

AMERICAN PATRIOT.

"To speak his thoughts—
Is every Freeman's right."

BELLEFONTE, SEPTEMBER 14, 1816.

It is reported that Bonaparte escaped from the Island of St. Helena, on the 22d day of June last.

BALTIMORE Sept. 5.—The ridiculous story of the escape of Bonaparte from the Island of St. Helena reached here in such a roundabout way that it will put the reader in mind of the old saying of "carrying coals to New Castle."

Richmond, Virginia, September 4.

The Romp was sold on Monday last by the Marshal of Virginia, with all her tackle, accoutrements, &c. We understand, she was bought up by a company of gentlemen at Baltimore for less than 3000 dollars.

Scorpion.

A curious circumstance is said to have happened in the county of Cumberland.—A whole family, with the exception of one person, had died on eating a part of a cabbage, which was boiled whole. On opening it, a scorpion was found in the centre.

In almost every part of the country, from which we have heard the prospects of the corn crops are extremely gloomy. It is estimated in some districts to produce about half of the average—in others as low as a third.—In many parts, the draught has been as distressing as the cold.—There was frost on Thursday night.—As yet, we have had a frost during every month in this year. The oldest inhabitants have no recollection of such a prodigy.

News direct from Buenos-ayres

We have seen a manifesto from the Directory of Buenos-ayres, announcing the installation of the National Congress of the Provinces of Rio de la Plata, &c. in the city of Tucuman, on the 25th of April. This grand and portentous event has been caused by the good understanding which now prevails between the Governments of Buenos-ayres and Montevideo. The Republican Armies have made great progress in Peru. The Royalist Governor of Chili has put under arrest in the capital all the principal inhabitants of that part of the country which is still under his command. It is prohibited to them to handle any arms, even a stick. The slightest disobedience is punished with death, without regard to age or sex. But the Republican Generals of Chili and Buenos-ayres are at the head of powerful Armies, exasperated against their bloody Tyrants. Now, that the best harmony prevails amongst the republican Governments of that part of South America, the most brilliant results for the cause of Freedom will be the consequence.

It has been reported, that a Portuguese force intended an invasion of Buenos-ayres, by virtue of a treaty with Ferdinand of Spain. The Republican General Arceges is waiting for them on the frontiers, with 30,000 Men. All the population are under Arms; even Women. We are positively informed, that there are whole Companies of Women, furious and enthusiastic, who have volunteered on the occasion. The Invaders may become Invaded.

[Columbian]

From the temper displayed by the People, and the consequent change among the Members, we have no doubt the Salary act will be repealed early next session. Federalists now attribute all the blame of passing the act to the Republicans, because they had a majority: Will they, then, for the same reason, give them all the credit of its repeal?

Some of the Federal Papers tell us, the Fisheries are lost! So far from this being the fact, we are much deceived, by the accounts in the Eastern Prints, if our people have not taken more Fish this year, than any preceding one. We have certainly never noticed so many arrivals, with such full cargoes, from the fishing grounds. But Federal assertions, and matters of fact, seldom agree.

The last Providence Patriot says: "Sixteen fishing vessels have arrived at Grand Bank, with fares amounting altogether to 471,200. The largest number brought in by any one vessel was 41,000; the smallest 20,000." Does this prove that the Fisheries are lost?

[Trent. Amer.]

From the Milledgeville Journal, Aug. 14.

NEWS.

It will be seen by the following letter

from Colonel Clinch to the executive of this state, that the fort on Appalachicola bay in East Florida, where the ruffian Nichols commanded a motley force of British Indians and negroes during the late war, and which has since been occupied by runaway negroes and hostile Indians, was completely destroyed by our troops on the 27th ult. Mr. Hughes, the bearer of Colonel Clinch's letter to Governor Mitchell, and who accompanied the detachment of our troops on that expedition, states: that the celebrated chief McIntosh with a considerable number of Indians, had reached the fort and commenced an attack upon it, (which had continued several days) before the arrival of Colonel Clinch's detachment. The fire was returned by those in the fort, but no injury was sustained on either side. While Colonel Clinch was erecting a battery to play on the fort, three of the gun boats from New Orleans arrived below it. In ascending the bay, seven men who had landed from one of these gun boats were attacked by the negroes and six of them killed, the seventh made his escape by swimming. The gun boats having been brought up (by order of Colonel Clinch) opposite the fort, commenced firing on it with heavy ordnance. After the proper elevation of the gun had been ascertained by three or four discharges a hot shot was fired, which penetrated one of the three magazines, containing 100 barrels of powder, created a dreadful explosion, which our informant supposes must have killed more than an hundred—the others were taken prisoners without further resistance.

Copy of a letter from Lt. Col. Duncan L. Clinch to his excellency Gov. Mitchell, dated

Camp Crawford, Aug. 1816.

"Sir—I have the honor to inform you that on the 27th ult the fort on the Appalachicola in east Florida, defended by 100 negroes and Chocktaws, and containing about 200 women and children, was completely destroyed. I have the honor to enclose you the names of the negroes taken, and at present in confinement at this post, who say they belong to citizens of the state of Georgia. I have given the chief directions, to have every negro that comes into the nation taken and delivered up to the commanding officer at this post, or at Fort Gaines."

NEW YORK, Aug. 27.

The reverend T. B. Gallaudet has arrived at Hartford, to take charge of the institution which will shortly be opened in that city for the instruction of the deaf and dumb. He is accompanied by his friend Mr. Laurent Clerc, one of the most accomplished pupils of the Abbe Sicard, and for eight years past a professor in his asylum at Paris.

A letter received in this city yesterday dated New Orleans 28th July, states that a fleet of 17 sail of armed vessels belonging to the Spanish revolutionists were off the Balize, destined as was supposed against Pensacola.

From the Pittsburg Mercury.

The Compensation Bill,

Seems to have roused the good people from their slumbers, and they appear disposed to express their indignation at the conduct of those public Servants who have basely sold themselves and their Country for filthy lucre; who have listened only to the suggestions of avarice, and disregarded the dictates of conscience and duty. Too much cannot be said on a subject like this. Public opinion cannot be too strongly expressed; indignation cannot rise too high; and the Authors of such a measure cannot be put too low in public confidence. The reasons given by the Members for the law are these:

1. An annual compensation will facilitate the execution of public business. Pray tell me, Mr. Snowden, how this can be. Members of congress are sworn to do their duty. If they are honest men they will do their duty, whether they are paid by the day or by the year. If they regard their oaths, they will not require 1500 dollars a year, to facilitate the business of their Constituents. This looks very much like an avowal, that money, and not a sense of public duty, will prompt them to be faithful to their trust.

But, say the Members this law will shorten the sessions, and diminish the expenses. But how will the sessions be shortened? If honest and faithful public Servants are paid by the day, will they consume their time in idleness, in order to increase their pay? Or if paid by the year, will they devote less time to the public service than the public requires? Congressmen ought to be honest; they ought to regard the good of their Constituents. But they come boldly forward and say to the People, Pay us by the day, we will spin out our sessions; pay us by the year, we will make the sessions short.

The People are cheated in some way; for, if the sessions are not now too long, it can be of no advantage to have them shortened. If Congress now sit longer than is necessary for the dispatch of public business, they must do it to increase their wages; and in that case, they are Knaves. If the public concerns now occupy all the sessions; to shorten them, the public business must be neglected and left undone; and if Members will do that, because they are sure of their salary, then they are unprincipled Knaves.

If a Hireling were to tell you, If you hire me by the day, I will contrive to spin out 6 months in doing your work; but pay me by the year, and I will do the work in one month; would you employ a Man who would thus to your face avow his profligacy and want of principle? To a poor Laborer, you would say be gone, you Villian!

But if we select a Man to represent 35,000 Freeman in the National Councils, and impose on him the solemn obligation of an oath to do his duty, that Man tells us, I will do my duty according to my pay; if by the day, I will make a long session; if by the year a short one; money and not your good, or my oath, shall guide me; is he more honest than the Laborer? shall we trust him with the interest of the country and kick the laborer out of our house? If we shall, then I must confess I do not understand such morality. I cannot discriminate between the moral turpitude of the Knave in Rags, and the Knave in office. And I cannot see how a Member of Congress can say that, if he is paid by the year, he will shorten his sessions, without avowing his total disregard of all moral and public obligation; and a profligacy of principle, which I had hoped was unknown, or at best would not be publicly avowed in this new and free country.

It is said, that the price of living has increased; and the pay was fixed while living was cheaper. This fact is admitted; and if they will prove that six dollars a day is now too little, I will consent that they raise their own wages. It might however be a very difficult task to convince the People that \$42 a week is not an adequate reward for the talents and worth of the present congress had they raised the pay of all the Officers of Government, in proportion to their own, it would have been less barefaced. But they refused to raise the pay of any other Officer, but themselves and their clerks; as if the expence of none but Congressmen had increased. Others might starve, so that Congressmen grew fat.

Did they increase the pay of the gallant Officers, Soldiers, and Sailors, who have fought our Battles? They risked their lives; suffered every hardship, and braved every danger; but their pay is not increased. Six dollars a day is enough for them. Six dollars a day is too little for Congressmen. The Soldier fights for his pay; the Congressman talks for his; or, if a Pennsylvania Member, he earns it still cheaper, by saying *aye* or *no*, once a day. The Soldier loses his health by hard service; the Congressman loses his by hard living. If a Soldier's intemperance should lead him to a neglect of his duty, it may cost him his life; but it would not cost a Congressman, even a day's pay.

Will any one say that our Army and Navy have not contributed as much to the National Glory as our Congress? Have not the expenses of the Officers increased in the same proportion? Then why pay themselves more than double their former wages, and refuse to increase the pay of any others? The answer is plain: They regarded only their own interest.

A nother reason is, that Members could not afford to live at the Seat of Government. And yet the Members say that the sessions are spun out for their wages. How strange and inconsistent this reason makes them. They say that Members cannot live on 6 dollars a day; and yet for the sake of 6 dollars a day, will protract their sessions an unnecessary length. It is certainly a waste of time, to combat such reasons.

Another reason is, that it secures the Members from Executive Influence.

This is saying the President will buy us, if we do not buy ourselves. So little confidence have we in our own integrity; so little do we regard our duty to our constituents; to the executive, unless we will secure our fidelity by taking, from the pockets of the people money enough to secure ourselves against corruption.

Such are the reasons offered for this Compensation-bill. How much better would it have been, to have offered none; for bad reasons might make even good Measures doubtful. The Members of Congress were well aware, that if the People understood this law it would excite their strong resentment. The gull and quizz the People; thinking they would not take the trouble to enquire and calculate for themselves.

Had they been doing what they thought was right they would have called their law a law for increasing the compensation of

the Members of Congress; but, with the consciousness of Men doing wrong, they meanly cloaked it under the specious title of a law to vary the mode of compensation. Like silly Children, who think if their heads hid, that their body is not visible, so did an American Congress, that calls itself enlightened, hide the head of their law by calling it one to vary the mode of payment; but in the body and substance making it so double, and in some cases to triple, their pay.

To what pitiful pretexes and miserable subterfuges Men are driven, when they are doing mean things! and how unworthy are such Men to guide the destinies of a Republic whose every movement should be in the paths of public virtue!

After voting for this law, let no Republican Member of Congress talk of the corruption of the Parliament of England. For, venal and corrupt as they may be, they have never dared to pass a law to put money in their own pockets. Their King bad as he is reputed, would not sanction it. But in the only Republic on earth, such a law has been passed and approved.

But there is one fact, which was wanting to complete the atrocity of this law; and which was supplied by the overweening and insatiable avarice of the Members of Congress. When the Country had just recovered from a Struggle for existence; when the People were groaning under the weight of Taxes, and the Government could not procure money, to pay the just debts due to the Defenders of their country; the Representatives of the American People, not content with doubling their wages, refused to take their \$1500 in any other money, than Treasury Notes, bearing an interest of 7 per cent!

Honest Creditors of the Government were glad to receive anything which had the appearance of a Bank Note. Many Creditors could get nothing. But basely speculating on the distresses of the People, and the embarrassments of the Treasury, the Members of congress demanded and received their pay in 7 per cent Notes, and the good People of the U. S. the Constituents of those Men, and who are now asked to give them their suffrages, are, at this moment, paying an interest of 7 per cent, on the salaries of \$1500 which their Representatives, the Candidates for public confidence, have in a time of public distress, voted into their own pockets.

From the American Centinel,

A new daily Newspaper, commenced in Philadelphia on Monday of last Week.

BY JACOB FRICK & CO.

The idea that this Paper is intended to be employed, for the purpose of supporting or opposing any particular Newspaper, is equally false and preposterous. So far as other Papers go, in advocating the Republican Institutions of our Country, the Rights of Man, and the principles of Democracy, we are with them. We go no farther with any; nor shall we ever stoop to the degradation of making our Paper the instrument of personal contention with any Editor or any Man in the Community. This declaration, we trust, will satisfactorily account for our refusal to publish several Communications which have been sent us, the object of which appears to be, and the tendency of which certainly is, to gratify personal malice, and to keep alive those feelings of jealousy and hostility, which have so long disgraced and so materially injured the Republican Party.

Religious Intelligence.

From the Winchester Gazette.

The following account of a recent Revival of Religion in Mount Zion Academy, Georgia, will no doubt be very interesting to all who love the prosperity of Zion:—the work is truly remarkable and glorious—more particularly so as it has taken place in Georgia, a section of the Union which hitherto has not shared largely in those refreshing showers of grace, that have lately visited many of our northern and middle states. This revival furnishes another evidence of the merciful designs of Heaven towards the rising generation, and is a pleasing prelude to better and happier times.—Let christians now be encouraged, for the king of Zion has arisen in glorious majesty, and now exhibits almost on every hand the trophies of his victorious, all conquering grace.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Hancock county, Georgia, to his brother in Byron county—dated,

Pine Valley, April 10, 1816.

My Dear Brother,

I have for a long time neglected writing to you for which I now plead guilty and beg forgiveness. I have really been so busy that I have nothing worth communicating;—but blessed be God, that I have something now to tell, which I know will interest you, and warm your heart, as I trust, it has done mine. As a consequence of my