed to the administration; but how soon were those differences removed, and how satisfied and contented were all descriptions of the inhabitants, particularly the government, as well as during the period, in the absence of the General, that Mr. President Manning administered it! Fulsome adulatory addresses, then, rendered disgusting in a tenfold degree by the falsehoods that passed. The vernal aid of a Nesbitt, to whom the appellative, in revenge for disappointed ambition, and flattered by attentions unknown to him until the arrival of the present Governor, destitute of common sense, and lying to the assistance to the pen of a hireling, who, to-morrow could be bought by the very persons he abuses, could they be possibly be mean enough to attempt it; will but more forcibly show the inefficiency of the base means resorted to, to support a tottering cause, when opposed to truth, justice, and principle.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, TYRANNIDIS HOSTIS.

In allusion to the marriage of a Connecticut editor, the Editor of the Boston Morning Post says, "As a printer, that trust you will never be obliged to take a stick to correct the errors of your new work."

Secret Animals.—The narrow streets of Benares, thronged with an immense population, are infested by secret animals. Of these the Bramin bulls form a nuisance of no small magnitude, more particularly to the Mussaulin portion of the inhabitants, who do not hold them, like the Hindoos, in deferential reverence. Allowed to thrust their devouring jaws into the baskets which grain and vegetables are exposed for sale in the bazars, they grow to an immense size, and, overfed and growing vicious with age, become extremely dangerous. The passenger who, blocked in some narrow entry is obliged to await the pleasure of one of these pitted animals before he can proceed on his way, may esteem himself lucky if he escape without personal injury. Monkeys of all sorts, parrots, pigeons, peacocks, squirrels, and paria dogs innumerable, are to be seen in all directions; while jackals lurk in the secret places, and kites and vultures, perched upon the roofs, pillars, posts and gateways of the houses, perform the part of scavengers, and clear away the offal, which is abandoned entirely to their jurisdiction.—Miss Roberts: Forget Me Not.

Defence of Dinners.—England is a dining nation and her people a dining people, as, indeed, Voltaire (no mean authority) said long ago. What is there in way of show of ceremony, of association, of civility, of pleasure, of conviviality, of business, in England, which is not accompanied by a dinner? The coronation itself concludes after dinner? Can vestries transact parish business without dining? With high and low, with great and small, eating is the soul and spirit of English society. Who had not died, and swallowed wine enough to digest his dinner, could make the speeches which we see reported as having been delivered at various meetings? Why did Sir George Saville himself, after attending Crown and Ash-banquets for years, in furtherance of his great passion for freedom, at length grow so disgusted with the universal application of his colleagues and followers to these jovial feasts, as at length to declare in his opinion, that since they eat so much, and did so little in the cause, they ought, instead of supporters of the bill of rights, to be called supporters of the bill of fare? What would be the dinner is the sugar after the physic. Nay, the propriety is not confined to human beings in the metropolis, nor to the mere pleasure of eating; the delight of seeing others eat is characteristic of a true Briton, and accordingly, we find the galleries of tavern-rooms crammed with the spectators of dinners, and find that, at Pickwick's entertainments, an extra sixpence is charged for leave to look at the food while they are feeding; in short, Life in London would be a dull work, unless illustrated with plates. If this be the case, how shall a man attempt to describe the London life, or life any where in England as it is, without talking of dinners? Follow the banker or the merchant into his smoky shop or accompanying house, in some narrow lane in the city: there he is in his dimly-lighted den, hovering about with his pen behind his ear, pale and wan, like the half past seven see him dining, the bright lights reflected from the shining dishes, his pallid countenance is suddenly illumined, and a joke and jest flow from his lips and sits and enjoys his catere, and sips hisillery. Look of the wholesale trader, glomby in his warehouses, carrying tallow for being dull, proving that saltpetre may look up, or that madder may be quoted as per last. What is he at dinner time? He flings tallow and care behind him; saltpetre and madder never enter his head; he is all smiles and good-nature, and looks, by ten o'clock at night, as if he would lend his friend a hundred pounds to save him from hanging. Next morning the tallow and the madder prevail again, and he is as dull and disagreeable as ever. The lover who is making the amiable, flies to dinner, and sits either near or opposite to her in whom all his hopes and wishes centre. The look unseen, the remark uttered by any but themselves, are all given and taken so well at dinner; a smile or a good wish comes conveyed in a glass of wine; and an offer itself sometimes explodes with a detonating motto. See the farmer strike his bargains over fat bacon and cabbage. Mark the tradesman carrying off his shop from his parlour, smelling of onions, and cleaving as he comes, the tough mutton which he as yet has secretly had time to swallow. Go to the assizes, watch the case with which the judges' dinners are served, so as not to interfere with the condemnation of culprits or the conviction of just s. In short, for where could we stop eating is the universal employment of our countrymen, and, as has been before observed, so much time is devoted to the operation, and occupied by it, and it is, in fact, vitally interwoven with English society, that, to give anything like a faithful sketch of passing events, dinners must be served up on paper as well as in parlours.—Herald, by Mr. T. Hook.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE. Every person about to leave these Islands, after being resided therein for the space of THIRTY DAYS, must give security at the Secretary's Office, or put up his name in an Office for FIFTEEN DAYS previous to his departure—after which, at any time during FORTY-FIVE DAYS, a Ticket may be obtained.

Table with 2 columns: NAMES OF PERSONS, ABOUT TO OBTAIN TICKETS FOR DEPARTURE. Lists names like Matilda Wall, Alice Tucker, W. L. Alexander, Robert Wier, Cicely Evans, William I. Hamilton, Elizabeth Sullivan, Elizabeth Robinson, Christopher Donathan, Margaret Chipchase.

Marine List.

PORT OF NASSAU, N. P.

ARRIVED. April 14th—Am. schr. United States, Coutts, Philadelphia. Bread, Wine, Butter, Potatoes, &c. to HENRY ADDERLEY. Sp. schr. Buen Viaje, Lleo, Cuba Sugar and Honey, to J. THOMSON & CO. Schr. John Eliza, St. Kitts Rum, Sugar and Molasses.

CLEARED. April 11th—Sloop Boh, Tenison, Mobile. Schr. boat Lady of the Lake, Nicolls, Jamaica.

SAILED. April 11th—Schr. boat Lady of the Lake, Nicolls, Jamaica. H. M. schr. Kangaroo, Lt. Hoquey, Cruise. 14th H. M. schr. Pincher, Lt. Tulloh, Cuba.

PASSENGER SAILED. In the schooner boat Lady of the Lake:—William D. Kwick.

NOTICE. On Tuesday, the fifteenth day of May next, IN ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH, At 12 O'Clock, (noon), Will be sold or Rented, for one year, to the highest bidders, THE WHOLE OF THE PEWS IN SAID CHURCH. The purchasers for the ensuing year, may continue in the possession of their respective Pews, for the term of three years, at the price they may purchase them for, by paying annually, for the same, to the Clerk of the Vestry, previous to the day of sale. By order of the Vestry, GEORGE ARMBRISTER, Clerk. April 14th.

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH.

NOTICE.

A meeting of the Inhabitants of Christ Church Parish, is requested on Monday, the 23d instant, (being Easter Monday,) in the Church of the said Parish, at 12 o'clock, for the purpose of making choice of four persons to serve as Vestrymen, for two years, in the room of those whose term of service will then have expired. By order of the Vestry, DAVID SPENCE, Clerk. VESTRY ROOM, 3d April, 1832.

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH.

NOTICE.

A meeting of the Inhabitants of St. Matthew's Parish, is requested on Monday, the 23d instant, (being Easter Monday,) in the Church of the said Parish, at 12 o'clock, for the purpose of making choice of four persons to serve as Vestrymen, for two years, in the room of those whose term of service will then have expired. By order of the Vestry, GEORGE ARMBRISTER, Clerk. VESTRY ROOM, 3d April, 1832.

AUCTION SALES.

BY HENRY ADDERLEY.

On Wednesday next, the 18th instant, AT THE VENDUE HOUSE, At 10 O'Clock, A. M. Will be sold (Without reserve.)

The Cargo of the Am. schooner United States, from Philadelphia—Consisting of Pilot and Navy Bread, Wine Biscuit, Butter ditto, Crackers, Corn, Potatoes, Beef and Pork, in bls. Half barrels Corned Beef, Kids of Rounds and Tongues, Lard, Hams, boxes Cider, Potatoes, Cheese, Pickles, Candles, barrels Beans, Windsor Chairs, Rocking ditto, fancy Soap, nests Tubs and Buckets, 60 barrels, 1 Superfine Flour, 40 half, 1 Superfine Flour. TERMS—Cash before delivery. April 14th.

BY HENRY ADDERLEY.

On Monday, the 7th May, AT THE VENDUE HOUSE, At 12 O'Clock, A. M. Will be sold

The following Slaves and Lunds, belonging to the estate of the late Andrew Seton, without reserve, and in order to close the estate: That delightful country residence, known by the name of WIXTON, situated on the eastern extremity of this Island, with barns, carriage houses, horse gin, and every requisite to enable the grazier, or cultivator disposed to purchase, to derive immediate returns from his purchase. It has been long notorious for its orchards, and the superiority of their fruit, as well as their variety of kind;—it comprises 787 acres of land, (or thereabouts,) exclusive of four acres and a half, partly within the lines thereof, belonging to the King; on which there is a battery. Boundaries:—on the west, by lands of John Anderson, Esquire; and on all other sides, by the sea.

That tract of land situated in the Eastern District of this Island; bounded on the north, by the property of Jem Eve, and eight feet upon Shirley-street; on the east, by land the property of Robert Butler, Esquire; on the south, by lands of Mrs. Burch; and on the west, by the lots of Richardson Saunders and George Armbrister, Esquires. ALSO—That lot of land in the Eastern District of this Island; bounded on the south, by Shirley-street; on the east, by lands originally granted to Thomas Hodgson; on the west, by land granted originally to Mr. Alexander; and on the north, by the eastern causeway. This lot is well enclosed, planted with grass and fruit trees, and has been drained at a considerable expense. ALSO—That lot of land situated in the Eastern District of this Island; fronting on Bay-street, to the north; on the eastern causeway, to the south; to the east, by lands originally granted to Thomas Hodgson; and on the west, by lands granted originally to Mr. Alexander.

That extensive grass lot, situated in the town of Nassau; bounded on the east, by East-street; on the west, by lot and premises, now the residence of the Hon'ble W. V. Munnings, sen. Esquire; on the north, by the lot of Mr. Francis Bisson and Mr. W. Ransom; and on the south, by Hill-street. ALSO—The following Slaves, field hands, viz:—Bram, driver, Sue, his wife, Hannah and her children, viz. Jane and Henry, Kate and her children, viz. Rose and Margaret, Dolly and her children, viz. Cynthia, Hebe, and Jack. Nod, and his wife Hebe, Abraham.

On Monday next, the 16th instant, AT THE VENDUE HOUSE, At 12 O'Clock, A. M. Will be sold

That valuable House and Lot, lately occupied by Mrs. Potier. The House is roomy and convenient, with a large Kitchen and wash house attached, chair house and stabling for three horses, extensive yard and grass piece. The out buildings have been lately thoroughly repaired, and the greater part of the fences have been newly put up. ALSO—A tract of Land situated at the Village, containing 250 acres. It is divided by the village-road into two Lots, the western lot being intersected by the new road leading from the village into the Blue hill road. TERMS—One Third Cash; the balance in approved notes, payable at 3 and 6 months. April 7th.

On Monday next, the 16th instant, AT THE VENDUE HOUSE, At 11 O'Clock, A. M. Will be sold

On Monday next, the 16th instant, AT THE VENDUE HOUSE, At 10 O'Clock, A. M. Will be sold



BY HENRY GREENSLADE & CO.

On Monday next, the 16th instant, AT THE VENDUE HOUSE, At 10 O'Clock, A. M. Will be Sold

Superfine Flour, in barrels, Sugar, in ditto, Rice and Corn, in bags, Butter, Lard, Soap, Bacon, 4 boxes Window Glass, 8 by 10, AND— 2 bales Cotton Wool, With sundry other articles. Terms.—CASH, before delivery. At 4 Months' Credit, on giving security, A female Slave, named Tilla, aged 15 years. April 14th.

BY HENRY ADDERLEY.

On Monday next, the 16th instant, AT THE VENDUE HOUSE, At 10 O'Clock, A. M. Will be sold

Superfine Flour, in barrels, Sugar in ditto, Corn and Rice, in bags, Soap and Candles, in boxes, Lard, Butter, Bacon, 1 cask English Hams, Half barrel Tar, 1 case Platillas, &c. &c. AND— On account of the Shipper, 4 boxes Window Glass. ALSO— At three Months' Credit, on giving approved security, A smart Negro boy, accustomed to a Blacksmith shop, &c. 6 cases fine Black and Drab Beaver Hats. April 14th.

BY JOHNSON & SAUNDERS.

On Monday next, the 16th instant, AT THE VENDUE HOUSE, At 10 O'Clock, A. M. Will be sold

100 barrels Fresh Superfine Flour, 5 do. Mess Pork, 20 kegs Candles, 20 do. Lard, 20 do. Butter, 20 pieces Bacon, 100 bushels Corn, AND— At two months' Credit, A small Sloop, 10 puncheons Rum, 10 bags Rice, 4,000 feet Yellow Pine Plank, AND— At three months' Credit, 100 seroons Sugar, April 14th.

BY HENRY GREENSLADE & CO.

On Monday next, the 16th instant, AT THE VENDUE HOUSE, At 12 O'Clock, Will be Sold

Those well known premises called THE BARN, with all the improvements thereon. ALSO—The House situated in the town of Nassau, now occupied by Mr. George Smith, due South of Mr. McQueen's Printing Office. Terms—three months' Credit, on giving approved security. April 7th.

BY HENRY ADDERLEY.

On Monday next, the 16th instant, AT THE VENDUE HOUSE, At 11 O'Clock, A. M. Will be sold

If not disposed of previously by private bargain, That valuable House and Lot, lately occupied by Mrs. Potier. The House is roomy and convenient, with a large Kitchen and wash house attached, chair house and stabling for three horses, extensive yard and grass piece. The out buildings have been lately thoroughly repaired, and the greater part of the fences have been newly put up. ALSO—A tract of Land situated at the Village, containing 250 acres. It is divided by the village-road into two Lots, the western lot being intersected by the new road leading from the village into the Blue hill road. TERMS—One Third Cash; the balance in approved notes, payable at 3 and 6 months. April 7th.

The Bahama Argus.

twenty-four hours, Cape Town was destroyed, and its inhabitants massacred or dispersed.

"When fatigue had ceased the disorder and carnage to cease, and the confagration had ceased for want of any thing further to burn, the remaining black inhabitants were organized into battalions, and the slaves, not knowing what to do amidst the general wreck, with their newly acquired freedom, surrendered themselves to obtain provisions. Ships implored succour were dispatched to the neighbouring islands and the continent; and the remains of a flourishing colony resembled a horde cast by shipwreck on a desert shore.

"This frightful catastrophe was the first signal of the abolition of slavery by the partial emancipation of the negroes. This idea of the liberation of the negroes had been spread in France and the colonies; the dreams of the philanthropist had penetrated even to the workshops of slaves. The opposition of the whites and the men of colour, speedily were to be enrolled to combat each other; and enfranchisement was always the reward to which they looked forward, as the result of their revolt. This was declared universal, by a decree of the commissioners of France, on the 21st June, 1793, which announced that all the negroes who took up arms for the republic, should receive their freedom. Such were the effects of this great measure, dictated by philanthropy, but carried into execution without regard to the capacity of those for whom it was intended. The fatal gift involved in one promiscuous ruin the slaves and their oppressors."

Nor has the subsequent fate of this once flourishing colony been less calamitous. For ten years afterwards, and confusion, that the most patient historical research can hardly trace the dread of the calamities. Their independence has been established; but with it they have relapsed into a state of degradation, combining the indolence and recklessness of savages, with the vices and the corruptions of civilized life. Hardly coming to cultivate the ground, they wander through the woods, gaining a precarious subsistence by shooting or ensnaring animals; from being the greatest sugar island in the Gulf of Mexico, St. Domingo is reduced to the necessity of importing both sugar and subsistence; population has rapidly declined, and such is the universal dissolution of manners, as to threaten, if such an event were possible, at no distant period, its entire destruction. To all appearance, this beautiful island in half a century will be tenanted only by naked savages, more vicious and degraded, but not superior in civilization or improvement to the Indians who first beheld the soil of Columbus.

These facts are worthy of the most serious consideration.—They demonstrate, that human nature is the same in the torrid as the temperate zone; in the sable breast of the African negro, as in the sons of France, or the boars of Russia. An individual does not become a man at six years of age; if we give to childhood the indulgences or the freedom of manhood, a life of unbridled passion, or useless indolence, may with certainty be anticipated. It is by slow degrees, and imperceptible gradations, that all the great changes of nature are effectual; continents, the abode of millions, are formed by the accumulations of innumerable hills; empires which are to subsist for ages, slowly arise out of the struggles and the hardships of infant existence. Freedom, the greatest gift of nature, can neither be appreciated nor enjoyed for a very long period in the progress of civilization; if suddenly bestowed on an uneducated population, it tears society in pieces, and subjects men to the worst of tyrannies, the tyranny of their own passions and vices. If we would secure them from the dominion of the same passions, we must preserve their race from extermination, we must admit them, by slow degrees, and imperceptible gradations, to the advantages and the destination of freedom.—Centuries must elapse before it can be introduced with the certainty of destruction to the slave population.

When we see a middle class, formed which connects the upper and the lower classes, the proprietor and the negro; when we behold justice regularly, impartially, and formally administered; when we see artificial wants prevalent among the poor, and industry pursued for its own sake, and from a sense of the blessings which it is attended, and a legal provision for the labouring classes established, then, and not till then, the bonds of slavery may be abolished. When that period arrives, however, no efforts of fanaticism, no struggles of a party, no efforts of Negro emancipation; the interests of the owners themselves will lead, as in the feudal ages, to the gradual enfranchisement of the poor; the change will be so gradual, as to be imperceptible, and the child will become a man without being sensible of the relaxation of the parental authority.

The general error of the subject of the West India Negroes, emanating from apianthe and Christian feelings, which are now shaking the empire to the foundation; a disregard of experience, an inattention to the lessons of a history, and an ignorance of the past progress of freedom in other parts of the world. The time, however, has now arrived, when good intentions will not justify insane actions; nor men be permitted to toss about firebrands, and say it was in sport. When men mingle in political concerns, we require from them not only benevolent wishes but rational conduct and information on the subjects which they agitate; we hold it no excuse for a physician, who has sacrificed his patient by his ignorance, that he meant only to do him good. If the boasted spread of knowledge has effected any thing, it should teach men distrust of their opinions, if not fortified by the lessons of experience; and it must prove worse than useless, if it does not inspire

* Loughington, IV. 540—541. † Mackenzie's St. Domingo.

a rooted aversion for every project which is not founded on the deductions of history, and a determination to resist every innovation which does not imitate the gradual changes of nature.

Paris, German, and Brussels Papers have arrived. The only article of intelligence worthy of notice is, that the Dutch are extending their fortifications—a measure in which we conceive them to be perfectly warranted. The French officers who formed part of the army in the North, and were absent without leave, have been ordered to repair to their respective posts. The closing prices of the French funds on Wednesday were, five per cents, 96f. 95c. Three per cents, 66f. 70c.

The affairs of Greece have lately come under the consideration of the representatives of the five great Powers; and the form of Government, limited in its authority, shall be established, and a young German Prince of high promise is expected to receive the Crown.

It has lately become an object with the radical press to keep the town in a state of feverish excitement, by alternately assailing the howl of despotism and the bluster of menace, respecting the proposition to create another set of reform Peers. A small numerical addition it is felt would be a ridiculous and an unjust enlargement approaching the required extent would be a virtual annihilation of "the order." If we are indeed to imagine that the packing project is so seriously contemplated—if we view the scheme prospectively, and trace its consequences to their ultimate effect—we shall perceive that a blow will have been struck at the heart of Monarchy itself, from which it can never recover.

There is a sophistry in all the passions, more especially in those which influence the decisions of the party politician; would otherwise be difficult to conceive how a cold, austere, and selfish individual like the Premier could be so totally insensible to the gathering tempest—how he could so perseveringly bend to the suggestions of a desperate enthusiast, when misjudging the present and reckless of his future destiny. What Mr. Hunt said a short time since in the House of Commons is true to the very letter. The people are "everywhere heartily tired of the Reform Bill." And Mr. Cobden, in his lectures to the Manchester weavers, has distinctly enumerated fourteen propositions, all of which he asserts are absolutely necessary to give reality to Lord Grey's imaginings. These propositions were emphatically noticed in the last Session by certain distinguished Members of the House of Lords; and we are thus entitled to demand of the Ministry, and of those of their pledged supporters, who advocate the Bill with all the engorging with self-interest can urge, whether they are prepared to act on such propositions, if they are, let them at once avow their intentions, and the contrary, they are so thoroughly infatuated as to fancy that mere name of reform will reconcile the passions and union to the continuance of those taxes which it has been so industriously told are to be found only in the train of corruption!

It will be seen that the Government has considered it expedient to yield to the radical call for an investigation into the conduct of the Bristol Magistrates, simply vindicated as it was by the evidence on the two Courts-Martial.

Since the commencement of Whig misrule it has been an unsatisfactory duty to inquire into our commercial relations. It has now become an appalling one; for we can hear of nothing upon this subject but the increasing embarrassment of merchants, and the widely-spreading pauperism of those engaged in carrying their transactions into effect. The weakness of Ministers in their proceedings, which had previously caused the cup of commercial distress, are requested to read the prospect before us is deeply afflicting. From the best thrown out of work yesterday, and it was calculated upon almost unerring data that the same number would be discharged to-day. Shipping orders are entirely suspended; the export trade of the kingdom and transactions in every commercial market are nearly paralyzed. In Mining-lane all in Sugar, indeed, the price yesterday did not give into details to show commercial depression when the exportation of goods is in abeyance. One shipping house alone caused two goods yesterday, and two thousand five hundred bales of fine cloth to be re-landed. In short, no articles will be forwarded to their destinations that can be injured by the present consequent upon quarantine regulations. In the mean time money is becoming scarce, and every symptom of mercantile panic is at hand, with men in the Government who cannot manage the Empire through the crisis they have produced, the present Ministers of Great Britain most inevitably aggravate the evils she is at this moment enduring. Will the Kings of Holland, of Portugal, or Spain, pay attention to the remonstrances of a set of Ministers respecting their regulations for the prevention of the spread of cholera, who have been running a tilt against them ever since they came into office? This is the very natural feeling in the City, that these and other Governments will show no courtesy to that of England. Revolutionary France and the Belgian dynasty, which show some favour to us in our present national difficulties; but Ministers, will eagerly resort upon them in this hour of trial of the country they so grossly misgovern.

The Cholera (if the prevalent disease be really of that character), we are happy to say, makes very slow progress in the suburbs of the metropolis. One new case only was reported yesterday, viz. at Limehouse,—where none now remain, neither do any now remain in Lambeth or at Rotherhithe. In some corners in the worst part of Westminster, a person is stated to have taken ill, but there is no proof of his complaint being Cholera. Several of the most unhealthy parts of Westminster were yesterday effectually washed and purified, and well-founded hopes are entertained. Prison was yesterday visited by the Magistrates, and found to be in a state of perfect healthiness. The precautions with respect to the Guards, of which we yesterday alluded, have been strictly enforced; and in a day or two, we trust, we shall be enabled to announce the complete cessation of what, in many instances at least, we can no otherwise consider than as weak and false alarms.

From the Jamaica Royal Gazette, March 17.

By the Packet we have received our London Journals to the 2d February, and Papers to the 5th of the same month have been brought by the Clara, arrived at Port Antonio, and the Rapid, at this port.

There is a rumour given in the Standard of the 2d, of the probable recall of our present Governor, and of the appointment of Sir James Knippt to this command. We should it be well-founded, in the departure from this island of the Earl of Belmore, Jamaica will have no longer the loss of a Governor, whose urbanity and general manners to meet the wishes of the inhabitants have rendered him deservedly popular; and the measures consequent upon the appointment of his successor may be such as not to obliterate the memory of his rule in this island.

On the 1st of February, Mr. Buxton gave notice, in the House of Commons, of a motion on the subject of the Abolition of Slavery, which is to be brought before the House on the 10th of the ensuing month. The subject has been often agitated, and as often the demands of not a stone is left unturned to overthrow every obstacle of the Colonists to bring the subject fairly before the British Nation. The threat of fiscal regulations will no doubt be acted upon, if Ministers continue in office, unless the occurrences which have unhappily been exhibited among us, should open their eyes to the fallacy of the theories of the Abolitionists, and the certain danger attending the agitation of such doctrines. The day has gone by when the Commerce and the Navy, which the Colonies supported, were considered as adding to the strength and integrity of the Empire; and the voices of a few individuals are able now, with relation to our interests, to sway the Councils of Ministers.

The state of political parties on the Continent do not seem to promise a long continuance of the present state of things. The King of Holland has replied to the communication from the Plenipotentiaries of the Allied Courts, in which he declines to accede to the terms of the Conference, but states that he is willing to adopt the principles expressed in the Protocol, of the 27th January, 1815, as the only ones to which he had ever signified his assent, and which are totally at variance with the new conditions proposed by the Conference.

London, Feb. 4th.—The most difficult and the most extensive operating change of the Reform Bill, after the Borough disfranchisement,—the £10 qualification—was carried last night. It is not without its uncertainties, but none of the amendments proposed presented them in a less degree. As to the difficulty of determining the right to vote, we have pretty fair evidence of the state of things under the actual system, in the number of Committees, Lawyers, &c. who crowd the rooms of the House of Commons after a general election.

NOTICE.

ALL PERSONS having demands against the Estate of Joseph Saunders, late of the Island of New Providence, gentleman, deceased, are requested to render the same duly arrested; and those indebted to the said Estate, are likewise requested to make immediate payment, at the office of G. P. Wood, Esquire, THOMPSON SAUNDERS, Executor.

April 2d.

FINAL NOTICE.

THE SUBSCRIBERS, having closed the mercantile utility to those who still remain indebted to his Estate, that unless their respective demands are liquidated previous to the 1st June, they will be placed in the hands of an Attorney-at-Law, for immediate recovery. E. M. SOLOMON, Executor. C. S. ADDERLEY, Executor.

March 31st.

EXUMA SALT, for sale at 15 cents per bushel.

Apply to

THOMAS THOMPSON, At Exams.

February 4th.

NOTICE.

THE SUBSCRIBERS offer for sale, by private bargain, 6 lbs. choice Madeira Wine, 40 dozen do. do. do. 60 dozen do. Tenerife do, 1 trunk Gentlemen's Shoes, 2 blue Dinner Sets. HENRY GREENSLADE & CO.

December 24th.

LOST, between the Pen and George Street, a pair of Gold Spectacles. The finder will be handsomely rewarded, on delivery of them at the office of this paper.

March 20th.

FOR SALE.

The choice of 2 Lots of Land, with the buildings and improvements thereon, situate in Prince's street, generally known by the name of Lightfoot, or Cupid's Row.

For Terms and other particulars, apply to the Subscribers.

March 3d.

HENRY GREENSLADE & Co.

The Bahama Argus.

GEORGE BIGGS, Editor.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 1839.

VOL. I—No. LXXIX.

THE BAHAMA ARGUS.

PUBLISHED SEMI-WEEKLY IN NASSAU, N. P.

Eight Dollars per annum—In advance.



POETRY.

WRITTEN ON SEEING A PICTURE CALLED THE "UNHAPPY MAN."

The voice of friendship never breathes

A welcome I may share;

Affection's finger never weathes

A garland I may wear;

Love's song for me is never sung,

And every hope has fled;

For over all my thoughts is flung

The memory of the dead.

I see the smile that ever plays

On lips when level ones speak,

And the tear-drop as it strays

Adown the rosy cheek;

And then I think of those bright years,

When I was happy too,

And when affection's smiles and tears,

Had power to soothe and woo.

When earth was into me a dream,

A sweet and magic song;

Or like a bright and murmuring stream,

That danc'd with mirth along;

When on the wings of glad delight

Each hour would fly away;

And I would look with joy each night

Unto the coming day.

But each to me a change hath brought,

The grave has been my foe;

And those whose love and joy I sought,

In death are lying low;

And I am left alone to live,

A solitary thing.

Who cannot unto others give

What they to him would bring.

From the Spectator of January 28.

DEBATES AND PROCEEDINGS IN PARLIAMENT.

RUSSIAN DUTCH LOAN.

Mr. Herries brought forward, on Thursday, his resolutions on the payments in liquidation of this loan. He began by stating the grounds on which the payments were originally agreed to.

There was an additional article in the convention of the 13th August, 1814, which was the groundwork of our engagement. The preamble to this additional article stated, that "in order the better to provide for the defence and incorporation of the Belgic provinces with Holland," it was agreed that his Britannic Majesty should take upon himself and engage to defray certain charges. One of them was the payment of £1,000,000 to Sweden; secondly, the advance of £2,000,000 to be applied, in concert with the Prince Sovereign of the Netherlands, in aid of an equal sum to be furnished by him, towards augmenting and improving the defences of the Low Countries; and, thirdly, to bear equally with Holland such further charges as might be agreed upon between the said high contracting parties and their allies towards the final and satisfactory settlement of the Low Countries, in union with Holland, and under the dominion of the House of Orange, not exceeding in the whole the sum of £3,000,000, to be defrayed by Great-Britain."

That engagement, in the original French of the treaty, was more forcibly expressed, and might thus be translated—" conjointly, and always in equal shares." That indefinite engagement to pay such further sums for and with Holland, to secure the incorporation of the Belgic provinces with Holland, as should not exceed £3,000,000, was reduced by a subsequent treaty to a specific and definite basis.

Case was taken that no mistake should occur; and the preamble to the 21st treaty stated, that whereas his said Majesty the King of the Netherlands had (for his own interests) resolved to proceed immediately to execute with the Emperor of Russia a convention; and went on to say, "to which his Britannic Majesty agree to be a party, in pursuance of engagements taken by his said Majesty with the King of the Netherlands, in a convention signed at London on the 13th August, 1814."

This treaty was a reference to Holland.

We went on to remark, that all the treaties respecting these payments were dovetailed one into another, and in Holland; and he argued, that it would be strange if Holland having ceased to pay any share, we should be called on to pay for no general purpose, but for a specific one, in which Holland, and only Holland, had been interested when the treaty was first entered upon.

Mr. Herries called particular attention to a return made by the Treasury to the Finance Committee in 1828.

The return of the course contained all the sums paid and to be paid in these words—"These payments to cease should the dominion of the Belgic Provinces pass from the King of Holland." Now, however, it appeared that, notwithstanding these distinctly recorded understandings, as to the effect of the loan and the conditions—notwithstanding the specific reduction in the treaties, and the distinct recognition in the act of Parliament that the payments were to be made by the Lords of the Treasury "when the same may be from time to time payable, as specified in the said convention,"—notwithstanding the strict limitation in the treaty, and notwithstanding the occurrence of the fact which rendered it improper to make any payment—yet, for some reasons which he had yet to hear, we had for the last three terms of payment continued to advance the money of this country.

The case, he contended, stood on this distinct ground: the payments in question were to be made only so long as Holland and Belgium were conjoined; if they were separated after these two countries became separated, Ministers ought to have come down to Parliament and asked its authority for their continuance. Mr. Herries concluded by moving three resolutions,—two simply expressive of the facts of the case; the third to the effect that Ministers were not warranted, by treaty or act of Parliament, in paying the sums they have paid with reference to the Russian loan.

Lord Althorp said, the question ought to be met, not as one of pure economy, but as one of national honour. What they were called to decide on was this—was the public faith pledged by the treaty of 1815, to the payment of certain sums to the Emperor of Russia? He was ready to admit, that if they confirmed their views to the mere letter of the act, framed with a view to carry into execution the provisions of the treaty of 1815, the interferences of Mr. Herries were not unwarranted; but he maintained, that if they impartially examined the treaty itself, they would arrive at the conclusion that we were bound by it to make good the payments complained of.

He went on to contend, that the separation, contemplated in the treaty, and that which had actually taken place, were wholly different; the treaty looked to a separation of free-will, the actual separation was one of necessity and of force. It was neither assumed nor supposed that Russia had any control over the act of separation; why, then, on any principle of equity, should Russia suffer by it? As between one upright man in private life and another, so he thought it should be between two nations. If one pledged himself to the payment of a debt to which there was also a third party, he thought it would be highly dishonourable to take advantage of the circumstance of that third party having refused to fulfil his engagement, as a legal reason for also refusing to fulfil your engagement. If the conditions on which a debt was contracted are altered or broken by circumstances over which the creditor had no control, did it follow that the moral obligation of the debt was also broken? And as between man and man, so it ought to obtain between nations; what would be dishonourable in the one would be dishonourable in the other; and what was morally binding to the one was morally binding to the other.

He then went into the history of these payments as far as he was officially concerned.

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When the question of the Russian loan first came under his notice, he referred it to the Law Officers of the Crown, in order to ascertain whether, under the circumstances of the case, this country was bound to continue the payment of the monies paid, agreeably to treaty, to Russia on the Officers was, that we were bound to continue these payments by a mere formal legislative sanction. In consequence of the opinion of the Law Officers agreeing as it did with his own, a legal Treasury check was issued for the payment, and the money was paid. It was but right to observe, that the noble Auditor of the Exchequer did, when the matter was first submitted to his consideration, express a doubt whether we were bound to continue these payments; but when the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown, and the grounds on which it was formed, were submitted to Lord Grenville, he expressed his concurrence with the propriety of these opinions, and consequently with the course pursued by the Treasury.—It was true, that in some cases the Auditor of the Exchequer is bound to obey the Treasury when it takes upon itself the responsibility; but in the present instance, the grounds of the whole proceeding were explained to Lord Grenville, and conviction produced in his mind of their justice. These were the solemn matters of Mr. Herries's statement, and for which he felt himself responsible. He did not shrink from his just responsibility, if he was wrong, he was the responsible member of the Government.

The discussion that ensued on the question, was drawn out to a great length; but the observations of Mr. Herries and of Lord Althorp contain, in brief, all that was said by the several speakers on the subject. For the resolutions, Mr. Frederick Pollock spoke shortly, Mr. Baring at length. Mr. Home also supported the resolutions, on the usual grounds taken up by that gentleman, on all occasions when the expenditure of the public money is in question. Sir James Scarlett spoke on the question of law.—Mr. O'Connell, Mr. G. Robinson, Sir Edward Sugden, Mr.

C. Wynn, Mr. Hunt, and Sir Robert Peel, also spoke against ministers. They were defended by Sir William Horne (Solicitor General), Mr. Spring Rice, Sir Thomas Denman (Attorney General), Dr. Lushington, Lord John Russell, and Lord Palmerston. There were repeated calls for adjournment towards the close of the debate; and Mr. Paget moved an adjournment till Tuesday; but, on the request of Lord Althorp,—who remarked, that it was not usual to adjourn questions of course on Ministers,—he withdrew the motion. The result of the division was as follows:

For the first and second resolutions - 219
For the previous question - 239

Majority for Ministers - 20
For the third resolution - 211
Against it - 238

Majority for Ministers - 24

EAST INDIA CHARTER.

A committee was moved last night, preparatory to the discussions which must take place next Session on the renewal of the East India Company's Charter. Mr. Grant stated the manner in which he was of opinion it ought to proceed in its labours.

In the East India House and in the Board of Control, the business was divided into six departments, each division having its separate functionaries. He proposed, therefore, that there should be at least six sub-committees, each taking one of these departments. But it would be also necessary that there should be other sub-divisions, and he thought that as many as eight sub-committees would be necessary. This practice was not new to the House, though it was seldom proposed. Sub-committees were generally taken for some specific purpose, and they afterwards returned to the general and assiduous attention. Therefore, he should propose that there should be seven or eight sub-committees, and that they should meet at least four days a week. As it was necessary to provide for the unavoidable absence of members, and as a sufficient number of members, at least five or six, would be necessary in each sub-committee, it was necessary to propose a numerous committee, and he should propose forty-eight or forty-nine.

SLAVE TREATY WITH FRANCE.

Lord Ellenborough made a long speech on Tuesday night on the subject of this treaty.—His objections to it may be summed up in a few words,—first, it is not so extensive in its provisions as the treaties previously entered into with other powers; second, it contains conditions on which, should France feel inclined, she may altogether defeat its object.

The Earl of Aberdeen made another objection,—namely, that there was not an English as well as a French translation, not an original treaty.

Earl Grey defended the treaty as it stood, on the grounds, that, from the jealousy entertained by France on the right of search, it was the best that could be got; and it would, he believed, on the whole, contribute much to the suppression of the Slave-Trade. With respect to Lord Aberdeen's formal objection, he said he would inquire into the cause of it.

Adventures in Hyderabad.—We pitched our tents on the banks of the Hussain Sauger tank, and, shortly after donning my Mussulman costume, I rode towards the city, accompanied with a native friend, Musdeen Khan. We crossed the river at the Chahar Ghâr, or sheet ford, and entered the city by the gate of the same name. A highly interesting sight was now afforded us. Instead of deserted streets and empty houses, these were crowded with men of every caste, colour, and country of Hindoostan. The costumes, too, were widely dissimilar and highly picturesque: of course the turban prevailed, but it was of every colour and shape; and the other vestments were of divers bright dyes, causing an assemblage of the people to resemble a bed of tulips. Every man who was able to wield a sword had one begirt about his loins, and the shawl sash sustained daggers and pistols. In consequence of arms being so generally worn, and the police being ineffective, brawks and murders are of daily occurrence, and the people are so accustomed to these that they walk past a pool of human gore, or a dead body, in the streets, with a seeming indifference. It is highly dangerous for Europeans to enter within the walls: they will certainly get insulted, and, perhaps, shot from a window. We traversed numberless streets, where the celebrated oriental magnificence and splendour, painted in such glowing colours in the Arabian Nights, were realized. Elephants, in gorgeous trappings, were constantly seen parading about in every direction. The shops in the bazars glittered with cloth of gold and embroidery; shawls of cashmere, exposed for sale, forming flowing draperies in others; and the hum of so many thousand voices, and the sight of so many turbaned heads, occasioned in us a most pleasant excitement. Suddenly a shouting and noise was heard at some distance: we turned our horses towards the quarter whence it proceeded, and saw, rushing towards us, a dark and savage-looking native, his eyes starting from their sockets, and in his hand a bloody dagger. We prepared for defence, when we observed that he was pursued by a tall Mussulman wielding a curved sabre: he advanced with hasty strides after the fugitive, and, coming up with