Frontie Federal Bepublican.
TO THE PEUPLE UF. THE UNITED STATES.

did not intend to have addressed yo concerning the notable contract entered in-to obstween J. G. Swift on the part of the var department of the United States, and Eijjah Mix of New York, until the period should have arrived for my communicating with you on the subject of public contracts generally; but as so much has lately been said about this particular contract, I have cuncluded, at once, to give you my opinion and views of it-particularly as they take somewhat different range from those which I see expressed in the newspapers and by the debates on the subject in congress. If I am not correct in these opinions and views-it will be because the constitution and the laws made under it, are no longer considered as of binding force, but have become obsolete and dead.

The facts in this case are these:

1. J. G. Swift, on the part of the war de artment, (and who was chief engineer o that department, though in the present a greenent he does say in what capacity he acted) made an agreement of less than fif-teen lines, with the Elijah Mix of N York, dated 25th July, 1818, for the delivery of one hundred and fifty thousand perches of stone at "Old Point Comfort," and at the Rip Rap shoals in Hampton Roads, Virg. nia, for the sum or price of othree dollars perch for every perch of stone delivered at the above mentioned places."

2 It further appears, that this contract was not made pursuant to law—for, it is ad-mitted on all sides, that no public notice whatever was given, that such a contract would be made, oby previously advertising

for proposals respecting the same."

3. It furthermore appears, that this con tract was not only secretly made, and there fore, illegally made, but the price allowed was just double, what the same service could have been performed for, as stated in the remarks of Mr Stuart, one of the members in the house of representatives; and, conse quently, the nation sustains a loss by thi

illegal contract, of \$225,000.

4. The contract was made without any security being taken for its specific per formance: although it appears, from infor formance; although it appears, from information derived from the New York delega tion in congress, that the contractor, Mix. was not, at the time, worth one hundred

5. It further appears, that Mr. Vandeven-teer, chief clerk in the office of Mr Calhoun, sccretary at war, was a party con-cerned in this contract, though not as he says, originally so; but that he afterwards became so. Indeed it would, as it might be supposed, look too barefaced for Mr Van deventeer to acknowledge himself original ly a partner of his brother in law in this contract; seeing that he, Mr. Vandeventeer is the only witness to its execution by J. G. Swift and Elijah Mix, while all the other contracts made in that year (1818) by Mr Swift, in behalf of the war department have two subscribing witnesses to their execution; for confirmation of this, see executive state papers, 2d session. 15 congress, vol 5. As to the excuse and apology made for the wardepartmen', that this bid of Mr. Mix was the lowest one that was made for the performance of the service, they are, unde the circumstances of the case, ridiculous and absurd in the extreme; and the attempt to palm them upon the people as good an sufficent, is really an insult offered to their understandings. He must, to be sure, be the veriest bungler imaginable in trick and contrivance, who would not resort to some-thing of this sort, of getting other bidders, if it were only for the sake of keeping up appearances; and we do know that there are men always to be found who wo ld feel no schiples of conscience in lending their names in a matter of this kind, because it costs them nothing; always bearing in mind, as such mendo, that one good turn deserves another. But why was the law disregarded in this case, (and some others which I shall nereafter advert to) and total ly set at nought? Let him whose constitutional duty it is to take care that it be faith fully executed" answer this question Too much already has in my judgment, been said in this case, by your representatives about Mr. Vandeventeer and Mr. Mix It is not to obscure individuals like these, that you are to look for redress in a case of such vital importance. The law has not been broken by them, but by the president and some of the particulars of the ceremony of his eccretary of war. If you want proof of taking possession. this, attend to the following plain and explicit provision in the act of congress of the 3d of March, 1819, vol. 9, page 262, sec. "All purchases and contracts for supplies or services, which are, or may according to law, be made by or under the direction of either the secretary of treasury, the secretary of war, or the secretary of the navy, shall be made either by open putchase, or by previously advertising for pro-posals respecting the same.' In respect to this contract with Mr. Mix, it is not even alleged, that any public notice whatever had been given, that proposals would be received for the delivery of stone at the places designated. Mr. Cocke, a member from Tennessee, and chairman of a committee appointed some time ago to examine into this subject, expressly states, that public notice of the intention to make such a contract was not given. Hence I say, and every un-prejudiced man must also say, the contract question was made in secret, and conse quently, in direct violation of the law of the land. The secretary of war has, it seems given his sanction to the act, and the president has approved the conduct of the secretary of war. The president of the U States then, ought, according to my notion of republican government, to be held re sponsible for all the evil consequences growing out of this and similar abuses, where h

nometimes do in fact) that the "King can no no wrong." A Native of Virginia.

knows them to exist (as in this case) and

does not apply the constitutional corrective.

To say otherwise would be at once to place

the chief magistrate of this country beyond the control of the people, and thereby to acknowledge in form (as I am afraid we

This circumstance goes to explain th reason why this gentleman a few years ago was returned as a public defaulter. A considerable sum of money was, it seems, "advanced" to Mr. Mix, 'on account of foreign intercourse.' But that is all the information the executive chose to give to the people about it. These are the very sort of about it These are the very sort of mento get advances, because they stand in need of patriots, that it would be deemed quite anti-republican to refuse them little favours of this kind Our rulers never favours m. and are, moreover, such right good this kind Our rulers never forget in mat-ters of this kind, the old rule, that one good nen deserves another. .

A MIX-ED AFFAIR. We beg our readers to peruse the follow-ing article from the New York Evening Post, It discloses as finished a piece roguery as we ever heard of, and the editor

pledges himself to prove it. or Facts.—We happen to know some thing about this Mr. Mix, and something so important, too, that we cannot (consis-tent'y with our sense of duty) withhold in from the public on this occasion Mr. Butler has said that there were suspicious ap pearances about the contract with Mix; and Mr. Cambreleng said the did not think the government ought to have made a contract with Mix." Whether these gentlemen were justified in their expressions respecting this man, let the following incontrovertible facts now decide. These facts are given me by the most respectable witnesses, and I here by pledge myself for the legal proof of them whenever a direct denial shall render that

necessary and proper In the year 1811, Elijah Mix negotiated a promissory note for, say, between three and four thousand dollars, with Hones and Town's endorsement to Samuel Stillwell, under an understanding that Stillwellshould not put it affoat in the market without first apprising Mix of his intentions; but Still well wishing to purchase some goods of Hones and Town, asked them if it would be convenient to take in part payment their own endorse nent? With marks of surprise, they denied that there was any such in dorsement in ex stence. Stillwell was posidorsement in ex stence. Stillwell was pos-tive, and returned to get the note to exhibi to them, meeting Mix at the door, he told him of the negot ation, and of their having forgot their own indorsement-adding, tha he was going back to satisfy them heard him in silence, took the alarm, con sulted a friend, and immediately left the state. It was then discovered that he er feeted the forgery by the following ingenious artifice:

Some time before, having to pay Hone and Town a sum of money, he wrote a re ceipt for them to sign, near the top of the leaf in his receipt book, in such a manner. as to enable him to cut off their signatures rom the receipt and leave them attached to the blank pape, helow, and then, by turn ing the paper back for ront, he turned, the signatures on one side into an indorsement on the other: and then, by writing a note and signing it himself, payable to Hones & Town, instantly Hones and Town appeared s indo-sers for the same sum. This he did, and immediately became possessed, with more than a conjurer's adroitness, of the indorsement of Hones and Town, for terity, the grand jury of New York, at the subsequent sessions, saw fit to find an indictment for forgery against Mr. Mix. which he took good care should never sead him; and never of course be tried. And now, reader, you have become somewhat better acquainted with the man with whom the agent of the government has, since the above transaction, made a contract, by the nonfulfilment of which, strange as it may out of the pockets of the people, the trifling sum of two hundred and twenty five thousand dollars, and has retired to spend the money. with leisure and dignity, at Georgetownwhere, as we have been told, he has been living in a style of splendor that vies with that of the most opulent men in the place

N Y Evening Post.

New-York, May 1. The Mobile Commercial Register, of the 8th inst. received vesterday by the brig Fenwick, contains the following article. Com Adv

Mobile, April 8. By an arrival this morning from Port Rogers (formerly called Key West) on the coast of Florida, we learn, that on the 24th of March, that the Island was taken pos session of in due form, in the name of the United States, by Captain Perry, of the U States schooner Shark. We understand the island is ! miles long, by 2 broad, contain ing extensive salt ponds, capable of making three to four hundred bushels of salt, and is an eligible situation for supplying vessels with provisions. The harbor is said to be equal to any in the Gulf of Mexico, both for safety and depth of water. The settlement has been lately formed by a company of enterprising gentlemen from this place. The following extract of a letter furnishes

Fort Rogers, Thompson Island, March 27 We have been present at the taking pos-session of this Island, in the name of the United States. This step was taken in con-sequence of a letter from Mr S. to head quarters, and Captain Perry, who received orders to examine the harbor, &c. speaks favourably of it. Mr Warner, the American agent at Havana, arrived in the Shark. Pursuant to orders, they landed on the 25th, and planted the American standard, under a salute from that vessel.

Charlemagne, it is said, was entombed in a sitting posture, with a crown on his head, and a sceptre in his hand. The notions of some men in our own days, seem to be e-qually fantastical, as a proof of which, may be produced an article in an English paper, in which it is stated, that the late Dr. Barry, of Willingford, was buried in his gown and bands, with his har powdered, a nose-gay in one hand, and a book in the other.

Naples, March 8, 1822. ERUPTION OF MOUNT VESUVIUS. Mount Vesuvius, which had been for several months in a state of total inaction, on Friday, the 22d February, showed signs of renewed vigour; on the following night it was in a very great activity, and on Sunday night, (the 24th Feb.) the volcano exhibit-ed a very grand eruption. A broad stream of lava descended the cone, and seemed to turn off in an augle, and run down the mountain towards Resina and Portici; the flames above the crater were lofty and con-tinued; an unremitting discharge of fiery masses, which were thrown up in the air to great height, issued from the mouth, and he groans of the mountain were heard in Naples, like distant thunder. Ahout ten clock on that evening the view from the city was particularly striking—the wide river of fire ran on in majestic slowness; innumerable pale torches were seen coasting its sides, on which some bold and our out persons seemed every now and then to be reading; the flames were reflected across the bay, and threw a strong glare on the buildings and on the faces of thousands of spectators, who had gathered on the Molo, anta Luria, and other open places, to gaze at the magnificent conflagration.
On Monday (25th Feb.) the cruption was much less considerable; in the evening, the

Princels of Paranto, the King's wife, as-cended to the hermitage of San Salvatore. On'Toesday (26th) to d rumbling noises were heard in Naples, at very short inter vals during all the day; the quantity of smoke which issued from the volcano was smoke which issued from the voicano was so great that the sen was quite discoloured; its reflex was of a murky red tint, and the atmosphere was heavily clouded. Religious processions were made in the little towns at the foot of the mountain, which have so often suffered from their dangerous neigh bour. Towards evening; as appearances promised a good night's work, we set off from Naples to view the operations nearer; the road to Resina was covered with peo-ple going and returning, like a fair; when we reached the spot where strangers are, on common occasions surrounded by guides, and asses and mules, to conduct them up the mountain, we found that no animals were to be procured, and it was with difficulty we could get a stupid old man for a cicerone, who rendered us no other service than carrying a torch. The ascent was thronged with people, some pushing on eagerly to the objects of their curiosity, and others returning and discussing what they had seen; far below San Salvatore we saw he stream of fire rolling along a wide hol low, and approaching the path by which we were going up: it was then, however, at a considerable distance, its course was very slow. On reaching the hermitage we refreshed ourselves as well as the crowd there assembled would permit; wethen continued, and for shortness traversed the lava chiefly formed by the eruption of January 182; we reached the foot of the cone jus where the stream was descending; we found it about thirty feet wide; it was not liquid

and old masses of vo canic ejections, swept away in its course and heated again; these lu ps rolled over each other, producing a strange clinking noise; some of them were of very great size, and the whole stream though descending a steep cone, moved but Beyond this principal stream, mid way up the cone, was an opening, whence very large stones and other burning matter vere continually thrust out; this mouth fed a scattered stream, beyond which was ano ther narrow stream, proceeding, (like the principal one) from the crater; they both united with the main body in the deep holow below, and rolled on towards the road which leads from Resing up to the hermitwhich leads from Resinz up to the hermit-age. The quantity of spectators standing by the sides of the burning river was as-tonishing: we, with a great many of the more adventurous, determined to ascend the cone; we therefore passed a little to the left of the great stream, and began to scram ble through the deep loose cinders and ash es which cover this part of the mountain,

lava, but composed of ashes, ignited stones

and render it at all times a most fatiguing A little path or tract formerly existed, in

which the guides had laid masses of lava to facilitate the mounting, but it was just in that line that the present erupt on descend ed, and we were in consequence obliged to go up over the sand and cinders, in which we stuck up to our knees; and at everythree teps lost one on an average. After a most breathing toil of an hour and a half, we ound ourselves with a few others, on the edge of the grand crater; hence the coup d'œ.l was terrifically sublime; the flames rushed out of the mouth and threw them selves in the arr in a broad body to the elevation of at least a hundred feet, whilst many of the fiery stones flew up twice that height, the flames tell back into the mouth nd then burst out again, as though impell ed by a fresh impulse, like the blast of a bel lows; in the descent some of the stones and lumps of cinder returned into the mouth,

but the greater part felloutside of the flames like the jets of a fountain. While we were standing on the exposed side of the crater very intent in observation, all of a sudden the volcano gave a tremendous roar; it was like the crash of a long line of ar illery, & of stones as we had never before seen, at the same moment the wind which was ver nigh, gave an irregular gust, which direct ed a good part of the stones towards where were posted; our situation was for a minute or two very perilous, but there was no shelter near, and we stood still, looking at the descending shower which fell around

us; we however, happily sustained no o ther injury than a short alarm, and having some ashes dashed in our faces by stones which fell near is. Two or three gentle-men who were ascending the cone after us, were not qui'e so fortunate, for many of the stones falling outside of the ridge, rolled down the side with great velocity, loosening and carrying with them lumps of cold lava, &c. some of which struck those persons on the legs with great violence, and nearly precipitated one of them headlong to the foot of the cone. After this, we tho't we had seen enough, and turned to go down; the descent is as easy as the ascent is difficult; the cinders and ashes slide away heneath the feet; nothing is necessary but to step out (the quicker the better) to keep

one's equilibrium and to avoid the fixed &

large stones and pieces of lava-we were not more than ten minutes in reaching the

point, whence it had taken us an hour and

motley scene was lit by the silvery moon

and the red towering flames at the summit of the volcano. We took some slight re

of the volcano. We took some slight re-freshment, and repaired homewards in the

midst of as gay groups as ever returned from scenes of festivity and joy. When we got lower down, we found that the lava had approached very near to the road, and had

already seized upon a fine vineyard, which was blazing very brilliantly. After our re treat, we learned that the lava traversed the

road. On Wednesday, the 27th, the erup-tion was in a great measure tranquilised;— still, however, crowds of people continued

going up the mountain, and an Austrian officer, who had come from Capua to see it

a half to mount. In coming down we were struck with the strange appearance of the torches of companies ascending and descending; they formed a pale wavering line from Resina to the hermitage, and thence to the cone they were scattered about in thick and fantastic groups. On reaching the hermitage we found it so crowded that we could not enter; the large flat around was covered like a crowded fair by people of all nations and of ail ranks from the beautiful and accomplished Counters of Figuelmont, wife of the Austrian Ambas sador, to the Austrian serjeant and his wife who had come to see that blazing moun tain; numbers of people had come from the towns and villages below with bread and wine, and fruit and aqua viæ, all of which articles seemed in very great demand. The

of Deputies.
"Friday evening, the crowd collected a

church. "Third of March .- Last night, the missionaries rested from their labours, and all

was peaceful.
"I suppose they will preach again to night,

was unfortunately killed on the ridge of the cone, by a large stone striking him on his head. On Thursday scarcely anything hut smoke issued from the crater, and it has continued in this peaceful state ever since.

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

Annapolis, Thursday, May 9. The Senate of the United States have re fused to confirm the nomination, by the President, of Col. Towson and Col. Gadsden, to their respective appointments

The votes in that body stood for confirming 17, against it 25.

FIRES.

Thirty Houses were consumed by fire in Norfolk, on the night of the 30th ult. In Baltimore on Friday morning last, 14 or 15 buildings, were reduced to ashes by the same devouring element.

NEW MILITARY POST.

The Buffaloe Journal of the 23d ultimo, says, "we learn that the War Department has determined to establishment a military ost at the Sault St Mary's between Lakes Huron and Superior- It is to be occupied by a detachment of 250 of the 2d regiment,

CUMBERLAND ROAD.

One of the most important incidents on Saturday last, was the rejection, by the president, of the bill to authorise the erection of toll-gates on the Cumberland road

The reason assigned by the President for his veto, is, that & Congress do not possess the power, under the constitution to pass such a law. It is tho't the bill will not be repassed.

MASONIC. Extract of a letter from a gentleman resid-ing at Wasnington City, to his friend in Pittsburg. You doubtless have seen sometime since,

a notice in the National Intelligencer, calling a meeting of Masons in the Senate Chamber: as you may probably not know the object, or the proceedings of the meet-ing thus called; I will state them—It was to obtain the sense of those Masons now in our city, from different parts of the Union. ropriety of establishing a GENE RAL GRAND LUDGE, a considerable number attended, among whom were some of the most distinguished men in the coun try, and after some discussion, they unanimously agreed that it was expedient and necessary to proceed to the formation of a General Grand Lodge, and for this purpose appointed a committee of eleven to open a correspondence with the several Grand Lodges throughout the Union, and to re commend to them the appointment of delegates, to meet in this city in February next, to consider the subject, and if three fourths of those represented should agree to the formation of such a lodge, to empower them e proceed to the formation of a constitution which is to be submitted to the approval of the State Grand Lodges. Mr. Baldwin from your city is one of the committee.

Extract of a letter from Paris, dated March

2d, to a gentleman in Boston
"You will see by the paper I send you, that there has been some disturbance in this city for two or three nights past; but as lit tle is said with regard to the cause of this commotion, it is necessary that I should give you some account of it.

"There is a large number of catholic mis-sionaries employed by government to preach in the different arrondissements of this city and throughout the country, in order to re claim such as have embraced infidelity, and bring back to the bosom of the church, those who have wandered, and to restore that church to the state of purity, in which it was before the revolution. From the nature of their employment, & the manner in which they are paid, you might well expect that they would have not only zeal to build up the kingdom of their Lord, but also to support that of the Bourbons ly we find them singing in the churches, it

very lively air,
'Vivele France-Vive le Roi, · l'oujours en Fance le Bourbons et la foi At other times,

·Vive le Roi, ·Vive la toi.

'Vive la croix,' &c. "With regard to the design of govern-ment in employing these men, and the effect likely to be produced on the minds of the people, as it respects genuine religion, I shall make no remark, except that there have been several lost sneep brought back, on the shoulders of these good shepherds, into the catholic fold, and so safely housed, that I do not think any wolf of Calvin or Lu-ther, will ever be able to catch them. Bre-bis heuncuses! But it so happens, that there are here, as in most other places, many stiff necked, untameable, wild as the young ass's colt, and who cannot be made to lis ten with pleasure to these good missionaries. On the contrary, they speak of them with contempt; say that they preach des sottises, foolish things; talk about absterniousness, while they daily load their mortal bodies with roast beef, fowls, pates de Strasbourg, &c. all well diluted with the best of old Burgundy and Champagne. There are al so others, who do not think that faith in Jesus Christ and in the Bourbons, are inseperably connected. Many of these, and I mistake not, the greater part of them. are such as profess to be bon Catholiques.

"Last Thursday evening, the missiona-ries assembled at the church of Notre Dame des Victoires, in order to preach and sing: but, instead of finding an attentive audience, they found themselves so much hissed, that they could not proceed. Presently a crowd was collected around the church, and much noise succeeded. The strong arm of military power was thought necessary; three or for hundred gens d'armere were called out who succeeded in preventing the mis-sionaries from receiving further insults.— Some were bounded, several arrested, a mong whom were General Demarcay, and M de Corcelles, members of the Chamber

gain; the streets near the church were filled with gens d'armere, the shops all closed, and none but women permitted to enter the

and I expect more difficulty.

"What will be the issue of this, I do not

Train the Pederal training.
The People of the Helical State
The confract to which I release to the Many last communication between the ment of war and Eligin Mir, in the very of stone at Old Phint Comfort date on the 25th day of July, it is a very time, the said Mix was a public ter, on account of money advanced to out of the appropriation for defraying Contingent Expenses, [what a content thing it is for some folks to have a and such large Contingent Appropriation of intercourse with foreign nations. of intercourse with fareign nations in treasury report to congress of this densi-tion, does not inform the public in white pacity Mr. Miz acted, or what arreles actually rendered to the country for the actually rendered to the country for the ney thus "advanced" to film that being in the opinion of our rulers, as its weak seem, a piece of information which wis at thought of sufficient importance to acquain the people with; or, which it might have a darmed in expedient to 'communication'. been deemed inexpedient to communicate to them But this is not all. On a further examination of official documents, and the examination of official documents, and the treasury books, it appears that, on the 304 of September, 1820,—more than two jum after this famous contract with Mix wa made.—he still remained as a public of faulter on the public books, although is had been in the habit of drawing from the public treasury, agreeably to his confine, the neat little sum of nine or ten thousand the neat little sum of nine or ten thousand dollars per month, commencing in July 1818! So that it may be fairly presend, he has been permitted to draw out of your treasury nearly two hundred thousand dollars, without being compelled to pay the money with which he stood charged demoney with the compencial statement of the sound tember, 1818!" What will those whom you take care of the public treasury at to this? This is another sample, amount thousands, almost, of others which couldn't furnished, of the manner in which you makely affairs are conducted by those of public affairs are conducted by those entrusted with their management. Can it be any wonder, then, that the treasury is poor; as the National Intelligencer was compelled lately to acknowledge? or, that you have to borrow money to pay ordinary expense? But I will leave Mr. Alix and his contract, as I hope, for ever, and will proceed to give you some information immediately under the control and direction of the President and the Treasury Department This infor mation ought, some time ago, to have been communicated to you by that most patrict ic, impartial and disinterested public jounal called the "National intelligencer" because the editors do in their prospects, absolutely promise to give to their patrens, and to the public, the information in questions of the public in the p tion, and a great deal more; for all of which they are (as they will themselves adm) most liberally paid. But it does so happed it will not say from what cause that the paper abstains from communicating to the. public many of the official reports made to Congress, in which the people have a deep interest; particularly such as serve to prove a wanton and highly culpable misapplicati on-of the public money, and the mal-admi-

nistration of the public affairs. tional Intelligencer, of the report made by othe committee on the expenditures on the public buildings," about the beginning of the present month, it has entirely escaped my notice I believe I may venture to assert, that the report has not been published in that paper; but the editors will, doubt-less, give to their numerous patrons substantial reasons for this, no doubt, entirely

This report, however, (whether it be the wish of any body to smother it or suppress its circulation or not) does, to my mind, disclose some most important facts. It appears by a document which accompanied the re port of the committee, that out of the money appropriated by Congress, for completing the public buildings of the city of Washington, and drawn for that purpose from the treasury, the sum of 23,613 dollars 24 cents was not applied to the object for which it was appropriated and drawn, but has been actually withheld and illegally pocketted by the late commissioner, Samu-el Lane, and some of his friends, to whom he too (following higher examples) under took to make "advances." The sum re took to make cadvances. The sum tained by the commissioner himself, agree-ably to this report, amounts to 13,028 dol-lars 80 cents; and the sum retained by his triends (of whom a particular list is given in the document accompanying it) amounts to 10,594 dollars 44 cents, making together, as before stated 23,613 dollars 24 cents— sum nearly sufficient to pay the President' salary for one whole year. The largest sur which appears to be in the hands of anyon of the late commissioner's friends, amou to 2,837 dollars 92 cents. This sum appear to be due from one Solomon Davis, who is called "Superintendent of the Marble Quary;" and who, it is supposed, merely drew money to pay the hands employed there—The committee add, "it now appears that there is not, at this time, any money of hand to defray the expenses on continuing the work on the centre building of the cipitol. What proportion of the debt day from the individuals named in the list mark. to be due from one Solomon Davis, who rum the individuals named in the list mark ed B herewith submitted, or of the baland due from the estate of the late commission

due from the estate of the late commissioner, will be eventually recovered, the committee have not the means of judging."

A few brief remarks on this affair, shift close the present communication. Anopynion prevails, pretty generally, that the greatest extent of the public losses, through the defalcations of individuals, takes place at a considerable distance from the set at a considerable distance from the set. at a considerable distance from the seat of the general government. This is a repigreat mistake The reverse of this is that truth. That greater dilapidations are committed on the treasury at Washington, through the negligence (or any thing sea which you may please to call it) of those, stationed there for the purpose of guaristy your interests, I have no doubt, and the fact will be unquestionably proved by the examinations which shall be made by symmy impartial, capable committee of investigation which may be appointed to scrutinish on which may be appointed to scruling these matters. In the case of Mr. Land the commissioner of the public building now under consideration, what are the first many than the commissioner of the public buildings of the commissioner now under consideration, what are taken All his disbursements of the public many were made at the seat of government, connected with one object only,—namely, the building, rebuilding, or repairs of the public buildings. For this service, the largave him a regular salary of \$2000 a year, payable, like the other salaries, gutta yearly. He gave, it is believed, no securify for the discharge of his duty—because congress did not suppose it could be necessify to take security from a man who him men to take security from a man who him men to take security from a man who him men to take security from a man who him men to take security from a man who him men to take a security from a man who him men to All his disbursements of the public menf

in this termet, was to pay the miner, as it became desite to der and settle his accounts quarter it, as he has directed in the first this, it seems, has not been required of him; although a set and drank at his table. Thus, you have exhibited to you, the disgusting apectacle of a public defaulter (and having become such without the semblance of excuse or spolegy) being kept was kind of immate by the chief magistrate of the nation! But I apprehend this defaltation is trifling; compared to another from the same individual and some of his predecessors, arising from the same of olds belonging to the U. States, the sale of lots belonging to the U. States, in the city of Washington. The amount of these sales must be immensely large... though I do not recollect to have seen though I do not reconcer to have seen a account of any money having been paid in-to the treasury, arising from that source.— It shall be my especial care to investigate that matter also, and to inform you of the

A Native of Virginia.

From the Portsmouth Journal. NDEPENDENT NATIONS OF SOUTH-AMERI

MEXICO, MEXICO,
Including the kingdom of New-Mexico and the province or Guatimala, extends from the Pacific Ocean on the South and West, to the uncertain limits of Louisiana on the north, and to Pohisiana and the Gulf of Mexico on the east.

The population of Daxco alone, exclusive of New-Mexico and Guatimala, was estimated by Humboldt in 1808, at 0,500,000.

nce the beginning of their contest with bain, the inhabitants of those Provinces have taken a census, which may be con-sidered tolerably accurate. They report the number to be, in

Mexico, Guatimali, New-Mexico, 5,400,000 1,800,000 860,000

Total, 8,000,000
The city of Mexico, the capital, contains

The city of Mexico, the capital, contains, according to Humbodt, 137,000 inhabitants. The independence of the "Mexican Empire" was declared on the 24th Aug 1821. The Republic of Colombia consists of the Provinces of Ventzuela and New-Grenada; and probably in Judes also the neighbouring provinces of Gumana, and Guiana and Maracybo. If so, it extends from the Spanish Main on the north to Buenos Ayres and Peru; and from Dutch Gusana on the east, to the Pacific Ocean; and conon the east, to the Pacific Ocean; and contains about 3,500,000 inhabitants. Its principal city is Santa Fe de Bogoto, containing

population of 40,000.
It will be recollected that the provinces of Venezuela and New Grenada seperately declared their independence; and since the year 1803, have maintained a bloodier con-test with the arms of Spain; than any of the other provinces. On the 18th Dec. 1819, they united themselves under one government, on the model of that of the United States, and assumed the name of the "Re public of Columbia."

Buenos Ayres, beginning at the 28th de-gree of south latitude, extends nearly 1608 miles to the north, where it is bounded by the unknown regions of Amazonia and Motto Grosso, and from the Atlantic on the east, about 1000 miles, to Chili on the west Its population is estimated by Humboldt at 1,100,000. The city of Buenos Ayres is supposed to contain about 60,000 inhabitants, and Monte Video about 30,000. Vice woyalty of Buenos Ayres declared its independence in 1816; but though it encountered no opposition from the government of Spain, it has been distracted by civil wars, particularly with the Banda Orientale, the eastern shore of the La Plata: and by contests with the neighburing provinces. It is said now to enjoy entire tran-

Peru is perhaps the least known of all the Spanish provinces It is more than 1000 miles in length, from New Grenada to Chili, and stretches westward from Buenos Ayres to the Pacific Ocean. The Patriots have estimated its population at

Lima, its principal city, was founded by Pizarro, and now contains about 53,000 inhabitants; of whom 17,00° are Spaniards, 9,000 negroes, 3,000 Indians; and the resta nixed race, the descendants of Spaniards and Indians.

Peru was liberated from the power of the Spaniards last summer, by an army from Buenos Ayres and Chili, under the command of Gen. San Martin On the capture of Lima, on the 12th June, 1821, they pro

claimed their independence.
Chili, extending from Peru to the Archipelago of Chiloe, has in fact, never been entirely conquered from the natives. The Araucanians, inhabiting about 300 miles of the southern part of Chili, have resolutely maintained their independence against all the attacks of the September 1989. the attacks of the Spaniards, since the first invasion of Diego Almegro; and the posses-sion of the northern part of the country, which the Spaniards ultimately acquired, cost them ruore blood and treasure, than all the rest of the continent. One of the finest poems in the Spanish language, the Aracu cana, of Alonzo de Ercilla, celebrates the vars of this nation with their Spanish invaders.

Spanish Chili is about 780 miles long and 250 broad. Santiago, the capital, contains about 46,000 inhabitants; and Valparaiso a about \$0,000 innabitants; and vaiparaiso a bout \$0,000.—The number of inhabi ants in the Province has never been estimated. The people proclaimed their independence of Spain in 1818; and have since been unmolested in the possession of their sovereignty.

The five communities are now introduced by the United States, into the great society of nations. It is impossible to predict the moral and political effects of their independence; but when it is remembered that the blessings of freedom and knowledge are now placed within the reach of 15 millions of the human race, no sentiments can arise in our hearts, but those of gratitude and joy. It is worthy of remark, that the human characteristics worthy of remark, ter has attained its highest perfection either in times of great agitation and calamity, or immediately after such periods. An age of revolutions is always an age of great mental energy. In times of civil contention there is a developement of talent that on ordinary occasions would have remained concealed.
And even among those, who by birth or fortune are pixeed at the summit of society, there is, in stirring times, an excitement of feeling-a kindling of imagination-that feeling-a kindling of imagination—that prepares them for great enterprises. Men, whose changeters have been formed in civil war, acquire from necessity a habit of bold and independent thought, and a contempt of mere autihority. From being obliged to act for themselves, they learn to think for themselves, it is the series of the series o

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President of PROGRE

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