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WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 1865. From the NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

There is no fact more undoubted than the universal evils resulting from war, as well as the victorious as the vanquished nation; and yet there is scarcely a nation in modern times that has by her conduct illustrated the truth of the maxim. The United States have the rare felicity, the distinguished honor of having maintained in this respect with equal harmony and vigor her theory and practice.

It becomes from this consideration a duty of no light obligation in all who possess the power to use the means of enlightening the public on this point. This can only be accomplished by uniform conduct, and by proper explanations and illustrations unobscuredly made.

That of Europe may be estimated at two hundred millions. During this period, in maintenance of her peace the U. State have employed three thousand soldiers; while Europe for the carrying on her wars has employed two millions.

Supposing Europe to have been half the above term involved in war (and she has in fact been engaged in war more than half) and her peace to be one half of her war establishment, it will follow that the military expenses of a population of five millions in Europe during the past twenty three years have been

the prospect of an end, and to exertions destructive of her peace, her safety, and her prosperity. With a people towering in their habits of enterprise and industry, above all the nations of the old world we behold the dreadful spectacle of more oppressive taxes, & more individual distress than is presented by any other region of the earth.

It may be computed, on a very moderate estimate that in Europe there are now under arms two millions of soldiers or sailors, and that their maintenance, with the incidental expenses of war, costs the annual sum of five hundred millions of dollars. This, then, is so much lost to the stock of national wealth, independently of its effects in withdrawing such a large portion of effective men from the plough and the loom, in leaving so many millions of wives and children to the precarious sustenance derived from their own labors, and of the increased consumption of those who raising nothing themselves, are occupied in destroying the productions of others.

With this rapid sketch, let us compare our own situation; and we shall be enabled to form a faint idea of the advantages and superiority of a pacific over a warlike policy.

For twenty three years past, we have maintained, amidst the distractions of Europe, a state of peace, which can scarcely be considered as disturbed by our differences with the Indians or the pirates of Tripoli. During this period, we have at no time had an army of more than three thousand men, nor incurred, it is believed, an annual expense of more than two millions of dollars.

And those of the U. States 431,000,000 24,000,000 407,000,000

Making a difference of four hundred & seven millions in favor of the United States, and in favor of the pacific over the warlike nation. The effect will be the same, as if this immense treasure were taken from the one nation and transferred to the other; independently of the increased population of the one nation over the others. This sum is little, if at all, short of the whole amount of the wealth of a nation composed of five millions!

LORD MELVILLE'S LAST MOMENTS.

On Tuesday, the 9th inst. about half past seven, A. M. departed this political life, the right honorable Henry Dundas, Viscount Melville, First Lord of the Admiralty, a Lord of Trade and Plantations, Chancellor of the University of St. Andrews, Lord Privy Seal, Governor of the Bank and an Advocate in Scotland, and Elder Brother of the Trinity House, a Doctor of Civil Law, and one of his Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council.

His lordship was attended to the last by Mr. George Canning, Mr. Mark Spott, and the Ordinary, and went off with resignation. His case had been dispensed of early on the preceding Sunday, though in the evening of that day a learned Doctor, not from Padua but the Devezes, had suggested a nostrum, yet would not undertake that it should operate farther than as a palliative for a month or two.

This was resorted to on Monday without effect. On Tuesday morning early his lordship appeared very restless—he enquired whether Mr. W. Dundas had sat out the debate—He was assured he had, and with considerable power of face—He inquired next if he had resigned his office of Secretary at War? and being answered in the negative, the noble Viscount appeared easier, and expressed himself satisfied at the firmness of the family, he added that he hoped such an inflexible state of nerves was not termed effrontery. Mr. Canning assured his lordship it was only called "Spartan virtue."

Mr. Mark Spott then asked where Sparta was, and the Ordinary informed him he believed it was somewhere behind Duke's Place.

About this time a mob of vulgar people at the door were singing "Tantarara Rogues All!" and Lord Melville asked if Mr. Pitt had not just arrived? In fact this gentleman's carriage had just drawn up, and occasioned this indecent clamour.

It was extremely moving to see these two great men take their last leave of each other. Mr. Pitt brought with him a white night cap, a nosegay, and two bottles of London particular Madeira. It had been usual on such occasions to sing a stave or two, but Mr. Wilberforce was gone to the society for the suppression of vice. Mr. Isaac Hawkins Browne indeed offered to chant, "The Lamentation of a sinner," and a sensible melancholy gentleman (we believe Sir Robert Buxton) offered to accompany him on the Dulcimer.

Mr. Pitt observed to the Noble Viscount, that the mob at the door had used the scurrilous phrase of "a swindling administration," and that he had thoughts of resigning, if he knew what to do with himself afterwards; that he abhorred suicide; that he could not with any face return to the volunteers; that he did not like being drafted into the militia; and that he had totally abandoned all agricultural improvements when he proposed the tax on horses in husbandry—Lord Melville assured him he might fill up his leisure hours in the country with an amusement he had so successfully resorted to last summer in Scotland, that of burning papers and destroying evidences.—Mr. Pitt then asked the Noble Lord, with some eagerness, whether he had destroyed the evidences relative to the 40,000 l. returned by Mr. Long from the Treasury to the Paymaster of the Navy? His Lordship said, that to the best of his recollection he had not.—Mr. Pitt seemed disturbed, and asked his Lordship with some peevishness, what he thought would become of him when he was politically dead and buried? The noble Viscount replied, "I decline answering this question, under the provisions of the 5th clause of the statute of Geo. III. chap. 16."

At this melancholy answer, Mr. David and Mr. Wallace burst into tears. Mr. Alderman Anderson blew his nose till it was sore. Mr. George Canning roared, Mr. Mark Spott blundered, and the Ordinary drank two glasses of London particular Madeira.—The scene grew too affecting. The writer of this narrative left the room, sighing with the Roman moralist.

Vix huncicum mala fortuna composuit! SEN. DE DIVIN. POV.

Latest Foreign Advices.

By the ship Belvidere, captain Schenk, from Liverpool, arrived at Boston.

London, May 27. Rumour of Peace. The Hamburg mail of the 21st arrived yesterday. It is confidently reported, that the mission of M. Novosilzoff to Bonaparte has for its object the restoration of general tranquility, and that the conditions with which he is charged, are to be proposed on the joint part of Russia and Great Britain. Should the Emperor Napoleon be in Italy on the arrival of the Russian minister at Paris, it is asserted that he will proceed to Italy.

The complete cessation of diplomatic intercourse between the courts of Berlin and Stockholm which has taken place may be considered more as a misunderstanding between individuals than nations.—It can have little effect upon the general interest of Europe. [Traveller.]

To the report that Russia has purchased the sovereignty of Swedish Pomerania, we cannot annex any credit. We cannot discover any plausible motive for such a transaction. Defensive operations. All the Naval officers attached to signal posts, sea fencibles, &c. have received orders to hold

themselves in readiness for embarkation, in case circumstances should occur to render their service on board necessary.

Newfoundland fleet taken. It is with extreme regret we have to inform our readers of the capture of the greater part of the outward bound convoy for Newfoundland. The particulars of this event are given in the following letter which was received in town yesterday.

CORR, May 21.—I am concerned to inform you, that the Newfoundland fleet, which sailed hence 9th inst. with convoy, being met by a French frigate, were all either burnt or captured; two of them were taken by the Topaze and Rosaria off the north west coast of Ireland. A Spanish corvette, of 20 guns, has been taken by the Topaze. She had captured the Young William, of London, captain Young, from Cork to Waterford, with spirits and porter.

In a subsequent column we have given an abstract of the report of the select committee of the House of Commons, to which was referred the consideration of the consideration of certain parts of the tenth report of the commissioners for Naval enquiry. It was presented yesterday evening by Mr. Leicester, the chairman of the committee, and ordered to be printed. On the motion for the latter proceeding, Mr. Whitebread gave notice of his intention to bring forward, on Thursday se'night, a motion for the impeachment of Lord Melville, and also certain resolutions relative to the conduct of the chancellor of the exchequer, in the case of that nobleman.

A letter was received in town yesterday from Cork which states, that that city had been thrown into some alarm, in consequence of an express having arrived there with orders for every armed vessel to put to sea with the greatest expedition, and sail to the westward; from which it was inferred that the enemy had been seen in considerable force in that quarter.

The channel fleet was left all well on Sunday last. Lord Gardner has divided it into two detachments, one of which cruises as the in-shore squadron, and the other as the out.

The two sail of the line which we announced some time ago as having slipped out of Rochefort, are gone to the West-Indies: They had about 1500 troops on board.

Letters of the 4th May, from the coast of Spain, containing a caution of a nature rather extraordinary, has been received in town. They say, "in consequence of the rumors in circulation here respecting Portugal, we deem it prudent not to address you any longer by way of Lisbon, but thro' the medium of Holland."

By a puff-blast official report in the Paris papers of the proceedings of the Rochefort squadron in the West Indies, it appears that the British vessels sent into Martinique, & sold, produced 100,000 l. & that many had been sent in, but not sold, a great number had been sent in Guadeloupe. They left at Guadeloupe, and Martinique about 8000 troops of the line, and as many militia, plentifully supplied with ammunition. Their loss in all these expeditions is stated at 60 men. The total force of the squadron on board was 3960.

Spanish Dollars. The accounts of the English merchants having claims on the court of Madrid for balances due and detained in the bank of that city at the commencement of the last war, are shortly expected to be put in a state of payment, with interest. The payment is to be made out of that part of the specie ascertained to be the immediate property of the Spanish Government, which was detained previous to the declaration of the present war with Spain, most of which is now safely lodged in the bank of England. The claims, we understand, amount to about 800,000 l.

AMHERST, July 16.

Lightning.—In no season have we had so frequent occasion to notice the severe effects of lightning, as the present. In the thunder storm on Monday, the 8th instant, the lightning struck the house of Mr. Zara Thomas, in Claremont, and killed two of his sons—one about 18 years of age, the other about 7; and Mr. Thomas himself was considerably injured by the shock. The lightning, which entered the room, had the appearance of a ball of fire. Several persons who were present, escaped injury.

But the most singular effects of lightning, that have come to our knowledge, was at Hillsborough, the day above-mentioned. It struck one of the chimneys of the Rev. Jonathan Barnes' house, and demolished the same to the roof; when it entered the house in various directions, destroyed several posts, unhinged the doors, broke considerable glass in the different windows, melted some pewter, unsoldered the tin ware, and left the house almost a perfect wreck. But what is most remarkable is, that a flat-iron, which had been just set on the table, was melted, as well as some candlesticks at no great distance; and the nails of several chests in the chambers were entirely drawn out; and all this without the appearance of the effects of fire, except that some linen on the table with the flat-iron, was a little injured. No person was hurt.

FRANKFORT, (K.) June 20. Our travellers have procured an animal which is called the wild Dog of the Pra-

ries. Those animals are about the size of a cat, and have dens under ground. They have procured also two magpies, natives of that climate. The Indians say there are wild sheep to be found higher up the river about the falls. A horn of the mountain ram hath been procured of a monstrous size, the express states it to be as thick as the calf of the leg of a stout man—the length was not described. The dog, magpies, and remarkable horn, are in possession of a capt. McClellan, who has undertaken to carry them to the city of Washington to the President, with the dispatches.

Some appearances of a volcano, has also been discovered. The earth was so hot that after scratching away a little of the surface, it would burn the hand.

Many large streams run into the Missouri—the largest are on the south-west side.

The Mandan Indians have fine horses—yet make but little use of them—using dogs to move their packs from camp to camp. In summer they move from the river; but in winter return to it, for convenience of procuring fire wood which is scarce and not good, being mostly cotton wood, which in appearance resembles the Lombardy poplar, but does not grow so high.

Our travellers experienced a severe winter; the snow was about two feet deep and the ice did not break up till late in March. They purchased some horses from the Indians, and broke them for the purpose of hauling their fire wood.

The beaver are said to be numerous; the Indians catch them by a snare made of the bark of trees.

The Indians tend some corn, which does not exceed four or five feet in height and the ear shoots out but about one foot from the ground.

Many and various are the conjecture respecting the destination of the combined fleets, since their leaving the West-Indies, that those who are fond of conjecture, may have some data to work on, these dull times, we have collected the different latitudes and longitudes they have been seen in, that our quidnunks who are able, may work a traverse and find out their destination.

June 9 left sight of Antigua lat. 17, 3, lon. 62 15 were seen in lat. 27, 30, lon. 60 23 do. do. 34, 38, lon. 62, 29

By the above there appears little casting in their course, but a good deal of northing, and if as it is said, Lord Nelson stood a N. E. course, it is not probable they will meet very soon

Phil. True American.

Since writing the above, arrived here, the brig Commodore Barry, capt. Meade, from Havana, which he left the 4th July, and informs, that on the 24 or 25 inst. a vessel arrived there express with dispatches to the Governor, from the combined French and Spanish fleets—After the arrival of which, it was reported that a fleet of 21 sail of French & Spanish ships with 10,000 land troops were to windward, and that they meant a descent on Jamaica, which caused great joy among the Spaniards, as they seemed not to doubt the truth of it.

A schooner from Marblehead, commanded by captain Smithurst, drifting out of the harbor of Passamaquoddy, whilst her papers as usual were in the custom house, was met by a British armed brig, who sent her barge on board and took possession of her. Some gentlemen from Eastport and the custom-house officers who had gone down for the purpose of taking the papers on board the schooner, went alongside, were at first forbidden to come on board; whilst the British midshipman, (pointing to a particular man) ordered him on board; he refusing they lashed him and another man round the neck and dragged them on board the brig, at length the custom house officer was suffered to come on board, after relating the circumstances demanded a reason for the schooner's detention, and informed them they were under the American flag, and had the vessel's register and people's protections; the lieutenant damned their flag, register and protections, and ordered all of them, except the two men they had lashed, on board the boat. The captain of the schooner requesting to see the custom-house officer received a violent blow from one of the British. Through the intercession of the gentlemen of Eastport and St. Andrews the two men were released after having been in prison three days; but the vessel is still detained at St. George. The conduct of the British officers towards our countrymen, would disgrace Algiers. [N. H. Gazette.]