

however constitutes an era the most auspicious to America that had yet occurred; for in the year 1763 it terminated in a definitive treaty of peace, guaranteeing our rights, and producing a considerable accession of territory.

Having partially subdued civil and religious dissensions, and pleased with the prospect of having maintained an honorable and successful struggle against French, Spanish, and Indian injustice, for nearly the lapse of a century and a half, the colonists began to entertain hopes of rivalling the mother country in magnificence and splendour. Wealth crept into the bosom of their cities. Industry toiled in every corner, and the forest bowed to the axe of labour. Schools began to flourish, literature diffused her brilliant rays, and the light which American darkness had borrowed from the older Continent seemed to be reflected back, with additional splendour; but foreign oppression began to rear her demogogon head amid the lofty growth of the atlantic coast, and hope vanished before its deadly touch. The brightness of the morn was obscured by the thickening clouds of the east, and the gloom of despondency darkened the brilliancy of meridian expectation. Injustice crowded insidiously upon our rights, and pressed too heavy not to crush in embryo our fondest wishes. Having carried on a long and bloody war with the most powerful nations of Europe, Great-Britain had partly exhausted her pecuniary stores, and the only alternative was to draw from her colonies those supplies which she needed most. Accustomed to perils, hardships and disappointments, our fathers were prepared to meet every reasonable exigency; consequently, far from wanting that loyalty which will ever attach an infant nation to a generous and fostering mother country, but the hardy and independent Sons of Columbia had not lost sight of that ungovernable spirit of liberty, which fired the souls of their ancestors, when they braved the dangers of the atlantic. Born down by oppression, until they had learned to brook every violation of human right, which was not of too enormous a magnitude, the colonists were for maintaining peace, merely upon a stipulated restriction of grievances; but long accustomed to the system of aggrandisement, proud Britania felt no disposition for a relaxation. Torturing the mind with a thousand delusory schemes, at length a pleasing prospect of gratifying her brightest wishes burst upon her, and suggested a plan by which an ample sufficiency for settling every contingency might be obtained. viz. *The Stamp Act and Taxation on Tea.*

Had the minds of the colonists been originally formed by the divine hand of nature, for lawless submission, and degradation, there would have been no coercion on the part of Great-Britain; but roused from her lethargy, America began to recoil at such preposterous measures, and secession followed.

After the enactment of these parliamentary laws, imposing additional duties, &c. upon certain articles imported for the use of the colonies, it was soon reported that Tea would arrive shortly. Caucuss were convened to deliberate upon the subject, and decide whether it was most advisable to submit to, or reject the obnoxious imposition. The latter was adopted with avidity.

Tea, shipped by the East-India company, at length arrived, and the infuriated minds of the citizens of Boston, became, in a manner uncontrollable. Notwithstanding the hostile appearances of the mother country, the bosom of America yet sighed for a return of mutual good understanding. Her exertions were still to bring

Note.—According to historical information it appears that the war began by Queen Ann. commenced anno domini 1702, and continued until the peace of Utrecht 1713. Letters of marque were again issued against Spain 1739, which concluded in the peace of Aix la Chapelle in 1748. In 1762 the war was renewed against Spain which terminated in 1763.

about an eclaireissement; but in vain; every regal measure was such as to inflame the minds of the long since injured and oppressed.

The unfortunate circumstance of the attack upon the militia at Lexington gave the finishing stroke to the conciliatory measures of the Americans. On her green fields was spilled the first blood, which caused her sons at once pay the debt of nature, and enshrine our immortal birth-right—LIBERTY and INDEPENDENCE. The patriots of '76 yet remember the shock which it gave, Torpedo like to their innocent brethren. They well remember that this vast and extensive continent trembled at the deed. Like an electrical spark it flew from Main to Louisiana, and the indignant bosom of the patriot resolved to chastise those who were guilty of such an abominable act of homicide. It however was the prelude of a glorious prospect. Greece flourished for a season, but it was reserved for America, a continent embracing such a variety of climate, possessing such a diversity of soil, to exhibit to an astonished world a specimen of civil liberty, which she alone has realized. Here no fetter are imposed on the spirit of investigation. Here the eagle eye of genius may explore the arcana of nature, mount the temple of fame, and proclaim to an admiring people the extent of its vision. Here political doctrines are subject to the ordeal of the severest scrutiny; and here truth, of every kind, may be promulgated, which partakes not of a libellous taint.

The affair of Lexington had no approximation to the termination of the American revolution; it served only to cheer the drooping spirits of our disconsolate friends, and augur a happy end. It is to the celebrated battles of Breed's hill, Saratoga, the Cowpens, and York-Town we are particularly indebted for this propitious event; and it is to the undaunted courage and persevering genius of QUINCY, SAMUEL ADAMS, HANCOCK, WASHINGTON, GREEN, MONTGOMERY, MERCER, the much injured GATES, and others we are indebted for success. To many those we are doubly indebted, for the organization of our armies. Having been brought up in the wilds of our country, where the soul of man, for a long time, had known no control; and unaccustomed to subordination, inferior officers were poorly qualified for entering an army, in which prompt obedience to the dictates of a superior is so essential to the establishment of discipline. Indefatigable exertion however removed every obstacle, and we soon find them disputing the palm of victory with an army, which carried in its train carnage and devastation. We soon find it arrested from that very army, and supported by magnanimous soldiers; men who, when in possession of it, knew how to treat the vanquished with humanity, cherish the orphan and console the hapless widow.

Thirty odd years have already witnessed the prosperity of independent America, under the salutary influence of her benign government, since the bosom of her plains became stained by the blood of her heroic sons. On the 4th of July 1776, the anniversary if which we have so often celebrated, was torn asunder, chains prepared to bind us, by an European despot. Grateful then be the heart of every American, to those who thundered aloud an unalienable attachment to our liberties. Under their glorious auspices, was conducted through the storm of war, our revolutionary bark. But the mere declaration of Independence was not enough to secure that inestimable blessing. Sensible of this, our political fathers modelled a constitution of equal rights, which stands unparalleled in the annals of man. In it was realized what the philosophers and politicians of antiquity only dreamed; that of establishing a permanent and rational democracy. Under its divine Influence do her sons yet bask, in the mild sunshine of liberty and ease.

Hail sacred polity; by freedom rear'd;

Hail sacred freedom, when by laws restrain'd;
Without you, what were man? a grovelling herd,
In darkness, wretchedness and want enchain'd.
Sublimed by you, the Greek and Roman reign'd
In arts, unrivalled; O! to latest days,
In Columbia may your influence unprofan'd,
To God like worth the generous bosom raise.
And prompt the sages lore and fire the poet's lays.

(To be Continued.)

By the Last Mails.

HARLESTON, September 14.
FROM HAVANA.

We learn by a passenger in the schr. *Antelope*, arrived on Saturday from Havana, which port she left on the 1st inst. that General APONACA, (late Governor of that place,) recently appointed Viceroy of Mexico, had arrived at Vera Cruz, where the inhabitants refused to acknowledge his authority, and detained him and his suite prisoners.

The inhabitants of Hispaniola were said to be ripe for a revolution.

The above mentioned gentleman had recently been on the Spanish Main, and informs that Gen. BOLIVAR, in his attack on Caracas, was not wounded. [We do not recollect to have seen it stated that he had been.] After the engagement, in which he was defeated and put to the rout, with the loss of 600 killed and as many more wounded and taken prisoners, he embarked with the wreck of his army on board the fleet and put to sea; but where bound was not known. Some conjectured that he would abandon the cause of the Revolution as hopeless—others that he had gone for the purpose of obtaining reinforcements. This statement differs materially from those heretofore received—they estimated his whole force in the battle at 800—this makes his loss amount to 1200 men.

General MINA, our informant also states after leaving Philadelphia, he had gone to Bodega de Puerda, near Tampa, where he had raised an army of 2000 men, & was shortly expected to land on some part of Cuba, to procure further reinforcements; and a considerable majority of the inhabitants of that island were in favor of a revolution, and would join any cause that held forth a prospect of emancipation from the Spanish yoke.

We discover from the *New-Orleans* papers, that early in this month, a FLEET of *Eighteen* sail of armed ships, fitted out by the Mexican Republic, by a gentleman directly from the westward, that it was believed, they were destined against *Pensacola*, with the view of capturing and holding possession of that important seaport. The Spanish authorities have apprehended for some time an attack on *Amelia* Island, by the Revolutionists. It is probable they will endeavor to possess themselves of both *Pensacola* and *Amelia* Island, which would afford them a convenient port in the Gulph of Mexico, and another on the Atlantic, adjacent to the United States, where they could bring in and sell their prizes, fit out cruizers against the Spaniards, and procure provisions, naval stores, and all necessary supplies. *Georgia Journal, Aug. 28.*

Extract of a letter from Paris, June 14.
"The wife of Joseph Buonaparte is now going to leave Paris and France.—Before her departure she wished to dispose of the fine estate of Morfontaine.—She had not however, been able to find a purchaser; but she wants to insert in the contract of sale, a clause, to preserve the right of purchasing this beautiful estate, in case any change should take place!!!"

From the *National Advocate.*

British abolition of Slavery.

It is some months ago since we adverted to this subject, and endeavoured to open the eyes of our readers to the delusion and trick which the British government were playing off on their own subjects and on the world, as regards the abolition of the slave trade, and the amelioration of the fate of the African. We then stated, and we quoted in proof thereof, a work which was published under the very nose of the British ministry, by Robert Thorpe, Esq. formerly chief justice of Sierra Leone, and judge of the vice admiralty court in that colony, and which, as far as we have seen, has never been refuted, that William Wilberforce was neither more nor less than a cunning and political juggler, and that all the publications and reports to parliament on the flourishing state of the Sierra Leone settlement, and the benefits it was producing to the African race, were nothing but a string of prepared falsehoods, intended to delude the imagination, and misrepresent facts. We are again called to this subject by noticing the following paragraph from that quarter:—

BALTIMORE, Aug. 21.

From *Sierra Leone*.—Capt. Dickinson of the schr. *Breeze*, arrived here from Isle de Los, informs, that the American schr. *Hiram*, Heavens, from Newport, R. I. was condemned, vessel and cargo, on 21st of June, at Sierra Leone, for having purchas-

ed two or three quintals of Camwood and two cannon, from an English brig, within the distance of 3 leagues from the coast, over which the English claim the jurisdiction, and which extends from Cape Sierra Leone as far as the river Sherbro; nor will a foreign vessel be safe at the island Bananas, unless anchored at least as far to the westward as the middle part of the island. The English had captured a number of Spanish, Portuguese, and Danish vessels, and it was so profitable an employment as to induce Sir James L. Yeo to come out in the *Inconstant* frigate to cruise in the bays of Benin—he had already sent in one Portuguese schr. from St. Salvador.

The Spanish brig *La Nueva Anabelle*, of St. Jago de Cuba, entered the port and delivered her self up, with 330 slaves, all of which were condemned, together with the vessel.

Sir James Yeo, it then appears, has been rewarded for his running services on the Lake, by his advancement or appointment to this lucrative station. Let us not here be misunderstood, that we are going to defend those Americans, who, in opposition and in violation of the laws of their country, engage in a forbidden and an inhuman traffic, either under their own flag, or under the purchased papers and flag of Spain or Portugal; we have no shadow of pity for their capture and loss of property, as they are the results and consequences of their infringement of the laws of their country, and acting against the dictates of their consciences and honour. If the capture of every American engaged in this contraband traffic was to take place, we should be the last to complain against it, provided the generous policy of a wise and humane government caused these captures to prove the amelioration of the human race; and, while they prevented this trade, rescued the unhappy captives so taken from slavery and suffering. As to the capture and condemnation of the vessel from Rhode Island for purchasing a few tons of camwood and two cannon within two or three leagues of the coast, we shall not here advert to it at present, further than saying, that we presume the Knight of Ontario will endeavour to find all fish that come to his net in those seas. We shall rather proceed in our examination of the juggle which England is playing under the mask of humanity.

Judge Thorpe, when speaking of the captures made by these British cruisers, thus expresses himself:—"Had the captured negroes, when liberated from their prison ships, been suffered to enjoy the blessings of British protection—had villages been established, the families, unsevered, allotted farms, supplied with instruments of agriculture, and with seeds and plants to cultivate for their support, the beautiful amphitheatre of hills enclosing Sierra Leone would have become an asylum of happiness for five thousand souls, who looked to us for relief, and to whom we were bound and pledged to extend it. They would have been a bulwork of protection to the colony, furnishing a granary of provisions for the inhabitants, and exhibiting the finest African monument of British philanthropy."

But, instead of such treatment and such care, what is the description which Judge Thorpe gives of this colony, and the usage of the unhappy captured captives? Judge Thorpe states, that instead of such treatment, these captives were often condemned as slaves, and sold—and that one expedition, fitted out by governor Maxwell, absolutely made a descent on the coast at Rio Pungos and Rio Noonez, and carried off 200 natives who were thus condemned, destroyed, at the same time, with "fire and sword," whole factories, with all they contained.