

EXTENT & POPULATION OF AMERICA.

From a London paper of Oct. 17. The following estimate of the extent, in square leagues, and population, of the Continent of America in 1823, was lately transmitted by Baron de Humboldt from Paris, to President Bolivar, with the accompanying letter.

| Square leagues | Population. | |
|---------------------|-------------|------------|
| Mexico or New Spain | 75,630 | 6,800,000 |
| Guatemala | 16,740 | 1,600,000 |
| Cuba & Puerto Rico | 4,430 | 800,000 |
| Colomb. Venezuela | 33,770 | 900,000 |
| B. N. Granada | 58,250 | 1,800,000 |
| Peru | 48,150 | 1,400,000 |
| Chili | 14,340 | 1,100,000 |
| Buenos Ayres | 116,720 | 2,000,000 |
| Total formerly | 372,410 | 16,400,000 |
| Spanish | 125,440 | 10,200,000 |
| United States | 257,990 | 4,000,000 |
| Brazil | | |

The above surfaces have been calculated with great care on maps rectified by astronomical observations. The calculations have been several times repeated by M. Mathieu, member of the Board of Longitude, and of the Institute, as well as by myself. The results differ from those published in 1809 in the Political essay on Mexico. Then the inhabited parts alone had been calculated, without including the desert tracts, over which the independent tribes of the indigenous inhabitants wander. Now the whole extent of each country, to its farthest limits, has been measured. The population of the different parts of the continent of America is very uncertain, nevertheless each portion has been calculated according to the latest data which have reached me. The present estimate ought to be considered in the same light as all my other works on America; they are no other than essays, in which every thing will have to be done over again. Statistical calculations can only be rendered perfect by degrees, in like manner as the elements of meteorological and astronomical tables.

Comparison. Spain consists of 16,094 square leagues—Europe contains 334,710 square leagues, and the whole of Southern America 381,891 square leagues.

Signed HUMBOLDT.

From the Boston Recorder.

PALESTINE MISSION.

Extract of a letter from the Rev. Mr. Fisk, American Missionary at Jerusalem, to Dr. Porter of Andover, dated April 26, 1823.

My first letter from the Holy City shall be to my revered instructors and beloved brethren at Andover. I have now spent our days in the city where David lived and reigned and where David's Lord and King redeemed the world. The house I inhabit stands on Mount Calvary—my little room has but a small window, and this opens towards Mount Olivet. I have walked around Calvary; I have walked over Calvary; I have passed through the valley of Jehoshaphat; I have drunk of the waters of Siloam; I have crossed the brook Kedron; I have been in the Garden of Gethsemane. The next day after my arrival I made my first visit to the tomb of my Lord. I did not stop to enquire whether the place pointed out as his sepulchre is really such or not. In this there is any delusion I was willing to be deceived for the moment. The church was full of people, but though surrounded by them I could not suppress my feelings. I looked at some which covers the tomb, and thought of the death and resurrection of my Lord, and burst into tears. I entered and knelt by the marble which is supposed to cover the spot where the body lay. My tears flowed freely, and my soul seemed to be moved in a way I cannot describe. I dedicated myself anew to my Lord, and then offered up my prayers for my father, brothers, sisters, and particular friends. I implored a blessing on Andover, and on all missionaries and ministers, and on all the world. It seemed then as if Jesus Christ the Son of God; had really suffered, died, and risen from the dead. The period of time that has elapsed since his death, dwindled to a moment. The whole seemed present and real. O, what sufferings! O, what love! Dear brethren, it was for us he bled and died. Shall we not then live to him? He died to save us from sin. Shall we not then avoid sin in all its forms? He died to save us. Can we then be unwilling to make efforts, and endure privations to save others? If you think I have made any sacrifices or undergone any hardships, I assure you I forget them all when in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. But alas how little do I see around me of the efficacy of that blood which was shed on the cross! The Christian pilgrim cannot enter the building that covers the tomb of his Redeemer without buying permission from the enemies of his faith. I suppose at least three-fourths of the inhabitants of Jerusalem deny the divinity of our Lord, and the atoning efficacy of his death; and I fear all, or nearly all the rest, adore his mother and his disciples with almost as much devotion as himself. When I was at Gethsemane there were so many armed Turks about, that I did not think it prudent to stop, but only walked across the field.

DIVING BELL.

A particular account of a diving bell, at work at Portsmouth, is given in the Dumfries Courier. The bell is a square cast metal frame, eight feet high, 22 feet in circumference, and weighs upwards of four tons. The frame is of course open below, and at the top are 12 small circular windows, made of thick glass. When the sea is clear, and particularly when the sun is shining, the workmen can go on with their submarine operations without candles, which would consume nearly as much air as an equal number of human bellows. In the inside of the bell are seats for the workmen, with knobs to hang their tools on; and attached to it is a strong double air-pump, which is a mighty improvement on the old-fashioned plan of sinking barrels filled with air. From this pump issues a thick leather tube, which is closely fitted into the bell, and the length of which can easily be proportioned to the depth of the water. As may be supposed, the bell is suspended from a very strong crane, the shaft of which is sunk to the very keel of the vessel, purchased up for the purpose; and which is, in fact, a very necessary part of the diving apparatus. On the deck of this vessel is placed the air pump, worked by four men, with an additional hand to watch the signals. When about, therefore, to commence operations, the sloop is moved to the outside of the break water, the air pump put in motion, the crane worked, and then down go the aquatic quaysmen. From its weight and shape, the machine must dip perpendicularly; while the volume of air within it once enables the workmen to breathe and keeps out the water. On arriving at the bottom, the divers are chiefly annoyed with large beds of sea weed, although from the partially uneven manner in which the ledges of the bell occasionally rest on the rocks, it is impossible to expel the water altogether, and this, I presume, is the reason why it is dangerous to descend in rough or squally weather when the heaving and agitated deep would be apt to dash in at the smallest cranny. To guard against the effects of several hours' partial immersion in water, the men are provided with large jack boots, cap of wool, and coarse woollen jackets. They also observe the precaution of stuffing their ears with cotton, as the constant stream of air, which descends from above, occasions, at first, an uneasy sensation, and is even apt to produce deafness.

Here, then, we have two or three men working with perfect ease and safety, 20, 25 and sometimes 30 feet below water. In carrying on the new pier it is necessary to make a bed for the foundation stones which

NORTHERN EXPEDITION.

Perthmouth, (Eng.) Oct. 25. His Majesty's ship Hecla, of Cape Farewell, Greenland, Sept. 29, 1823.

"After an unavailing struggle of two years and a half to get to the westward, we are again thus far upon our passage home ward, by the same route we went out. In the beginning of October, the frost set in so fast that the ships were scarcely manageable or the sea navigable. It was then that prudent to look out for a place to winter in, and a small shallow bay on the south west point of an island, in lat. 66, 11, 40, long. 83, was found, which promised us shelter from the northerly winds and drift ice. A canal was cut in the new formed ice, and the ships properly placed by the 10th about a quarter of a mile from the shore. We were soon afterwards frozen up and housed over, and otherwise prepared for the winter which now set in very late. The land was covered with snow, and deserted by almost every animal; foxes and bears seemed the only exceptions. Our recreations and amusements now became so regular, that the history of a single day may suffice for the whole winter. At seven o'clock in the morning we got up, at eight breakfasted, at nine dined on deck; the rest of the forenoon was generally spent in visiting our fox traps, of which almost every officer contrived to have one. This amusement, or in walking over the snow, lasted till Christmas. At 1 P. M. dined; the afternoon was spent by some in sleep, others reading, or playing chess, backgammon or cards, till five o'clock, when we took tea; at six attended muster, reading or writing. At eight, when we supped, attended continued in general conversation over a glass of grog and a cigar, until bed time. On the 1st of February, when all our tales had been at least twice told, and the time began to hang rather heavy upon our hands, a most reasonable relief appeared in a tribe of Eskimaux, who were approaching the ships.

"This appeared the more astonishing to us, as we had seen none of them since leaving Hudson's Straits except one family that were seen by our boats at the top of the inlet, and some others that were heard on the shores to the westward, during the summer, although in every place we landed we met with remains of their huts, and some of them the appearance of being lately occupied. They came towards the ships without hesitation, entirely unarmed, one of them carrying, an old man on his back, on coming on board, they looked round, either with the most stupid indifference, or struck dumb with astonishment, as they never had seen a ship before, nor indeed, man besides their own race. They exchanged any thing they had for whatever was offered them, and received presents with extreme delight jumping and shouting in the most ludicrous manner, when any thing was given them. They pointed to their huts which were about three miles distant from the ships, on the south west face of a hill, and on some of us making signs, wishing to go there, one or two of them readily accompanied us. When we got near, all that were the home came out to welcome us with shouting and jumping; their huts were built entirely of snow arched over like a baker's oven, but high enough to stand upright in; on each side was a bench of snow, covered with skins which served as the seat and bed of a family; at each corner was a lamp, with a stone pot suspended over it. Each hut was above twelve feet in diameter, and contained from a dozen to eighteen inhabitants, most of the men being accommodated with two wives. The door was about eighteen inches high, and three or four of the huts communicated with a covered passage, having one common door. The hords had been driven down to the Point by necessity, to look for open water, that they might kill seals; and they had encamped there the evening before.

COUNTERFEIT GOLD.

Mr. J. M. Pike, Lottery and Exchange Broker, Lexington, Ky. cautions the public against imitations of the American Eagle and Half Eagle, which are in circulation. He states that several had lately been presented at his office, so well executed as to deceive the eye, but easily detected by the weight, being nearly a third lighter than the genuine.

ANECDOTE OF GEN. JACKSON.

A few days since, when at Fredericksburg, Va. on his way to Washington, a small boy, about eight years of age, and who was named after him, soon after the glorious eighth of January, 1815, was introduced to the General as his namesake. He took him in his arms and kissed him; then putting his hand on his head, said, "God bless you, my dear little fellow; be a good boy; learn your book; and be always ready to fight the enemies of your country." Then, taking out of his purse a fifty cent coin, and presenting it to him, he continued: "Here is the Eagle of your country—never desert it! Wear this next your heart, and remember me." The scene was striking, and the impression made on the boy will be lasting. It will influence his future life. He wears it round his neck, and it is the envy of all his schoolfellows. The little fellow is already a thorough Jacksonite, and says he will go to Washington, when Jackson is President, and show it to him, in the President's House.

A SWEEPING CASE.

In a cause respecting a will at the last York Assizes, evidence was given to prove the testatrix (an apothecary's wife) a lunatic; and among other things it was deposed, that she had swept a quantity of pots, phials, lotions, potions, plasters, &c. into the street as rubbish. "I doubt not the learned judge, whether sweeping rustic into the street be any proof of insanity." "Truly, my Lord," replied the counsel, "but sweeping the pots away certainly was."

Maryland Gazette.

Annapolis, Thursday, Dec. 25, 1823.

THE AIR FLOWER OF CUJO.

One of the most remarkable instances of vegetable life being supported without roots, is exhibited in the Air-Flower of Cujio. It is a plant without root, and consists of a single shoot, resembling the stalk of a Gilliflower, but with thicker and larger leaves, which feel like wood. Its native situation is an arid rock, or dry tree, on which it entwines itself. Each stock or shoot has two or three white and transparent flowers, resembling the lily of the vale, in shape and odour. It may be transported many hundred miles, and suspended on a nail or peg, where it will bloom annually.

THE GREEKS.

The following is an extract of a letter from an intelligent American at Smyrna, long a resident there: Smyrna, 29th Sept. 1823. The affairs of the Greeks go on well—they have had some important successes in Romelia. The Reds have remained idle all summer. The Captain Pacha was, by the last accounts, at Mytilene. The Greeks will be too wise to risk a battle with him, not to be beaten, in victory to them. In my opinion they have more to fear from Russia, than the Turks. The misnamed Holy Alliance governs Europe—England not excepted; and Alexander governs that alliance. There exists at this moment, in my view, a more powerful combination against the rights and liberties of mankind, than ever before existed. The English appear more inclined to befriend the Greeks, than any other nation; but I believe this feeling exists more with the people, than the government. For my part, since the affair of Naples, I have set down the English Ministry to be perfectly in accord with the despots of Europe. There is yet, however, too much of the spirit of liberty in the land of our ancestors, to allow them to indulge in their opinions, without much caution. It is reported that the Russians and Turks have arranged their differences; and as the Persians, (who are said to be entirely under the influence of Russia,) have made peace with the Turks, I am inclined to believe this report; and no doubt it is settled among the legitimate brothers and cousins, what the Greeks are to submit to. That Russia will ever wish to see them an independent nation, I never can believe.

IRELAND.

Extract from a Work which shows the present unhappy state of Ireland to proceed mainly from the administration of the church government in that country: "The entire population of Ireland amounts to seven millions,—at the very least 5 6ths of this number, or about six millions are Catholics. The remaining million must therefore include not only the members of the Established Church, but the whole body of Protestant Dissenters, who are numerous in the Province of Ulster; the members of the established Church cannot therefore exceed 500,000, or one 14th part of the whole population. Yet for the clergy of this small body, tithes are levied throughout the whole of Ireland. Mr. Wakefield estimated the revenue of all Irish Archbishops and Bishops, at 146,000 a year; a more correct estimate lately taken, makes it 185,700 a year, the poorest Bishopric is worth 24,000 a year, the richest 215,000 a year. But in England, where the duties of the Bishops are considerable, several are not worth more than from 2000 to 23000 a year. In England, with more than half the population, members of the established church, there are twenty six archbishops and bishops. In Ireland, with only 500,000 persons belonging to the establishment, there are 24 archbishops and bishops. In Ireland, there are 1,200 beneficed clergymen, and averaging their incomes at 7000 to 8000 a year, they will amount to about a million.

In the county of Cork the income of 36 benefices exceeded 40,000, and a living of less than 500l. in Ireland, is considered as very low. The duty of residence is never enforced, although the prime of all Ireland enforced in the summer of 1807, the duty of residence on his clergy, he almost immediately after quitted the Island. The Bishop of Cloyne was a long resident at Bath; the late Bishop of Derry resided 20 years in a foreign country; and during that period had about 300,000l. remitted to him from his see!"

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If the federalists of Maryland wish to be "fall between two stools," and incur the contempt of all the candidates, they will make up their mind to give their undivided support, however feeble it may be, to a genuine candidate of their own party, deeming that at last fruitless, they will vote in a body, for the acknowledged candidate of the opposite party. Their votes, if divided, will be equalizing to all the candidates, whether successful or defeated; and of course, they will establish no claim, for themselves or their children, on the succeeding administration.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE OF MARYLAND.

Thursday, Dec. 18. The bill authorizing the levy court of Queen Anne's county, to pay the funeral expenses of papers out of the poor-house of said county, was amended, passed, and returned to the house of delegates.

The bill to ascertain the allowance to sheriffs, for keeping prisoners in goal charged with criminal offences, and finding them virtuous; also the bill to authorize the several levy courts in this state, to recover from delinquent supervisors and other debtors, any sum of money not exceeding fifty dollars, which may be due to their respective counties, as other small debts are recoverable by individuals out of court; also the bill supplementary to an act for the relief of the poor of Prince George's county, passed Dec session, 1822, chap. 121; were severally passed and returned to the house of delegates.

Friday, Dec 19. The resolution relative to the payment of accounts; the bill authorizing the levy court of Frederick county, to provide a suitable room, for holding the orphans court of said county, and safe keeping of the records and papers of said court; were severally passed and returned to the house of delegates.

The clerk of the house of delegates do, livered the bill to alter the time of holding the county courts in the several counties therein mentioned; also the bill to authorize Charles G. Robb, of the city of Baltimore, to remove a female slave into this state; which were read.

The additional application to the act, entitled, "An act to amend an act, providing for a new assessment, and to appoint collectors of the tax in and for the city and county of Baltimore, was amended, passed, and returned to the house of delegates.

The bill for the benefit of William C. Beard, of Prince George's county; and the bill authorizing Isaac Rawlings, of the state of Tennessee, to bring certain slaves into this state; were passed, and returned to the house of delegates.

[The senate transacted no business on Saturday.]

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Monday, Dec 15. Mr. Millard presents a petition from Jermina Floyd, of Saint Mary's county, praying a divorce; read and referred.

Mr. Pitt reports a bill entitled, An act to authorize George A. Z. Smith, of Dorchester county, to import and bring into this state certain negroes therein mentioned; which was read.

On motion by Mr. Cromwell, leave given to bring in a bill to alter the times of holding the county courts in Frederick county.

Monday, Dec 15. Mr. W. G. D. Worthington presents a petition from Margaret Hambleton, widow of captain John Hambleton; which was read and referred.

Mr. Bryan presents a petition from sundry inhabitants of the first election district of Cecil county, counter to a petition praying for a change of the place for holding the election; read and referred.

Mr. E. B. Duval reports a bill, entitled, An act to alter and amend some parts of the constitution, as relate to the election of the senate and council of the governor of this state; also Mr. Gough reports a bill, An act for the benefit of Margaret Tippet, of Saint Mary's county; which were read.

Tuesday, Dec 16. Mr. Howard presents a petition from Ann White, of Anne Arundel county, praying for support; read and referred to the committee appointed on petitions of a similar nature. Also, a petition from Benjamin Griffin, of Anne Arundel county, praying relief for the infant children of Matilda Simmons; which was read and referred.

Mr. W. G. D. Worthington reports a bill entitled, An act to reform the constitution of the state; which was read.

Wednesday, Dec 17. The speaker laid before the house a report, relative to the attendance of judges; which was read.

Mr. Loockerman presents a petition from Thomas Phillips, praying for a special act of insolvency; read and referred.

The speaker laid before the house a communication from the register in chancery, in obedience to a resolution of December session, 1822; which was read and referred to the committee of grievances and communications of justice.

Thursday, Dec 18. Mr. Bowie's resolutions disapproving congressional caucuses, were read the second time, and the question put, That he assent to the same? The yeas and nays being required appeared as follows: Affirmative—Messrs. Gough, Millard, Coburn, Howard, Litchman, G. R. Blevins, Ighart, Chesley, Milles, Edelen, R. Ely, Loockerman, Jones, Deane, Brantley, Dashiell, Pitt, Hulson, Bryan, Gemes, E. B. Duval, Wootton, Hopper, Hopper, Moffitt, Nicholson, Slemons, Franklin, Riley, Fisher, Cromwell, Whiteford, Sewall, Norris, Steele, Boon, W. Stewart, W. G. D. Worthington, Knapner, Gabby, Bowler, Mettlick, Pettit, Spangour, Williams, W. Duval, Bruce, Spangler—51.

TOWN MEETING.

The following Preamble and Resolutions were adopted at a town-meeting, which was held at Andover, Saturday last: Whereas the legislature of Maryland has taken the important and necessary step of bringing into active and useful operation the many natural advantages for improvement and canal navigation of this state, from its peculiar situation, and did authorize the appointment of a board of Commissioners for the purpose of ascertaining the practicability, expense, and probable expense of a canal to connect the waters of the Susquehanna and the city of Baltimore:

And whereas the said Commissioners have made and returned their report, in which they have shown, that the improvement of Maryland, now in presenting a full and detailed view of the subject committed to their care, a decided opinion in favour of the practicability and expediency, together with estimates of the probable expense, of from the Conewago falls, on the Susquehanna, to Baltimore—which report, on the consideration of the people, is more matters of vast importance to the future welfare and prosperity of this flourishing and powerful city. The improvement which it contemplates, will lay open to this city, the fairest portion of the United States, and present a prospect which a citizen can look upon with indifference.

The improvement of this river was by far the most important object which has been presented to the people of Baltimore, and the greatest pleasure to all the citizens, is to see the practicability of its navigation do, all the obstructions to the navigation of the Susquehanna river, secured, beyond the reach of the whole ascending and descending trade of this great river and the belonging to it.

And this meeting perceive with satisfaction that the contemplated improvement, is not only a political and commercial improvement, but a political and commercial improvement to the nation at large, and the Western and Eastern waters of the St. Lawrence, the Chesapeake Bay—a blessing which, it is plished to the nation, will be productive of no other way than by means of the Susquehanna river. More than ever before, should the people of Baltimore, their undivided and exclusive attention, the improvement of this great communication with the West—the East.

The spirit of internal improvement, originating in the powerful and patriotic mind of New York, has rapidly spread to the whole Union; and the President of the United States, following out the liberal and enlightened views which have always marked his conduct, has in his recent message to congress, their attention to the improvement of internal resources as a matter of concern—and congress will do nothing up the subject with a corresponding policy.

The union of the various parts of the country, by means of canal navigation, is a political and commercial improvement, which will lay open to this city, the fairest portion of the United States, and present a prospect which a citizen can look upon with indifference.

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The union of the various parts of the country, by means of canal navigation, is a political and commercial improvement, which will lay open to this city, the fairest portion of the United States, and present a prospect which a citizen can look upon with indifference.

The improvement of this river was by far the most important object which has been presented to the people of Baltimore, and the greatest pleasure to all the citizens, is to see the practicability of its navigation do, all the obstructions to the navigation of the Susquehanna river, secured, beyond the reach of the whole ascending and descending trade of this great river and the belonging to it.

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