

shriek of applause, which had an irresistibly ludicrous effect upon the audience.— But that which most intensely interested them was the grand battle scene at the close, and the terrific fight between Maccoran and Percy. It was evident that they considered the thunders of mimic artillery (by the bye rather too plentifully administered,) the rolling of the drums—the clashing of the swords, and the shouts of the combatants, as the dreaded enactment before them of a real battle, and the whole soul of the warrior brave was stirred within him by the sight. One stern and athletic chief, who we understood was the head of his tribe, in particular, presented a spectacle absolutely terrible in the absorbing attention with which he regarded the combat—bending forward with distended eyeballs, and clenched teeth, and a compression of muscular energy which seemed as if his fingers would bite through the moulding of the box, by which he supported himself—breathing all the time with a suppression of effort, that plainly showed how ardently he longed to mingle in the deadly conflict—until finally giving full sway to the terrific passion, which every one saw had been roused within him, he applauded the audience by pealing out with his companions the dreaded war whoop of his nation—and using such hideous demonstrations as plainly showed how much he wished to possess himself of the scalp of poor Percy.

DOMESTIC.

FLORIDA AFFAIRS.

From the Charleston Courier.

From Florida.—The schr. S. S. Mills, Capt. Southwick, arrived yesterday from St. Augustine.

The following is an extract of a letter from an officer of the Irish Volunteers, dated

"Gen. Hernandez's Plantation, 28 miles from St. Augustine, Feb. 20, 1836."

"Capt. Jones' Company and the Irish Volunteers, arrived here this morning, after a tedious march, had had weather and dreadful roads, water all the way. We expected an attack while on the way, but as yet have not met an enemy. I was detached with 12 men to visit Mr. Williams'

plantation, which is situated about 12 miles from here, and returned much fatigued. We saw great destruction; his sugar mills, worth \$15,000, dwelling, corn houses, &c. all burnt—also the mills of General Hernandez. We are the first company of soldiers to the field, and the first that ascertained the facts respecting this destruction. A negro has just arrived with despatches, and says Moccasin tracks have been seen close by—therefore we look daily for a fight. We expect more troops here daily, and when they arrive, we shall proceed further South. Our men are all well, and stand the fatigue admirably. We have guarded all the time, scouring the country during our march."

Extract of a letter received in this city from one of the officers of the Irish Volunteers, dated

GEN. HERNANDEZ'S PLANTATION, Feb. 20.

"We arrived here this morning, being the third day since we left St. Augustine, we did not see any Indian signs, until we came to the Plantation. The Sugar Mills was burnt, and all the other buildings remain as they were, as also the cattle and horses. I am satisfied that they have not been in force nearer to St. Augustine than this place, and that their numbers here must have been small, this will appear from the fact, of their not having touched the lead belonging to the Engine, neither did they disturb the lead at Williams' Plantation, which is about two miles from here. It was examined by a detachment from our Company. On my arrival the first thing I searched for was the lead, and finding it all safe it satisfied me that the Indians never returned after their first visit, when these places were burnt. How long we are to remain here I cannot tell."

There was seven hundred mounted men arrived at Jacksonville 21st inst. from Georgia and South Carolina, they would leave next morning for Picolata. An express arrived from Picolata just as the Mills was leaving St. Augustine, which stated that Gen. Scott had arrived there—18 or 20 reports of cannon were heard at the time in the direction of Picolata.

OFFICE OF THE FLORIDA HERALD, Feb. 23d, 1836.

Since our last we have heard nothing further of any movements of the Indians. They have ravaged the country, and committed all the depredations that lay in their power, and now they seem to be resting from their labors of destruction and rapine. The steamer boat Dolphin, sailed on Thursday last on a reconnoitering expedition to M. Spuito, with two companies of United States troops, under command of Mr. R. M. Kirby. They returned on Monday last, having proceeded on the Halifax river as far as Heriot's plantation, or 5 miles above Dunlawton, without having seen any Indians, or discovering any

signs. The body of a man named George Turner, was found near D. Peyster's landing. He had been shot and scalped by the Indians, and from appearance must have been dead about three weeks.

The militia of this city have been disbanded and dispersed by the orders of Gen. Eustis. Considerable excitement prevails on the subject; as it is considered by some to be a disgrace. This measure is regretted by all, especially as the gallant corps of St. Augustine Guards who fought so bravely at Dunlawton, were included in the order, and were also disbanded. We know of no set of men more worthy of keeping their arms, and none who know how to use them better. Could not some means be devised to procure them arms so that this gallant corps of spirited young men should still continue to exist, and not die with the causes that called them into actual service.

Extract of a letter received in this city, dated ST. MARKS, Feb. 19.

"I have no way to get from here south or north, as the Indians are supposed to infest Florida throughout. During my absence, a few days since, at Tallahassee, the citizens were called upon to do duty, having been informed that the Indians were in the neighborhood, and it was presumed, were waiting to attack the troops which were on the road down from Tallahassee. Ship Avis sailed for Tampa with a detachment of 300 troops; among them are 25 friendly Indians to act as guides. The troops at Tampa are under the command of Maj. Reed. It is thought that the forces from St. Augustine will concentrate at the former place, at head quarters, where Gen. Scott will join them and proceed forthwith to action. They will first proceed to Witalacoochee, in order to inter the dead which were killed in the late engagement there. The whole number of troops is estimated at 4000, now in readiness to take the field. Capt. Jones of the cutter Washington, on arrival at Charlotte Harbor, dispatched a barge round to the Island, learning that a body of Indians were located within the neighborhood; they have not been heard of yet, and the general opinion is, that they have been cut off and murdered. There has been no further news received here from that quarter respecting the movements of the Indians."

Extract of a letter received in this city, dated PICOLATA, Feb. 23.

"The Santee has returned to this place. Our next destination I am entirely ignorant of. I am informed that they intend to keep us here, as the John David Mungin has been discharged. I am very much pleased with Gen. Scott, with whom I have had the pleasure of becoming acquainted. We shall probably know to-morrow, how they are going to employ us. There are about 800 troops here, all equipped, and nothing but martial music is heard from daylight till dark."

THE FLORIDA INDIANS.—The Tallahassee Floridan contains a letter dated Tallahassee, Feb. 1, from Mr. Wyatt, to a friend in E. Florida, expressing some important opinions relative to the probable course of the belligerent Indians. He thinks that the Indians never intended to make a general resistance on this side of the Peninsula, that their object was, (which in all probability they have by this time accomplished,) to retire to their old hiding places in the everglades, as they did in 1818, when Gen. Jackson routed them from this part of Florida; and that in order to effect this, they commenced by murdering and pillaging the frontier citizens, on the whole Alachua settlement, and gathering and driving off large stocks of horses, cattle and hogs, to the other side of the Witalacoochee, before a competent force could be put in the field against them; intending to retreat with their families stock &c. to the cape and everglades, by crossing the head waters of the St. John's near its union with lake Macaca, and there passing along the belt of land between that lake and Indian River, until they finally get round to Cape Florida, and to their old celebrated hunting grounds between that place and Cape Sable. The massacre of Major Dade and his troops, in order to break up the communication by Tampa Bay, and the agency and numerous skirmishes had and offered along the whole line, from Witalacoochee to the Atlantic, detouring them to the W. but increasing to the S. East, as they retreated, were all auxiliary to the main plan. Mr. W. thinks that the East may be safe when the Indians all retire to the Cape—though even then only for a short time; that the forces are rendered wanting at the present seat of war, will not finally settle the difficulty; for it will be impossible to follow the savages by land during the rainy season, and that a new expedition to the Cape, and everglades is not to be looked for sooner than August or September. The Government should not withdraw its troops from the present seat of war without erecting a strong line of defence from the Gulf to the Atlantic, as a security against the renewal of Indian ravages, during the harvest next fall. To erect and garrison block houses 20 miles apart, with 25 foot, and 25 mounted men each, from the Witalacoochee by the way of Wetumkee, and Picolata to some point south of St. Augustine would not require more than 400 men, which could be readily raised in Mobile and East Florida, by volunteer engagements, say for 3 months at a time.

Mr. W. estimates the Indian force at 6000 effective warriors, including negroes—the country they occupy being about 350 miles long, by 125 broad, the centre [two thirds] of which is covered by a chain

of lakes studded with Islands and almost endless glades, chequered with lagoons, and deep narrow streams, making in all directions into the sea, and a ched over with mats of evergreens and high grass; the other part being fertile land, abounding in corn or arrow root, an excellent substitute for bread and producing a variety of fruits,—the adjacent forest filled with wild game, and the adjacent waters with fish and wild fowl. Mr. W. further expresses the opinion that the Indians who have had much intercourse and some intermarriages with Spanish fishermen, entertain vain hope of finally escaping to the W. India, with their negroes, and that it will be necessary to encompass them by block houses on land, and armed vessels or boats by water, so as to break up all communication between them and the Spanish fishermen, and our runaway negroes, or they may keep up a petty war with us for the next five years.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 18.

Highly important.—If true.—We extract from the Daily Advertiser (La) Eagle of the 13th inst. received by the mail yesterday evening the following important intelligence.

"We learn from a respectable person, arrived here that the Comanche and several other tribes of Indians, have declared war against Texas, and will second the operations of Gen. Santa Anna, who is now advancing on St. Antonio at the head of 5000 men, and 25 pieces of artillery. The Indian force, it is said, amounts to 10,000 warriors, and 5,000 cavalry. This report accords perfectly well with the departure of the 6th regiment U. S. troops from Jefferson barracks, for the Mexican frontier, when they are to be joined by Gen. Gaines, who is to take the command."

The disaffection of the Comanche Indians is also stated in an article which we published on Tuesday last;—according to the Arkansas Advocate, they had torn up the treaty lately entered into by them with the Commissioners of the U. S., and exhibited a hostile attitude.

If this rumor prove correct, which God forbid, then indeed the friends of Texas liberty have every thing to fear—a bloody and savage war must ensue, the consequences of which will be terrible, and may forever seal the chance of Texas Independence.

Santa Anna, perhaps, has offered the numerous hordes of Indians, who inhabit our borders and those of Mexico, the whole of Texas as a reward for their services. In case they should expel the colonists. This measure would be politic on his part, as it would crush all that vestige of liberty which is so rapidly diffusing itself among his countrymen, and which every moment threatens to hurl him from his usurped power;—besides, it would put a stop to all future American enterprise in that quarter. The Indians he could easily induce to become his allies, and use them either as means to gratify his ambition

The frontiers of Louisiana and Arkansas would require a large force to keep the Indians at awe; and even then be subject to the depredatory excursions of the savages.

Political.

FRENCH RELATIONS.—PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives: I transmit, herewith, to Congress, copies of the correspondence between the Secretary of State and the Charge d'Affaires of His Britannic Majesty, relative to the mediation of Great Britain in our disagreement with France, and to the determination of the French Government to execute the Treaty of Amiens, without further delay, on the application for payment by the agents of the United States.

The grounds upon which the mediation was accepted will be fully developed in the correspondence. On the part of France the mediation had been publicly accepted before the offer of it could be received here. Whilst each of the two Governments has thus discovered a just solicitude to resort to honorable means of adjusting amicably the controversy between them, it is a matter of congratulation that the mediation has been rendered unnecessary. Under such circumstances, the anticipation may be confidently indulged that the disagreement between the United States and France will not have produced more than a temporary estrangement. The leading effects of time, a just consideration of the powerful motives for a cordial good understanding between the two nations, the strong inducements each has to respect and esteem the other, will no doubt soon liberate from their remembrance all traces of that disagreement.

Of the elevated and uninterested part the Government of Great Britain has acted, and was prepared to act, I have already had occasion to express my high sense. Universal respect, and the consciousness of meriting it, are with Governments, as with men, the just rewards of those who faithfully exert their power to preserve peace, restore harmony, and perpetuate good will.

Unyouth permitted, I trust, at this time, without a suspicion of the most remote desire, to throw off censure from the Executive, or to point it to any other Department or branch of the Government, to refer to the want of effective preparation in which our country was found at the late crisis. From the nature of our institutions, the movements of the Government in preparation for hostilities must ever be too slow for the exigencies of unexpected war. I submit it then to you, whether the first duty we owe to the people who have confided in us, their power is not to place the country in such an attitude as always to be so amply supplied with the means of self defence as to afford no inducement to others to presume upon our forbearance, or to exact respect on advantages from a sudden

assault, either upon our commerce, our sea-coast or our interior frontier. In case of the commencement of hostilities during the recess of Congress, the time inevitably elapsing before that body could be called together, even under the most favorable circumstances, would be pregnant with danger, and if we escaped with un signal disaster or national dishonor, the hazard of both, unceasingly incurred, could not fail to excite a feeling of deep reproach. I earnestly recommend to you, therefore, to make such provisions, that in no future time shall we be found without ample means to repel aggression, even although it may come upon us without a note of warning. We are now, fortunately, so situated, that the expenditure for this purpose will not be felt; and, if it were, it would be approved by those from whom all its means are derived, and for whose benefit only it should be used with a liberal economy and an enlightened foresight.

In behalf of these suggestions, I cannot forbear repeating the wise precepts of one whose counsel cannot be forgotten: "The United States ought not to indulge a persuasion that, contrary to the order of human events, they will forever keep at a distance those painful appeals to arms, with which the history of every other nation abounds. There is a rank due to the United States among nations which will be wanted, if not absolutely lost, by the reputation of weakness. If we desire to avoid insult, we must be able to repel it. If we desire to secure peace, one of the most powerful instruments of our rising prosperity, it must be known that we are, at all times, ready for war."

ANDREW JACKSON.

February 22, 1836.

(Among the documents accompanying this message, other than which follow, was a letter from Mr. BARKHEAD, to Mr. FORSYTH, offering in obedience to instructions, the mediation of Great Britain, and one from Mr. F. to Mr. B. in reply, stating that he had been instructed by the President to inform Mr. B. of his acceptance, and stating the grounds upon which the mediation was accepted. The substance of these documents have heretofore appeared in this paper, and they are therefore omitted.)—Ed. Journal.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15, 1836.

The undersigned, His Britannic Majesty's Charge d'Affaires, with reference to his note of the 27th of last month, has the honor to inform Mr. Forsyth, Secretary of State of the United States, that he has been instructed by his Government to state that the British Government has received a communication from that of France, which fulfills the wishes that impelled His Britannic Majesty to offer his mediation for the purpose of effecting an amicable adjustment of the differences between France and the United States.

The French Government has stated to that of His Majesty, that the frank and honorable manner in which the President has, in his recent message, expressed his views upon this subject, has been highly appreciated by the French Government, and that the mediation of Great Britain, which has been removed from the scene of national honor, which have hitherto stood in the way of the prompt execution by France of the treaty of the 18th July, 1831, and that consequently, the French Government is now ready to pay the instalment which is due on account of the American indemnity, whenever the payment of that instalment shall be claimed by the Government of the United States.

The French Government has also stated that it made this communication to that of Great Britain, not regarding the British Government as a formal mediator, since its offer of mediation had then reached only the Government of France, by which it had been accepted; but looking upon the British Government as a confidential friend of the two parties, and, therefore, as a natural channel of communication between them.

The undersigned has further instructed to express the sincere pleasure which is felt by the British Government at the prospect of an amicable termination of a difference which has produced a temporary estrangement between two nations who have so many interests in common, and who are so entitled to the friendship and esteem of each other; and the undersigned has also assured Mr. Forsyth that it has offered the British Government the most highly satisfaction to have been, upon this occasion, the channel of a communication which they trust will lead to the complete restoration of friendly relations between the United States and France.

The undersigned has great pleasure in renewing to Mr. Forsyth the assurances of his most distinguished consideration.

CHARLES BARKHEAD.

The Hon. JOHN FORSYTH, &c. &c.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Washington, February 16, 1836.

The undersigned, Secretary of State of the United States, has had the honor to receive Mr. Barkhead's note of the 15th inst., in which he states, by the instructions of his Government, that the British Government have received a communication from that of France, which fulfills the wishes that impelled His Britannic Majesty to offer his mediation for the purpose of effecting an amicable adjustment of the differences between France and the United States; that the French Government being satisfied with the frank and honorable manner in which the President has, in his recent message, expressed himself in regard to the points of difference between the two Governments, is ready to pay the instalment due on account of the American indemnity, whenever it shall be claimed by the Government of the United States; and that this communication is made to

the Government of Great Britain, not as a formal mediator, but as a common friend of both parties.

The undersigned has submitted this note of His Britannic Majesty's Charge d'Affaires to the President, and is instructed to reply that the President has received this information with the highest satisfaction—a satisfaction as sincere as was his regret at the unexpected occurrence of the difficulty created by the erroneous impressions heretofore made upon the national sensibility.

By the fulfilment of the obligations of the convention between the two Governments, the great cause of difference will be removed, and the President anticipates that the benevolent and magnanimous wishes of His Britannic Majesty's Government will be speedily realized, as the temporary estrangement between the two nations, who have so many common interests, will no doubt be followed by the restoration of their ancient ties of friendship and esteem.

The President has further instructed the undersigned to express to His Britannic Majesty's Government his sensibility at the anxious desire it has displayed to preserve the relations of peace between the United States and France, and the exertions it was prepared to make to effectuate that object, so essential to the prosperity, and congenial to the wishes of the two nations, and to the repose of the world. Leaving His Majesty's Government to the consciousness of the elevated motives which have governed its conduct, and to the universal respect which must be secured to it, the President is satisfied that no expressions, however strong, of his own feelings, can be appropriately used, which could add to the gratification afforded to His Majesty's Government at being the channel of communication to preserve peace, and restore good-will between differing nations, each of whom is its friend.

The undersigned avails himself of this occasion to renew to Mr. Barkhead the assurance of his distinguished consideration.

JOHN FORSYTH.

CHARLES BARKHEAD, Esq. &c. &c. &c.

MR. EVERETT'S PROPHECY.

It will be seen from the following extract from the Columbia Register, that Mr. Everett, who was a close observer of the Senate's proceedings on the French question, was far from supposing that it would be entitled to the doubt of closing the French controversy without a war, if war were avoided.

The Hon. Edward Everett, now Governor of Massachusetts, in a speech in Congress, near the close of the last session, remarked, that if "we worked through the controversy with France without a war, ANDREW JACKSON would all down upon his own head in the glory and admiration that when he came fresh from the blazing lines of New Orleans." That happy event has probably arrived, Andrew Jackson, having done every thing for his country's glory and honor, has at last brought things to an honorable close.

Cash Value of Temperance.—The value of temperance in its effects upon business and success, is getting to be understood.—We see in an advertisement in another column of the Farm for sale, in Walton, Delaware county, that it is put down as one of the recommendations which enhance the value of the property, that no spirituous liquors are kept "by any store or tavern within ten miles" of it. The statement is honorable to the town, and certainly increases the value of every acre of its ground. It insures exemption from burdensome poor rates, and from quarrelsome and miserable neighbors, and insures good neighborhoods, good schools, and a church well supported. So success to Walton in Delaware county, and to the territory within ten miles of it, and to every body every where, not within ten miles of a grog-shop.

Journal of Commerce.

Mother's Prodigy.—To most young couples, the "unto us a child is born" seems something so astonishing and remarkable, that one would imagine they had never looked forward to it as a probable result of their union, nor even observed that their friends also had children. Every young father and mother look upon their "first baby" as Adam and Eve must have looked at Cain (that first specimen of a man—old born into the world,) with delight, wonder, and something of triumph in their own creative ingenuity. And it is a happy instinct which enables us to value these little prizes so highly; and a curious thing to reflect, as a stumbling block to parents, that these little children, that are not one in a million in these diminutive millions that has not (God bless it!) a circle of admiring relatives, to whom it is the prettiest, the loveliest, the cleverest—in fact, the only child that ever was worth a thought.

Woman's Reward.

An Itinerant Horse.—Bishop McKendree's celebrated horse, called "Old Grey," as we learn from an esteemed correspondent, died on the third of August in his 33d year. The Bishop obtained him when he was eight years old, and during the six to living years, rode him thirty thousand miles, and after this he made extensive journeys. Such was the good Bishop's regard for this faithful relic of his early days, that he remembered him in his will, left him twelve acres of land for his exclusive grazing while he lived, and expressed his wish that his carcass should be buried after his death.—Western Messenger.