earliest periods, when, for the honor of human nature, one should have thought that man had not learnt to be cruel, what scenes of horror have been exhibited in families in some of the best instructors in piety and morals! Even the heart of our first father was grievously wounded at the sight of the murder of one of his sons, perpetrated by the hand of the other. Has mankind since seen the happy age? No, my friend. The same tragedies have been acted on the theatre of the world, the same arts of tormenting have been studied and practised to this day; and even religion and reason united, have never succeeded to establish the permanent foundations of political freedom and happiness, in the most enlightened countries on the earth.

After a compliment to Boston town-meetings, and our Harvard College, as having "set the universe in motion," you tell me every thing will be pulled down. I think with you, "so much seems certain." But what, say you, will be built up? Hay, wood and stubble, may probably be the materials, till men shall be yet more enlightened and more friendly to each other. "Are there any principles of political architecture?" Undoubtedly. "What are they?" Philosophers, ancient and modern, have laid down different plans, and all have thought themselves masters of the true principles. Their disciples have followed them, probably with a blind prejudice, which is always an enemy to truth, and have hereby added fresh fuel to the fire of contention, and increased the political disorder.

Kings have been deposed by aspiring nobles, whose pride could not brook restraint. These have waged evelasting war, against the common rights of men. The love of liberty is interwoven in the soul of man, and can never be totally extinguished, and there are certain periods when human patience can no longer endure indignity and oppression. The spark of liberty then kindles into a flame, when the injured people, attentive to the feelings of their just rights, magnanimously contend for their complete restoration. But such contests have too often ended in nothing more than 'a change of impostors and impositions.' The patriots of Rome put an end to the life of Cæsar, and Rome submitted to a race of tyrants in his stead. Were the people of England free, after they had obliged king John to concede to them their ancient rights and liberties, and promised to govern them according to the old law of the land? Were they free after they had wantonly deposed their Henrys, Edward, and Richards, to gratify FAMILY PRIDE? Or, after they had brought their Charles to the block, and banished his family?—They were not. The nation was then governed by king, lords and commons; and its liberties were lost by a strife among three powers, soberly intended to check each other, and keep the scales even.

But while we daily see the violence of the human passions controlling the laws of reason and religion, and stifling the very feelings of humanity, can we wonder that in such tumults little or no regard is had to political checks and balances? And such tumults have always happened within as well as without doors. The best formed constitutions that have yet been contrived by wit of man have and will come to an end—because "the kingdoms of the earth have not been governed by reason." The pride of kings, of nobles, and the leaders of the people who have all governed in their turns, have disadjusted the delicate frame, and thrown all into confusion.

What then is to be done? Let divines and philosophers statesmen and patriots unite their endeavors to renovate the age, by impressing the minds of men with the importance of educating their little boys and girls, of inculcating in the minds of youth, the fear and love of the deity, and universal philanthropy; and, in subordination to these great principles, the love of their country; of instructing them in the art of self-government, without which they never can act a wise part in the government of societies, great or small; in short, of leading them in the study and practice of the exalted virtues of the christian system which will happily tend to subdue the turbulent passions of men, and introduce that golden age, beautifully described in figurative language, when when the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard lie down with the kid, the cow and the bear shall feed, their young ones shall lie down together, and the lion shall eat straw like the ox; none shall then hurt or destroy, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord. When this mellennium shall commence, if there shall be any need of civil government, indulge me in the fancy that it will be in the republican form, or something better.

I thank you for your countenance to our friend Lyde. Mrs. Adams tells me to remember her to yourself, lady, and [illegible]exions, and be assured, that I am, [illegible]ly, your friend,

SAMUEL ADAMS.

The Vice President of the United States.

(Remainder in our next.)

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT

IN SPAIN.

Madrid, May 10.

The following is an extract of a letter written from the city of Lorca, by one of its inhabitants, to his friend in this city, in which he gives an account of the dreadful accident which befel that city from the breaking a bank or mound, which was constructed a few years ago to contain the rain water for the purpose of watering the fields in the neighborhood of that city. The number drowned by this misfortune amounted to 6000.

"I make known to you, sir, that on the last day of April (which will be memorable for ages to come) at half past three o'clock in the afternoon a youth ran into my house and gave me the lamentable information that the bank had given way; he accompanied these expressions with so many tears and such sobbing that he could scarcely articulate or I understand him. On receiving this fatal notice I ran with great precipitation into the street, where I found a general commotion amongst the people, who were leaving their dwellings to put themselves into a place of safety. I returned to my house, and by my cries collected my wife, children and family; they saw my trouble; we all ran precipitately to Calvario to escape the great danger which threatened. We there found a considerable number of people, filled with trouble and dread, calling upon God and begging for mercy with loud cries and lamentations. I then saw vast quantities of water descending from the hills, which directed itself with the greatest fury imaginable towards San Diego, spreading itself over all the fields, having its general direction towards the olive trees. I left my family at Calvario, and went to the street de lat Cava, from whence I saw the water breaking down the convent of Mercy; arriving at the gate of Bordetta, the market no longer appeared; I passed to the house de Miralles; they there told me that houses, families and every thing else, had been swept away, from the Botica to the Quartel, on both sides. The water covered the hills and carried away the whole population on the right of the fountain.—Our corrigitor was in the palace directing assistance to be given; he was surrounded by many people; the general was beat, and every thing was done for the tranquility of the people. At this time news was received that at the mill of Buena Vista they had found the lord councellor who had been drowned; immediately orders were given to the people to bring his body; at 12 o'clock at night it was brought to Castillo. I repaired to the gate of St. Gines; I there saw that the steeple of the convent of St. Mercy was threatened with ruin.—I repaired to the gate of don John Antonio Albuquerque, where at this season his wife and family reside; they had fled on horses. Monjui was commissioned to collect the dead bodies in the Ovala.

"At break of day the following morning we heard nothing but lamentations, some looking for their parents, others for their children, women seeking for their husbands, and all trying to unite their families. At the gate called St. Gines we can no longer see the seites where the houses stood; every thing is desolation from the convent of Mercy to the Hospital of Women; the houses carried away in the barrier alone are reckoned at 400, and what are left are greatly injured as the water was in all the second stories. The sacred vessels of the convent of St. Mercy were found at two leagues distance; the church of San Christoval is not much injured, though the water was up to the cornices; San Diego is abandoned—the saints are removed; the same is the case in La Merced, because mud and trash are left in them two yards deep. Every thing is taken from the tower of La Merced, as it threatened to fall to ruin. Trenches are dug without the town, where they are going to bury the dead without distinction of persons, and where they are now collecting them in carriages. All the fields and gardens, from the Garden de Graces to the road which passes this, have been a river. No habitations are left; people, animals, olive trees, gardens, all have perished and are ruined. It is fortunate the whole city did not suffer the fate: this would have been the case if the bank had not given way where it did, and the water had not taken a direction to the left of San Diego. The lord councellor might have been saved, as was the son of his assistant and his servant, but he confided in his mules, and perished with them and his coachman. People are sent to Velez to grind grain; we have no longer any mills; of thirteeen which we had only that of Buena Vista remains, and that is injured; of oil mills not one is left; of the greatest part of Santa Quiterta only the foundations are left. The rivulets and groves are full of timber and furniture. The books and accounts of Ramon Garces were found at the farm house of Sutullena, and about 34000 reals belonging to him also. As yet I have never eat nor slept; all is confusion and dismay: all are weeping over the dreadful accident. At present I can send you no further particulars on this subject, but I will venture to say, that the damage will be much greater when the waters have passed twenty leagues, which is the distance from hence to the sea, and when they have encountered Murcia, Orihuela, and other places in their way."

NEW YORK, September 27.

The ship Brothers, captain Hall, arrived at this port on Saturday in 32 days from Liverpool.

To the politeness of captain Hall, and several commercial friends, we are indebted for a regular series of London papers from the first to the evening of the nineteenth of August, from which the foreign articles of this day's paper are copied.

An important change has taken place in the constitution of the French government. The conservative senate assembled for the purpose of "organising the constitution," have delivered in a project which vests the consulate for life in the three consuls. It has received the executive sanction, and is become a law of the republic. Some interesting details relative to this event are recorded in the Paris Journals, of which the following is a brief outline:

The audience of the diplamatic corps, which was to have taken place at the palace of government on the 3d August, being suspended, the members of the conservative senate, were introduced, and citizen Barthelemy, the president, addressed Buonaparte in the following terms:

"CITIZEN FIRST CONSUL,

"The French people, as a mark of gratitude for the immense services you have rendered them, wish that the first magistracy of the state should remain fixed in your person. In thus appropriating to themselves your entire life, they only repeat the opinion of the senate as recorded in its senatus consultum of the 8th May. The nation, by this solemn act of gratitude, assign you the task of consolidating our institutions.

"A new career opens to the first consul! after prodigies of valor and military talents, he has terminated the war, and every where obtained the most honorable conditions of peace. Under his auspices Frenchmen have assumed the attitude and character of real greatness. He is the pacificator of nations and the restorer of France. His name alone is the tower of strength.

"Already has an administration of less than three years almost effaced the remembrance of that epoch of anarchy and calamities which seemed to have dried up the sources of public prosperity. But there still remain evils to be remedied, and anxieties to be dissipated. The French, after having astonished the world by warlike exploits, expect from you, citizen consul, all the benefits of the peace you have procured them. If there yet existed any seeds of discord, the proclamation of the perpetual consulate of Buonaparte will cause them to disappear. Every thing is at present rallied around him. His powerful genius can maintain and preserve every thing. He lives only for the prosperity and happiness of Frenchmen. He will never impart to them but the impulse of glory and the feeling of national grandieur. What nation, in truth, is more deserving of happiness? and of what more enlightened and more sensible people could the esteem and attachment be wished for?

"The conservative senate will participate in all the generous intentions of government. It will second, by every means in its power those ameliorations whose object is to prevent the return of the calamities which have so long afflicted us, and to extend and consolidate the blessings which you have brought back to us. It is a duty incumbent upon it thus to concur in the accomplishment of the wishes of the people who have given so striking a proof of their zeal and discernment.

"The senatus consultum which the senate in a body comes to present to you, citizen consul, contains the expression of their particular gratitude. The organ of the sovereign will, they have thought proper, for the more complete fulfilment of the intentions of the French people, to invoke the arts to perpetuate the recollection of this memorable event."

Citizen Barthelemy then read the senatus consultum, and Buonaparte replied to the senate in these terms:

"SENATORS,

The life of a citizen belongs to his country. The French people wish that the whole of mine should be consecrated to them. I obey their will.

"In giving me a new and permanent pledge of their confidence, they impose upon me the duty of resisting their laws upon provident institutions.

"By my efforts, by your assistance, citizens senators, and that of the authorities, by the confidence and will of this immense people, liberty, equality, and the prosperity of France, will be secure from the caprices of fortune and the uncertainty of futurity. The best of people will be the happiest, as they most deserve to be, and their happiness will contribute to that of all Europe.

"Satisfied with having been called by the order of *him* from whom all things emanate, to restore upon earth justice, order, and equality, I shall hear the knell of my last hour without regret—and without any inquietude as to the opinion of future generations.

"Senators, receive my thanks for so solemn a proceeding. The senate has expressed its desire for what the French people have willed, and has thus more intimately connected itself with every thing which remains to be done for the happiness of the country.

"It is extremely grateful to me to find an assurance of this in the speech of so distinguished a president."

The members of the senate then retired.

It appeared, from the senatus consultum that of 3,577,259 votes, 3,563,185 were in favor of the prolongation of Buonaparte's authority.

The project of the senatus consultum is divided into ten sections.

By the first it is declared that each jurisdiction of a justice of peace has a cantonal assembly; and that each communal circuit and department has an electoral college.

The second regulates the cantonal assemblies, which are composed of all the citizens domiciliated in the canton, and of which the first consul appoints the president.

The third section defines the duty of the electoral colleges, the members of which are appointed for life, and consist of one member for every 500 domiciliated inhabitants of the circuit, and one for every 1000 domiciliated inhabitants of the department.

The fourth relates to the consuls, who are for life; the mode of succession, the form of the oath, &c.

The fifth to the duties of the senate.

The sixth to the councellors of state.

The seventh to the legislative body.

The eighth to the tribunate.

The ninth to the forms of justice and tribunals.

The tenth to the right of pardon, which is vested in the first consul.

This new project for organising the constitution of the French republic, is represented in some of our London papers as being one of the most ridiculous and incongruous plans, for the government of a nation calling itself free, ever yet proposed for acceptance; the whole power of the state, in all its various branches, being actually or virtually surrendered to the will of the first consul: There is no responsibility, no check, no counteracting power or influence. National representation appears to be considered a chimera too contemptible for notice, and taxation is left to the direction of the first magistrate. "In this whole mass of absurdities and gross delusions," says one of the London editors, "there is scarcely a single article that evinces any thing like sound judgment in theory, or facility in practice; and it would not have been difficult to have taken at random, from the pigeon holes of the Abbe Sieyes, a much better constitution than that which has been adopted."

The order of procession for promulgating the senatus consultum in Paris, will be found amongst our foreign articles.

The salaries paid to the three estates of the French legislative govornment, are—senators per annum, and for life, 25,000 francs; members of the tribunate, 15,000; members of the legislative body, 10,000.

The intended partition of Turkey obtains almost general belief in Europe; and in consequence, several British officers are said to be about entering into the service of the sultan.

The French government are preparing to avenge the insult offered to their flag by the cruisers of the dey of Algiers.—Two divisions have sailed from Brest for the purpose of chastising these petty depradators upon the commerce of the Mediterranean.

PARIS, August 14.

The following is the ceremony observed in the proclamation at Paris of the Senatus Consultum, declaring Buonaparte consul for life:—

Proclamation of the two Senatus Consulta of the 2d and 4th August.

PROCESSION.

An advanced guard of dragoons.
A corps of trumpeters.
A detachment of cavalry.
Peace officers.
A band of music.
A detachment of dragoons.
The etat major of Pompiers.
The chiefs of foreign service.
A detachment of Gendarmerie preceded by its trumpets.
The commissaries of police.
A band of music.
The superior military officers.
The secretary general of the prefecture of police.
The counsellor of state prefect of police.
Six peace officers.
Rear guard of the national gendarmerie.

ORDER OF PROCESSION.

By the quay of Orfevres, le Pont Neuf, the quay of l'Ecole, and the great gate of the Louvre, to the place de Carouzel, where the first proclamation will be made.

Then by the street St. Nicaise and the street St. Honore, to the place du Tribunat, where the second proclamation will be made.

Then by the street St. Honore and the street Croix de Petit Champs, to the place des Victoires, where the third proclamation will be made.

Then by the street des Fosses Montmartre, the street Neuve St. Eustache, and the street Neuve Egalite, to the gate of St. Denis, where the fourth proclamation will be made.

Then by the Boulevard of St. Denis to the gate of St. Martin, where the fifth proclamation will be made.

Then by the Boulevards of St. Martin and the Temple to the Gate of St. Antoine, where the sixth proclamation will be made.

Then by the street St. Antoine and the street du Monceau St. Gervais to the Place de Greves, where the seventh proclamation will be made.

Then by the quay of Pelletier, the bridge of Notre Dame, the street du Petit Pont, and the street Golande, to the Place Manbert, where the eighth proclamation will be made.

Then by the street des Noyers, and the street St. Jacques, to the Place de Pantheon, where the ninth proclamation will be made.

Then by the street Thomas d'Enfer, the place St. Michel, the street des Francs Bourgeois, and the street de Vaugirard, to Place du Conservateur, where the tenth proclamation will be made.

Then by the streets de Vaugirard, Calfete, and du Vieux-Columbier, to the left, to the cross street de la Croix-Rougs, where the eleventh proclamation will be made.

Then by the street de Grenelle, and the street de Bourgogne, to the right, to the palace of the legislative body, where the twelfth proclamation will be made.

Then by the street des Bourgogne, the quay of Bonaparte, and the quay of Voltaire, to the minister of police, where the thirteenth proclamation will be made.

Then by the quay of la Monnai, and the Pont Neuf, to the place Thionville, where the fourteenth proclamation will be made.

Then by the Pont Neuf, the quay of la Magisterie, and the Pont au Change, to the place du Palais, de Justice, where the fifteenth proclamation will be made.

The procession will return to the prefecture of the street La Barilerio, and that of St. Louis.

ORDONNANCE of the police, concerning the proclamation of the two Senatus Consulta of the second and fourth of August, 1802.

PARIS, August 12.

The counsellor of state, prefect of police, orders as follows:

Article 1. On Sunday, the fifteenth of August, at seven in the morning precisely, the two senatus consulta of the 2d and 4th inst. shall be solemnly proclaimed in the city of Paris in all the rural communes of the department of the Seine, and in those at Sevres, Meudon, and St. Cloud, in the department of Seine and Oise.

2. On the said 15th of August, the streets, quays, and bridges, shall be swept and cleaned before six in the morning.

3. The streets, quays, places, bridges, and promenades shall be watered. Every inhabitant shall conform to this order, as far as he is concerned.

4. On the said 15th of August, the inhabitants of Paris shall illuminate the fronts of their houses.

5. For the safety of the citizens, no carriage shall be permitted in the streets of Paris from eight in the evening of the preceding day, until the morning of the day succeeding, except the carriages proceeding to the palace of government, the couriers of the mail, and the diligences.

6. The commissioners of police shall strictly carry into execution the regulations which prohibit the firing of fusees, petards, *boetes*, bombs, and other fireworks, in the streets promenades, public places, courts, and gardens, or from the windows of houses.

7. The present Ordonnance shall be printed, posted up, and sent to the sub-prefects of Sceaux, and St. Denis, to the mayors of the rural communes of Sevres, Meudon, and St. Cloud, in the department of Seine and Oise, to the commissaries of police, to the peace officers, and to the overseers of the prefecture, in order that each, as far as he is concerned, may carry it into execution.

The general commandant of the first military division, the general commandant d'Armes of the place de Paris, and the chiefs of the select legion of Gendarmerie are required to be in readiness with a strong force, in case it should be wanted.

According to a letter from the minister of the general police, those accused of emigration who have not received the benefit of the amnesty, cannot quit their habitual residence without having obtained his special permission. Those who have been admitted the benefit of the amnesty may obtain passports from the proper authorities to travel in the interior; but the minister must be informed of it, as well as the prefect of the department where the parties reside; neither the one nor the other can in any case come to Paris without the special authority of the minister.