pany, to abide by the valuation of ... as might be assessed by a jury of ... men for those injuries, but that the company have forborne to enter into any such arrangements, but have sought a subterfuge under the 17th section of their charter, thereby giving a construction totally at variance with every principle of justice, contrary to the laws of the land' and wholly inconsistent with that guardian care with which your honorable body have ever watched over the individual right, and interests of the good people of this state."

The memorialists protest in warm terms against the extension of the further powers which are prayed for in the memorial presented by the Canal Company to the Legislature.—They argue against exonorating the company from erecting bridges where required—against allowing them to purchase up tracts of land not immediately required for canal purposes; against allowing them the right to sell and dispose of what water powers they may please to accumulate and generally they object to extending to an institution of this nature any prerogatives that are not strictly within the objects of the canal associations and assign their reason at some length.

There are 17 signatures to the memorial.—

Inspection of Weights and Measures.

The supplement to the act for appointing inspectors of Weights and Measures, was considered.

The bill prohibits the levy courts from allowing a salary to the standard keeper, except only as a compensation for examining the Weights and Scales of Tobacco Warehouses, &c.

Their compensation is to be paid by persons whose Weights and Measures &c. are inspected.

Mr. Buskirk, proposed an amendment, exempting Allegany county from the operations of this act—

Montgomery, Kent, Washington, and Frederick, were afterwards each in turn, exempted,—the bill was then passed.

NEW BANK.

The Bill incorporating the Washington county Bank at Williamsport, after having undergone a few amendments, passed the house without division.

Mr. Done, from the committee of Ways and Means, reported unfavorably on the application of sundry inhabitants of Caroline county, asking for permission to draw a Lottery—concurred in

CONGRESS.

MONDAY, Feb. 2.

The Senate did not sit on Saturday.

In the House of Representatives a great number of resolutions were offered. The house then resumed the consideration of the bill for the relief of Farrow and Harris whose claim is for a balance due to them on the contract, with the government for the erection of the fortifications on Dauphin Island. After some further discussion, the bill for their relief was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time to day. When this bill was disposed of, the House went into Committee of the Whole on four private bills, two of which were subsequently ordered to be engrossed and read a third time to day, and on the other two the Committee reported progress and obtained leave to sit again, at the desire of gentlemen who wished for further time to make examination. A bill was reported from the Committee on Naval Affairs, making an appropriation in aid of the Navy Hospital Fund.

TUESDAY, Feb. 3.

In the Senate, yesterday, a committee consisting of Messrs. Tazewell, Sanford, and Webster, was appointed, to ascertain and report a mode for declaring who is elected President & Vice President of the United States, and to notify the individuals elected of such election.—At a quarter before one, the senate proceeded to the consideration of Executive business, in which they were occupied till three o'clock.

The presenting of petitions in the House of Representatives yesterday occupied nearly an hour. One or two bills were then reported from various Committees; one of which was a Bill for the relief of the heirs of Robert Fulton. The House then resumed, in Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, the Bill for the preservation and repair of the Cumberland Road, when Mr. A. Stevenson (the Speaker) spoke at some length against the constitutional power of Congress to erect toll gates, or assume any jurisdiction over the road. Mr. Mercer then obtained the floor in reply, but as it was near the usual hour of adjournment, and Mr. Mercer was in a weak state from indisposition, the bill was passed over. The Committee then on motion of Mr. Sprague, took up the Bill to repeal the duties on tonnage, which was also read and passed over. The Committee then took up the Bill to authorize the purchase and distribution of 500 copies of Gordon's Digest of the Laws. There was an amendment made, on motion of Mr Marvin, on this Bill, giving a copy to each incorporated college in the Union. The Committee then rose and reported progress on the Cumberland Road bill. The Bill to repeal the duties on tonnage was postponed till to morrow. The House adjourned before the question was taken on a motion made to amend the Bill relative to the purchase and distribution of Gordon's Digest, which motion was to reduce the number from 500 to 250, and to prevent their distribution among the members of the two Houses of Congress.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 4.

In the Senate, yesterday, Mr. Benton gave notice that he would, to-morrow, introduce a bill for the gradual increase of the Engineer Corps, and for other purposes. At half past twelve, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of Executive business.

In the House of Representatives yesterday, Mr. McKean, from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, reported a Bill amendatory of the Post Office Law, which repeals so much of the existing law as imposes upon Postmasters the obligation of distributing the mails on Sunday. Accompanying this bill, was a report on the subject of the transportation of the mails on Sunday, which in its tone and decision is adverse, to the prayer of those who desire to interrupt it on that day. There was some conversation, not amounting to a discussion, upon a motion of McKean to print 6000 extra copies of the report, but the motion was finally laid on the table. The House then took up the bill from the Senate to authorize the purchase and distribution of 500 copies of Gordon's Digest of the Laws, which was opposed, on the question of its third reading, but was finally passed by a vote of 96 to 79. The House then resumed in committee of the whole on the state of the Union, the discussion of the bill for the preservation and repair of the Cumberland Road. Mr. Mercer commenced his reply to the arguments against the bill, and after speaking about an hour and a half, gave way for a motion that the Committee rise. He will of course continue his reply to-day.

About half an hour had elapsed after the hour of meeting, before a quorum of the House was ascertained to be present.

A Resolution was laid on the table, by Mr. Barringer, to be acted on to day, appointing to-morrow for the election of a printer to the House for the next Congress: and another resolution was offered by Mr. Wilde, which also lies on the table until to day providing that no person who has been engaged, or interested in, a public newspaper within the last two years, shall be eligible to the office of public printer.

THURSDAY, Feb. 5.

In the Senate, yesterday, Mr. McLane presented a memorial from the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company praying that Congress ... ed to the ... case of the Engineer Corps ... advanced to a second reading. The Senate ... bout three hours in the consideration of Executive business.

In the House of Representatives, various resolutions were offered; and some which had laid on the table since Saturday last, calling for information from the Departments were agreed to. A resolution offered by Mr. Ramsay, of Pennsylvania, to print 5000 copies of the Report of the Senate Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, relative to the Sunday Mail, occupied the House until the expiration of the hour; and before it was disposed of, the House proceeded to other business. The special order of the day, being a bill to repeal the duties on tonnage on vessels of the United States, and on certain Foreign vessels, was then taken up for consideration. It was opposed by Mr. Gilmer; and several unsuccessful motions were made to dispose of it. On a motion to lay the bill on the table, after the Ayes and Noes were called, Mr. Nuckolls, who was not within the bar of the House when his name was called, as the rules required, moved that his vote be recorded.—The Speaker decided that it could not be recorded; and Mr. Nuckolls made an appeal from the decision of the Chair; but the Chair was sustained in its decision, by a vote of 168 to 8.—The bill was then ordered to be engrossed and read a third time to-day, by a vote of 94 to 78.

FRIDAY, Feb. 6.

In the Senate, yesterday, Mr. Haynes' resolution requesting the President of the United States to cause to be laid before the Senate a statement of the expenses incurred in fitting out and preparing an expedition for exploring the South Seas; of the additional amount which such expedition may require; of the amounts transferred from the different heads of appropriation from the naval service to this object and the authority by which such transfers have been made, was explained by the mover, and adopted. Three hours were spent in the consideration of Executive Business; after which the Senate adjourned to Monday.

In the House of Representatives, the resolution offered on the preceding day by Mr Ramsay, for the printing of 6,000 copies of the report of the Senate Committee on the subject of the Sunday Mail, was laid on the table on motion of Mr. Weems. The resolution laid on the table by Mr. Van Rensselaer on the subject of such a change in the Rules as will allow the bills acted on last session to have priority on the docket, over the bills which have originated at that session, was also laid on the table. The House then took up the bill to repeal the tonnage duties on ships and vessels of the United States and on certain foreign vessels on its third reading. Some discussion took place various propositions being made to recommit the bill with instructions to report a provision to repeal the duty on Salt, Molasses, Tea, Coffee, &c. when a motion was made by Mr. P. P. Barbour to lay the bill on the table, and the question being taken by ayes and noes, there appeared ayes 92, noes 92, and by the casting vote of the Speaker the bill was then laid on the table. The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, and resumed the consideration of the bill for the preservation and repair of the Cumberland Road, having previously postponed the special orders of the day. Mr. Mercer then took the floor and in a speech of upwards of two hours, concluded the remarks which he had commenced on Tuesday. Mr. Barnard then obtained the floor, and on his motion, the Committee rose and reported progress. The House then adjourned.

Mr. Mercer yesterday reported a bill from the Committee on Roads and Canals authorizing a subscription to the Stock of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company.

Mr. Hamilton yesterday, from the Committee on Retrenchment, reported a bill to reduce the interest on the United States six per cent Stock, and to provide for the redemption thereof.

Mr Ingersoll yesterday reported a bill from the Committee on the District of Columbia, to suppress Lotteries, and prohibit the sale of Lottery Tickets in the District of Columbia. The Bill prohibits the sale of Tickets & Shares in any Lottery not authorized by Congress, and makes a violation of its provisions a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than fifty, nor more than one thousand dollars. The Bill was read twice, and ordered to be engrossed and read a third time to-day.

SATURDAY, Feb. 7.

The Senate did not sit yesterday.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Smyth's proposition to amend the Constitution of the United States was taken up, modified by himself. Motions were then made to lay the resolutions on the table, and to postpone the consideration of them, as Mr. Smyth was not in the House. The question to postpone was about to be taken by ayes and noes, when Mr. Smyth appeared, and took his seat. The motion was then withdrawn. His modification of his propositions having been read, Mr. Storrs moved to recommit the resolutions to the Committee of the whole on the state of the Union. Mr. Dwight then moved to postpone the resolutions till the 3d of March, and this question being taken by ayes and noes, was decided in the negative, the ayes being 76, and the noes 107. Mr Weems then moved to amend the resolution rendering the President ineligible to re-election, by postponing its operation for eight years from the 3d of March next. He desired the ayes and noes on this question, but the call was not sustained, and the motion was negatived.—The hour having then expired, and the House refusing to suspend the rule, the discussion was arrested. The bill to abolish the system of Lotteries in the District of Columbia was read a third time and passed. The House then resumed, in Committee of the whole, the unfinished business of Friday last, being a bill to release the right of the United States to lands in East Florida to the devisees of William Drayton, which was finally rejected, and a bill for the relief of Francis Preston, on which no decision took place, the House having adjourned for want of a quorum.

The resolutions amendatory of the Constitution, submitted by Mr. Alexander Smyth, are now before the House of Representatives, a proposition to postpone the consideration of them till the 3d of March having been negatived by a vote of 107 to 76. If these resolutions are to be fully discussed at the present session, which embraces only twenty days, it is clear that the door is closed against any morning business, such as the presentation of petitions, the offering of resolutions, and the like, from this time. Mr. Smyth has amended his resolutions in the manner stated in our report, and the immediate question before the House is the first resolution, in its modified form, declaring the President to be ineligible to re-election after he has served his term of four years. After a not very unusual flourish concerning his own disinterestedness, independence and consistency, Mr. Weems descanted on the propriety of postponing the operation of this amendment, until after eight years from the 3d of March next.—Mr. Buchanan also threw out hints that such a provision might be injurious, as a time might arrive when the country would be in dangers and the only chance of safety would be in the re-election of the existing Chief Magistrate. We will not say that these suggestions had any reference to the re-election of General Jackson; or that these gentlemen, or either of them, intended to intimate that the safety of the country might re- ... and proposition to just... such an inv... If so, all we shall at present remark is... our lot to be cast upon times in which ... ples seem to come and go like the tides of ... and consistency wears such a plastic cha... as to accommodate itself, in form and compl... ion, to the circumstances which surround it.

FOREIGN NEWS.

From the N. Y. Gazette of Feb. 9.

Latest from England.

By the ship Minerva, from Bristol, whence she sailed on the 28th Dec. we have received a London evening paper of the 25th, no later than received by the George Clinton, several days since.

A Bristol paper of the 27th December, contains the following:—We learn from a vessel arrived at this port yesterday, from Liberia (the American colony on the Coast of Africa,) that a French vessel, being cruising off that place in quest of slaves, the authorities were making preparations to attack her, and in preparing cartridges, &c. for that purpose, fire accidently communicated to the ammunition, which exploded. The Governor, with several of the principle men of the place, were killed, and most of the town was destroyed

The following very interesting extract of a letter from a very high American source in England, has been politely furnished us by a friend. The prospects to the grain holders, and grain growers in this country are most flattering, and we may anticipate a price for the growing crop of Wheat, nearly sufficient we trust, to extricate the agricultural interest from embarrassment.

[Richmond Whig.

LONDON, 29th November, 1828.

"But at this time, the designs of Russia (in regard to Turkey) seem to absorb every attention. There is but one sentiment here, and that of decided hostility against Russian acquisition. The measures of prevention, are less unanimously agreed upon. The cabinet and the nation, hope Turkey will be able single handed, to keep Russia at bay (this is supported by the last news from the seat of war.) In addition, Russia has expressly disavowed conquest. Still she is disbelieved—and she can easily after it is made, find pretexts for retaining—if nothing else she can assign the Lion's reason, that it will be consistent with her convenience. The question discussed is how far should Great Britain interpose to prevent it. Against war measures, she has weighty obstacles—Her enormous debt,—her commerce—her scarcity of bread stuffs, and threatening attitude of Ireland, admonish her, by peace, to nurse her domestic resources. But on the other hand, the successful occupation of Constantinople and its dependencies, present to Great Britain a terrifying aspect for the future; and sufficiently so to induce a warlike resistance if no other measure is likely to prevent it.

The commerce of Great Britain has I think arrived at its acme. The universal effort making by Nations of the earth to supply themselves with domestic manufactures, is severely felt here. They are boasting of the great demand in the East Indies for their cotton manufactures, what they insisted, would compensate the loss of the market of the United States. It has eventuated lately, in some heavy losses in Scotland; and complaints are beginning now of heavy surplusses. The effect will be felt by the operatives, which coupled with a great scarcity cannot fail to produce much suffering. The deficiency in the crop of wheat is 2,000,000 quarters, equal to 16,000,000 bushels. They have on hand 300,000 quarters of foreign wheat,—hence they must import about 13,000,000 bushels more. The Tariff on foreign Wheat, is now one shilling per quarter. Good Dantzic wheat is about 100s. the quarter, or 12s. 6 the bushel. An intelligent merchant of this city told me flour at $9 the barrel at Richmond, would be a profitable adventure at this market. I think it probable we shall sensibly feel this price in our next harvest. The crop of Oats was sufficient—it is estimated at 36,000,000 of quarters: the crop of potatoes, though injured by the rains in the spring, and summer, improved much in September and October, and came in, in fine weather.

I have learned what I did not before know, that Great Britain usually raises Wheat enough for her own consumption—and in evidence of this fact, they show that she has not used any foreign grain for the last ten years.

LATEST FROM MEXICO.

By the arrival at New York, of the packet ship Virginia, which left Vera Cruz on the 17th ult. papers to the 16th inclusive, have been received.

Tranquility was restored in Mexico, and it does not appear that any excesses had been committed since the first three or four days of December, when it is now said 800 persons were slain, and property to a large amount was pillaged. Among the number killed, was the Marquis del Valle, a distinguished descendant of Cortes, said to be the richest individual in Mexico. Many of the Spaniards were leaving the country, under an apprehension that an order would shortly pass for their expulsion.—The Virginia has brought a considerable number, and several vessels were to sail for Bordeaux, with passengers.

The General Congress assembled on the 1st of January, and was opened by a speech from President Victoria, in which he exhorts the members to employ all their means to heal the divisions, that had endangered the Constitution and to endeavor to restore harmony and union among the States.—He urged the Congress to lose no time in giving their sanction to the Treaty of Commerce and Amity with the United States of America, which he deemed of the greatest importance to both nations.

On the 6th the new Congress proceeded to the election of a President and Vice President, which resulted in the choice of Vincente Guerrero and Anastotia Bustamenti. General Santa Anna was also chosen Secretary of War. An immense concourse of all classes, including many foreigners of distinction, occupied the galleries during the deliberations.

The intelligence was received in Vera Cruz with the greatest delight, and every manifestation of joy, (such as the firing of cannon, ringing of bells, music, &c.) was evinced on the occasion.

The convoy reached Vera Cruz on the 9th January, with $930,978, escorted by a strong guard.

Ojaca had entered Puebla, (the centre of Pedraza's party at the previous advices,) and published a proclamation, promising protection and security under the laws, and exhorting all persons to return to the employment and pursuits of peace.

The Noticioso of January 8, contains, an official letter from the Secretary of War, to Com. Potter, stating that the government were perfectly at liberty and free during the late convulsions; and that all the Republic is in a state of perfect quietness. Guadalajara and Zacatecas are the only states in which any of the authorities hold out against the General Government. The Chamber Deputies were engaged with propositions to repeal the law of Sept. 17th and Oct. 14th restraining the press.

From the armistice made between Galedron and Santa Anna, on the 5th Dec. at Ojaco, it appears that they possessed the town between them; Pedraza, after the turn of affairs, fled to ... of Representatives appear to ... ss ed their declaration in favor of Guerrero as President only and entirely on the constitutional ground legally elected by the States. They have set aside the returns forwarded by Vera Cruz.

The following letter was addressed by Com. Porter to the Secretary of War.

"It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your official note of the 2d inst. and to thank you, and his excellency the President for the gracious expressions of approbation which it contains. Permit me also to assure you, that there was but one period at which I had the least doubt of the proper course to pursue in the tremendous crisis which had just passed; but at the same time, I pray you to take into consideration the extreme ignorance in which we all remained as to the true state of affairs in Mexico. If the circular of the Secretary of State, issued on the 9th ultimo, to the Governors and political chiefs, had been promulgated in this place, there would then have been no motive of vacilating, but I was entirely ignorant of the existence of such a document, until I obtained it a few days since from the hand of a friend, and caused it to be published as soon as received. From the same source I received the Circular of the 8th which I also published immediately. It now only remains for me to assure your Excellency of the firm support of the constitution and laws, my strict obedience to the orders of the supreme government, and my devotion to the principles of liberty. With these sentiments which are common to all the individuals under my command, yourself and His Excellency the President may always rely upon the fidelity of the Navy.

"God and Liberty.

"DAVID PORTER."

"Vera Cruz, Jan. 7, 1829."

General Jose Maria Lobato had been appointed Commander of the State of Valladolid.

Accounts from Central America, state that propositions had been made for a settlement of the differences between the contending parties in that country.

From the correspondent of the American.

WASHINGTON, 31st Jan. 1829.

Mrs. Adams gave her farewell party at the drawing room last Wednesday evening, to which she added a very bountiful supper,—an appendage which has not been customary. Without meaning to be very fastidious, I may take the liberty to say the addition was no improvement to that easy, social entertainment, which at all times has rendered visits to the drawing room so pleasant. The supper was abundant in every dainty; and formed such irresistible attraction to those who live by *eating* and *drinking*, that there was no want of devotees. Sojourners and strangers, not knowing that it is here a custom fixed as permanent as the laws of Media and Persia, that residents and citizens are, by the swiftness of heels entitled to precedence, were for a long time by stern necessity compelled to gaze on the banquet, without the opportunity of approaching. In other parts of *'good society,'* Mr. King would tell you, modest and hesitating *strangers* and *visiters* are entitled to the first civilities.

I happened to be near the drawing room door, leading towards the supper room, when I saw the President take under his arm the distinguished favorite lady and hurry her out at a half run, and the suspicion immediately crossed my curiosity, that some new affair was at hand, away I ran, like a child to see what I could see. The game was soon in full view. Supper, says I to myself very comfortable at this time of night. *'I should like to dine with Monsieur non-ton pas.*—The President and his lady on opposite sides were stationed at, not *in*, the centre of the principal table, and perceiving they were joined on either hand by ladies and their beaux for the occasion, I backed out of the way, until I could back no further without breaking through the wall or literally walking over all that came in my way. The latter being the only practicable escape, I forced my way out against the almost irresistible current. How fortunate I should have been, had I, at the moment, been at the side of the good lady who so kindly passed me by the power of her introduction, through the mazy croud of the east room I should then have stood high at the feast. There was consolation however in finding myself in the parlour surrounded by many more unfortunate than I who had peeped at all the good things. Here I saw Representatives and grave Senators with their female protegees hanging by their arms waiting the moment when the first rank having fired, would retire. But in this contest the *charge* seems to be the word of command. The tacticians here understand the true policy. It is that of Bonaparte, to push the attack until all ahead is demolished. So when at last we in the rear had forced our way into the arena, we found empty bottles, half filled tumblers, floating dishes and waiters flooded with wine. Fragments of chickens, turkies, ducks, hams, rounds, pastry, jellies, custards, *et id omne genus*, were strewed every where. Alas! said I to my good old friend, Frye, what shall I do without my supper! Do as I do: get a roll, and a bottle of Champaigne, and you will not be behind the best. Help me my good fellow said I, and so he did most generously.

I was soon supplied with the most delightful roll, and the finest glass of wine I have tasted, since I had the good fortune to share the hospitality of the late Major Butler of Philadelphia, who always kept the best wines. Thank you Frye, I shall now be able to stand another push to get out. In the second essay to escape, I had leisure to mark the personages who had from the first kept possession of the centre table. The President and lady were gone; but there stood two sturdy veterans, without any diminution of vigour or courage, slaying like Sampson of old their thousands. Just at that moment, I was exceedingly diverted by the gambols of a very pretty, smart young lady, supported on each side by a dying swain. A rival on the opposite side challenged the fair one to a glass of wine. What will she do? She has in one hand a wing of a fowl, and in the other a roll! The dilemma was soon overcome. To the beau on her right she said, *"fill my glass."* No sooner said than done. Then bowing to him across the table, she turned to him on the left: *"hold up my glass."* No sooner said than done. She inclined her head to the glass sipped & laughing said "was'nt that well done? I like always good waiters." These things when first seen here, make strangers think and question, and resolve never to introduce their wives and daughters into such a school: but the fact is, this is the world over. In every place, where all restraint is removed, people act precisely alike. I have seen here young ladies on their first appearance, introduced at the drawing room, shrinking from the gaze of the crowd their cheeks blanched and their very limbs trembling in their progress across the floor; but in one month become the bravest among the recruits, the nimblest in the dance, and the loudest in the talk. So, every where else. It is custom familiarity with equals, and ambition ... distinguished abroad, which overcome the ... Dedic diffidence so much admired at home. ... pe all these great *soirees*, I have observed one ... ed is highly creditable to the male society of ... on hington. In no place have I ever been ... Be ere females are more universally treated ... Dindly and respectfully, than they are in all the ... ting ublic assemblages here. In the drawing rooms ... subje ... the Capitol, on the avenue, in the dance, and even in Church, the ladies, old and young, matron and maiden, handsome and homely, rich and poor—all have the deference due to their sex. I who loved my mother, love my sisters, my sweethearts, my wife, and did fondly love my sweet cherub of a daughter, always set down that community for admiration where women are treated with the respect due to *mothers, sisters, wives*, and *daughters*. And no community without this saving principle can ever be regarded above the rank of heathens.

I find I am running wild with my speculations on these matters; and come back to my original purpose of giving you all the news going here, not to be found in the prints. The Senate has been in secret session the two last days, and it is generally understood, they have under consideration the nominations of the judges, of which you have before heard. Those nominations in my opinion will not be confirmed by the Senate. I could give reasons for this opinion, but at present it is not advisable.

Yesterday in the House of Representatives, Mr. Sergeant, in a short speech, made a tremendous thrust at the lottery system; and if he has not demolished it completely, he has so crippled it, that it will hereafter do little more than limp or flutter. I speak of so much of the system as may be subject to the legislation of this government."

[By the Author of the Mariner's Sketches.]

I have noticed lately, in the papers, several different descriptions of one's feelings when drowning, hanging, starving, being buried alive, &c.

All the above writers had time for reflection but in the case I am about to relate there was hardly time for deliberation.

Having had while in the Pacific, the pleasure of performing an aerial excursion which commenced at the main cat harpins of one of our largest frigates, & terminated near the bottom of Callao Bay; I will take the liberty to give a history of the voyage and my reflections during it, for the benefit of future tumblers. I was going aloft and had just got as far as the futtock shrouds, when a ratline broke under my feet, and I fell backwards. My first emotion was surprise, I could not imagine where I was, but soon ascertained from the rushing of the air by my ears, that I was falling and that head foremost. Dr. Johnson says that the near approach of death wonderfully concentrates a man's ideas. I am sure it did mine, for I never thought so fast before or since as I did during the two or three seconds that I was tumbling. In an instant the recollection came to my head that one of the quarter deck guns was directly under me, and I should, in all probability, be dashed into ten thousand pieces. I would have given the world to have roared, I tried to gather my limbs together, to contract my muscles, to shrink my body into as small a space as possible. All this while, there was a blood red light before my eyes, through which a thousand horrible forms were constantly gliding.—Then I thought of home, and the forms of all those that I hold dear on earth; and a good many "strangers of distinction" besides, passed in review before me. Then the recollection of the cursed gun and the consequent smash across the breech of it, put all the establishment to flight, and I felt that peculiar sickness at the stomach which it is said one experiences when on the point of undergoing a sudden, painful and violent death. I thought to myself, 'surely, it must be almost time for the shock.' A shock I certainly did receive, and no gentle one, across the back of the head, neck and left shoulder and in an instant all was dark and still. "It is all over" thought I, when to my utter dismay I perceived myself falling a second time but no words can express my delight; my ecstacy on finding myself overboard, instead of on the gun. I kept going down till it appeared to me that the seven fathoms, and a half, (the depth of the water at our anchorage,) had more than doubled since we came to. After a while I became stationary and soon after began slowly to ascend. When I looked up I saw high very high above me a dim greenish light which became brighter and brighter till at last I bounced on the surface like a cork. I immediately swam to the accommodation ladder and went on board.

My shoulder and neck were some bruised by striking against a spare topsail yard that was stowed over the starboard quarter my head was also a good deal knocked about having received sundry thumps and knocks in the fall which however, were mere "cakes and ginger-bread."

It may seem incredible, impossible, that I should be able to recollect my sensations after so long a time had elapsed but my feelings are as fresh in my memory now, as at the very moment when I was so satisfactorily demonstrating in my own unlucky person the principles of gravitation.

The value of the Public Lands.

The question has been asked "are the Public Lands of any real value to the U. States, and is it not true, as has been stated on the floor of Congress, that they cost more than they come to." This is an enquiry of great importance, and is best answered by reference to the documents accompanying the Message of the President for the last two years. As these documents are in possession of but few of your readers, and as this subject is just now occupying much of the attention of Congress, and is of general interest, I send you the following statement of

FACTS.

The quantity of land sold up to 30th June, 1828, was 21,103,968 acres.

The amount of sales, up to June, 30th, 1828, was $41,950,247, 53.

There has been granted for support of Schools, and Colleges, 7,841,947 acres.

There has been granted for Roads, and Canals, 1,934,537 acres.

There has been granted for MILITARY BOUNTIES and Private Claims, 18,285, 777 acres.

The quantity of land already surveyed and yet unsold, is 210,273,300 acres.

The quantity of land in the U. S. unceded, is estimated at 750,000,000 acres.

"*The National Inheritance*," as Mr. Adams has styled the Public domains has cost, including every charge of purchase surveying, and sale, $32,911,818.

But this sum covers the purchase money of Louisiana and Florida, which was paid for *sovereignty* of that State and Territory, rather than for the *soil*: deduct, therefore, the $20,000,000 paid for Louisiana and Florida, and the *real* cost of the U. States' Lands is $12,911,819. which being deducted from the amount of

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