From the New-York Evening Post.

Project of France as to Louisiana, &c.

[CONTINUED.]

After attempting to divert the chief consul from the reconquest of St. Domingo, by arguments which must appear to every man the most cogent, and the best adapted to operate on a *great mind*, the writer of the *memorial* presents a more brilliant object to compensate for the dereliction of the project against this valuable island. He first addresses himself to the pride and prejudices of a *Frenchman*, by showing how *France* has been outstripped in the career of colonization and the conquest of new countries, by the active and persevering efforts of *Great-Britain*. The description of the progress of the English colonies, and the developement of the true causes of their present prosperity, is worthy the pen of Hume or Robertson—

"In little more than an hundred years ago, North-America was a wilderness. It was so thinly peopled as to merit this name. Such, particularly, was the forlorn condition of that district which occupies the eastern coast, and which extends through the finest climates. This space corresponds in its favorable situation, and almost in extent, with Europe. *Then* it only exhibited a dreary variety of forest and morass. All its capacities of giving food, shelter and raiment to the human species, of pouring forth the boundless happiness of intellectual beings, were inert. It was the wild range of beasts and savages.

"Let us *now* cast our eye thither, and meditate the change that has taken place in so short a period. Morass and forest, and a savage and naked race, have mostly disappeared. A christian and European nation has sprung up in their place. That side of the sea has become a counterpart to this. Towns and villages, language, institutions, arts and manners seem, as if if transferred by magic, from one coast to the other. Distance and a stormy ocean, which had been for so many ages insuperable obstacles between them, and screened one region even from the knowledge of the other, are dwindled into nothing. Extremities have approached each other, have coalesced, have become one, and the effects which in former times contiguity alone produced, are now found by no means incompatible with the utmost distance. A numerous, civilized and powerful people are spread over this district, which in all respects will bear an honorable comparison with any nation of Europe.

"And whence this wonderful change? From what beginnings has arisen an empire which casts contempt upon the miracles of fancy, and the metamorphoses of poetry? In tracing their original we only see poor fugitives from these shores, whom tyranny has cast out naked and helpless; who have roamed abroad, nearly unprovided, in search of new homes; whose quiet settlement was obstructed by the thousand evils of a pestilential climate, churlish soil, and faithless neighbors; whom distance and poverty could not remove beyond the reach of their former masters, whose tyranny as it originally drove them into exile, continued to vex and harrass them; to counteract all the benefits, to aggravate all the evils of their new condition; to check their increase; to lessen their subsistence; to deprave their morals; to disturb their peace. We behold them, at one time bending all their strength to maintain their post against the ancient possessors of the soil; at another engaged in a feeble and ruinous struggle with their European ancestors, who having strove in vain to strangle the infant in his cradle, now poured their whole strength on his still undisciplined and immature manhood.

"In spite of all these evils, in spite of that fatal policy, which has cut up a people of the same blood, manners and laws, into a score of independent and unequal states, and thus laid the eternal foundation of wars and feuds—has a nation sprung up in an age, opulent and powerful as those whose beginnings are beyond the reach of history.

"These miracles were not wrought by the sword. It was not wars and victories that have added five millions of civilized men to the human race, and to the English name. These may rob millions of their happiness and independence; millions they may easily destroy; but they cannot call into existence; they cannot compel to change their language, manners or religion.

"All the solid glory, all the genuine benefits of extending their empire and augmenting their numbers, have been gained, (though without design and without merit) by the English. If there be any advantage in unity of power, that advantage they might still and forever have enjoyed: their own unpardonable folly cast it away.

"When an observer of mankind surveys the world from his closet; when he notices the worthless ends and the inadequate means which engage the ambition and industry of nations, he seems, in his own opinion, to have fallen among a race of maniacs. The ends they propose are silly or wicked; the means they adopt counteract their designed purpose. Such, above all, is the lesson which the history of the English colonies affords; a series of purposes iniquitous and abortive; of means puerile and nugatory. The greatest good springing up without the wishes and against the efforts of the actors, and the cause of human happiness and of national prosperity insensibly advancing, in defiance of human guilt and folly.

"And how happened it that the English, rather than the French, had the glory of peopling a new world? While the greatest of the French kings had near half a million of soldiers in his service; of men fed, cloathed, housed and equipped, for the purpose of extending his empire, a few English fugitives were building up a mighty nation in America. Without provision or furniture, in hardships and poverty, they were busied in securing the rapid population of one fourth of the globe.

"All the schemes of the French king were defeated. His own people were impoverished and famished; his neighbors overwhelmed with the same evils; his territory narrowed and his pride subdued.—Had some good genius inspired him with foresight, and could he have been persuaded to have begun the race of colonization, as early as the English, what a glorious privilege would the French nation have possessed!"

The loss of such an opportunity of colonization by France is expressed in the following terms of regret:

"What a theme of humiliation and despair is this to the friend of mankind; to the lover of his country! Such an opportunity lost! Improved by others without design or merit; lost by us through stupid inattention and misguided ambition. The seed most carelessly thrown, would have taken root, thrived and produced innumerable fruits. An obscure adventurer, embarking from a French port, in the time of our Francis the first, would have given us the empire of America. Slothful and proud Spain would have been excluded from a scene which she overspread with devastation and horror, at her first entrance upon it, and which she has since maintained in poverty and weakness; and the great and enlightened genius of the French would have wrought such wonders on the Plata and Maragnon, as the English have exhibited on the Chesapeake and Hudson—"

But he asks,

"Is it yet too late?"—Are all the vacancies in the globe supplied with occupants and owners? And can no footing be gained on foreign shores without encroaching upon formidable neighbors?"

He then directs the attention to the *continent* of *New-Holland*, a country not inferior in extent to Europe, or the Western hemisphere in fertility and value. The reasons urged for an attempt to colonize *New-Holland* are ingenious and plausible; the objections are stated and answered, with an adroitness worthy of a Frenchman. But the project appears romantic; and to an ordinary man who has not a map of the world before him, and who brings not to his mind scenes past, present and to come, it will appear chimerical. We shall pass over this part of the memorial, which must suggest matter of curious speculation to the politician and philosopher, that we may come *nearer home*, to the third and last project presented for the employment of the energies and resources of France.

In exhibiting Louisiana and the Mississippi to the view of the chief consul, he first marks the scene of future action; the advantages to be derived from the acquisition; the obstacles to be dreaded from the jealousy of England; the clashing interests of the United States; and the future progress of the French in defiance of England, the United States, and Spain. We shall extract a few passages which will serve to shew how these interesting topics are handled by this flattering and skillful adviser—

"This river [Mississippi] first acquires importance in the latitude of forty-five, north. It flows in a devious course about two thousand miles, and enters the bay of Mexico, by many mouths, in latitude 29. In these latitudes, is comprized the temperate zone; which has been always deemed most favorable to the perfection of the animal and vegetable nature. This advantage is not marred by the chilling and *sterilifying* influence of lofty mountains, the pestilential fumes of intractable bogs, or the dreary uniformity of sandy plains. Through the whole extent, there is not, probably, a snow-capt hill, a moving sand, or a volcanic eminence.

"This valley is of different breadths. The ridge which bounds it on the east, is in some places near a thousand miles from the great middle stream. From this ridge, secondary rivers of great extent and magnificence flow towards the centre, and the intermediate regions are an uncultivated paradise. On the west, the valley is of similar dimensions, the streams are equally large and useful, and the condition of the surface equally delightful.

"Beyond the eastern ridge, and as far as the Atlantic, are the dwellings of the English, and the war which ensued the mutual approaches of the two nations, terminated in the expulsion of the French from the eastern portion of this valley.

"On the west, the country is but little known. The south sea which is its natural boundary on that side, is some thousands of miles distant. The coast of that sea has been claimed by the Spaniards, since their permanent settlement in Mexico, but the western limits of Louisiana were, nevertheless, sufficiently ample. The peace of 1763, left these limits undisturbed, and the validity of the transfer to Spain, of the western portion of this valley, and of either bank of the river, near its mouth, has never since been disputed. The English colonists have since become a sovereign people; but their emigrations, have hitherto scarcely reached the river, and the Spanish dominion of the opposite bank has been recognized by solemn treaties. The settlements along the river, have chiefly been previous to the transfer to Spain; a town of no mean extent was then founded, and all the regular means of subsistence, to a numerous people, in cultivation and trade, had been regularly established.

"We must first observe, that in gaining possession of this territory, we shall not enter on a desert, where the forest must be first removed, before a shelter can be built; whither we must carry the corn and the clothes necessary to present subsistence, and the seed, the tools and the cattle which are requisite to raise a future provision. We have no wars to wage nor treaties to form with the aboriginal possessors. The empire thus restored to us will not be over English or Spaniards, whose national antipathies would make them ever restless and refactory, but countrymen and friends; the children of France who are impatient of a foreign yoke, and who are anxious to return to the bosom of their long estranged ancestors. The ministers of the nation need not to be an army, with their brandished bayonets, since there are neither foreign foes to intercept our passage, nor intestine rebels to refuse us admission; peaceable agents and commissioners will be hailed with filial joy, and these will be sufficient to establish a wise code of commercial and internal policy on the ruins of Spanish tyranny and folly. Under a wise government, the imagination can scarcely set limits to the progress of a colony; but the utmost caution may surely proceed as far in conjecture, as the experience of the neighboring English will justify.

"Population has prodigiously advanced in the United States, since their settlement; but there is no reason to expect a smaller progress in the French. Our neighbors, indeed, are, at present, in that state, in which the doubling of their numbers is the adding of millions to millions, and a state in which the duplicate ratio will be equally productive in Louisiana, is far distant. The circumstances, however, which will bring this state nearer, are not few or inconsiderable.

"There cannot, in the first place, be imagined a district more favorable to settlement. In addition to a genial climate and soil there are the utmost facilities of communication and commerce. The whole district is the sloping side of a valley, thro' which there run deep and navigable rivers, which begin their course in the remotest borders, and which all terminate in the central stream. This stream one of the largest and widest in the world, is remarkably distinguished by its depth and freedom from natural impediments. It flows into a gulf, which contains a great number of populous islands. Among these islands are numerous passages into the ocean, which washes the shores of Europe. Thus not only every part of the district is easily accessible by means of rivers, but the same channels, are ready to convey the products of every quarter to the markets most contiguous and most remote.

"The progress of a nation may be obstructed by bad laws, and by natural impediments. Men will not plant and reap for nothing. They will not leave their present homes without the prospect of bettering their condition. In the spot that chance may throw them, they will expend no labor in raising more than they can consume, unless they can exchange the surplus for something necessary or agreeable, the fruits of the labor of others. Subsistence must always be scanty and mean, and the great spring of population must, of consequence, be languid and powerless, when supplied by our single ingenuity and labor. Many men must combine their various skill and diligence to make life a blessing to each, and inspire him with inclination to give life to others.

"A barren soil may deny to our utmost efforts more than a scanty and precarious subsistence. If the soil be fertile, yet there may be no method of disposing of its surplus products. There may be no streams, which are the easier conveyances to distant markets. The surface may be broken up into hills and rocks, whose summits and defiles are impassible, or passible only at such labor and expense, as are disproportioned to the gain. The rivers, if there be any may be impeded by cataracts, or their mouths be barred against us by some hostile nation that possesses it. The interests of rival neighbors may deny us access to the most eligible marts, or all these obstacles may be absurdly supplied by an evil government, which may prohibit the cultivation or export of these products, which the condition of the soil or the prudence of the planter would naturally suggest.

"Which of these obstacles will have place in this new colony? Will only one or a few of the means of opulence be enjoyed by it? The most opulent nation cannot boast the possession of every blessing. Either the rigors of the climate and soil are *redressed* by the wisdom of the government, as in Switzerland or Holland, or the mischiefs of mis-government are somewhat compensated by the bounties of nature, as in Egypt and Sicily. But fancy in her happiest mood cannot combine all the felicities of nature and society in a more absolute degree, than will be actually combined, when the valley of the Mississippi shall be placed under the auspices of France. Not one of the impediments to opulence will be found here. Not one of the advantages, the least of which have made other regions the envy and the admiration of mankind, will be wanting.

"The Nile flows in a torrid climate through a long and narrow valley. The fertility which its annual inundations produce, extends only six or eight leagues on either side of it. The benefits of this fertility are marred by the neighborhood of scorching sands, over which the gales carry intolerable heat and incurable pestilence, and which harbor a race of savages, whose trade is war and pillage. Does this river bestow riches worthy of the greatest efforts of the nation to gain them, and shall the greater Nile of the western hemisphere be neglected? A Nile whose inundations diffuse the fertility of Egypt twenty leagues from its shores, which occupies a valley wider than from the Duna to the Rhine, which flows among the most beautiful dales, and under the benignest seasons, and which is skirted by a civilized and kindred nation on one side, and on the other by extensive regions, over which the tide of growing population may spread itself without hindrance or danger?

"But of what avail will be all these advantages, unless a market be provided for the produce of the soil? Now this market is already provided. For all that it can produce France alone will supply *thirty millions* of consumers. The choicest luxuries of Europe are coffee, sugar and tobacco. The most useful materials of cloathing are cotton and silk. All these are either natives of the Mississippi valley, or remarkably congenial to it. The cultivation of these, and the carriage to market, are as obvious and easy as the most ardent politician can desire. The whole extent of this river will be our own, and in the lower and most fertile portion of its course the banks on both sides will be our indisputable property.

[*To be continued.*]

From the Gazette of the United States.

From the speech of Mr. Bayard, inserted in this day's Gazette, it is sufficiently evident, that the secret business brought before the house of representatives, on the 11th of January, by general S. Smith, was a proposition for *a secret appropriation* of an immense sum of money, no less than *two millions of dollars*, and that the measure is in some way connected with the affairs of Louisiana. For what purpose this enormous expenditure of public money can be necessary, it is impossible to conjecture; inasmuch as all information relative to the actual state of our existing relations to that country has been zealously opposed and finally refused. Whether these two millions of dollars have been appropriated and paid out of the treasury: Whether they are to be carried by Mr. Munroe to the first consul for the purpose of insuring a more favorable reception than our ministers formerly met with from the same court:—Or whether they are to be employed as the most satisfactory argument which can be used for convincing the first consul of the expediency of continuing to us the free exercise of a right long enjoyed and secured by the most solemn stipulations—are questions which cannot be answered, and respecting which the people will probably never be informed. The whole affair is involved in profound *secrecy*. All that can be conjectured with any degree of certainty is, that a proposition has been made for *secretly appropriating two millions of dollars*, and that the appropriation has some relation to Louisiana.

Subsequent to this transaction, another confidential message has been received from the president, and acted upon with closed doors. Whether this is a call for more money, and whether the call has been complied with, the people cannot know. It is sufficient for them to know that their present rulers are wise, and honest, and economical. The less they know of the particular means adopted for securing their prosperity and happiness, the less likely they will be to murmur and find fault that some other, and as they might suppose, better mode was not chosen for accomplishing the same end.

MR. BAYARD'S SPEECH.

It has already been stated, that after the question had been taken and not carried, upon Mr. Griswold's motion to go into a committee of the whole on the state of the union, for the purpose of taking up his resolution respecting the cession of Louisiana; and after the committee of the whole had been discharged from any further consideration of the subject, general S. Smith gave notice that he had a communication of a confidential nature to make to the house. Upon this the galleries were cleared and the doors closed. Immediately upon the doors being opened, the final question was called for on Mr. Griswold's resolution, upon which Mr. Bayard delivered a speech in favor of the resolution. As the doors had but just been opened, none of those in the habit of taking notes were present. But a gentleman who heard the speech, and who noted the most important parts of it, has obligingly furnished us with the following sketch, which is said to contain the principal arguments advanced by Mr. Bayard. The speech was delivered on Tuesday, January 11.

Mr. Bayard said he lamented much, that unavoidable occurrences had prevented his attending in his place when the resolution was under consideration upon the motion to go into a committee of the whole house. Having no knowledge of the arguments then employed to induce the adoption of the resolution, he should abstain from many remarks which obviously presented themselves on the subject, lest he should fall into repetitions of what was familiar to the minds of the house from the observations of other gentlemen.

He must, however, be allowed to state that it was a practice little known heretofore, but one which had alarmingly increased of late, to resist a call for information from any branch of the executive government.

It cannot be, on the ground of secrecy, required by the state of our affairs; for we have been often told that a government like ours ought to have no secrets.

Though the present times have assumed the character of *economical*, yet an honorable member of great weight in the house, and whom he did not then observe in his place, had remarked at the last session, with great emphasis and effect, that no disposition to economy should ever induce him to economize information.

A stronger case than the present could not exist. The house had been called on to act upon a question touching our foreign relations. On such subjects, it was among the chief duties of the executive to acquire information. It was for this purpose that ministers were sent abroad, and their communications were made to the cabinet, to which we had a right to look upon all occasions for information respecting the proceedings of foreign governments which implicated the national interest.

It is stated in the presidential message, that Louisiana is ceded by Spain to France.

This is an important fact. The statement in the message shews that the president has obtained information relative to the cession, and after the *fact is disclosed*, which is the extent of any indiscretion which can be committed on the subject, why conceal from us the *circumstances?*

The naked fact did not furnish sufficient light to enable us to judge of the steps which it would be proper for us to pursue.

Though the country had been ceded, yet the possession remained with the Spaniards. This created a presumption, that it was not a simple, absolute cession. If the cession be conditional or qualified, or to take effect upon some future contingency, it is extremely material that the house should be informed of the existence of the circumstance.

Mr. Bayard repeated his regret that he was not present at the discussion of the subject which had taken place, as it was beyond his powers to imagine a ground upon which the information requested by the resolution could be denied.

But after the resolution had been in effect negatived on the motion to go into a committee of the whole, and, as he understood, by a large majority, he should not have risen to trouble the house, but for an occurrence which had taken place since the house had made their determination upon the resolution.

An honorable member from Maryland, (Mr. S. Smith) has just laid upon our table a resolution calling upon the house to place *two millions of dollars at the discretion of the executive*. [The Speaker here remarked to Mr. Bayard, that as the doors were no longer closed, it was not in order to refer to *what had been done* when the doors were closed]. Mr. Bayard said he had no disposition to congress the rules of the house; but it was an awkward situation, when arguing in support of a measure, he was not at liberty to state the strongest reason in favor of it.

He would not repeat what had escaped him; but alluding to what was in the knowledge of every member, he considered himself allowed to urge the probability that the house would be called upon for a grant of money. Now, sir, can gentlemen expect that either we or the nation will in any case be satisfied to make a large grant of money, while no information is given of the grounds upon which the grant is required?

When money is asked for, information ought never to be denied: and, for his part, he never would consent to give a cent. while information, which ought to be communicated, was withheld.

Mr. Bayard concluded by observing, that he hoped he might still flatter himself with the expectation, that what had recently occurred, would induce the house to vary from the determination they had made, and adopt the resolution.

Slaves for Sale.

The subscriber will, on Wednesday, the 16th day of February next, at the house of Anthony Addison, in Prince George's county, expose to public sale, for ready money, to the highest bidder,

NEGRO Peter, a young man, with his wife Nell, and their four children; negro George, with Rose his wife and their five children; negro Jack, a blacksmith; negro Sam, a shoemaker, and Fossester, Jem, Daniel, Jem St. Clair, Isaac, Dennis, Jack and Bob, eight likely young lads; at the sale, families will not be divided, but sold together. These slaves are sold in virtue of a deed of trust, bearing date the 26th day of August, 1802, from Anthony Addison to me the subscriber, authorising and directing the sale of the said slaves, to raise a sum of money for the purposes therein mentioned.

The sale will commence at 12 o'clock noon of the day abovementioned; and so many of the said slaves will be sold as will raise the sum of 3,050 dollars, with interest on 3000 dollars, from the 26th day of August, 1802, until the day of sale aforesaid.

WILLIAM LYLES.

January 24. 1aw4t

Ben. & Geo. Williams

Have received by the schooner Mars, captain Hammond, from Boston, and for sale at No. 3, Bowly's wharf,

200 pieces first qulity Russia duck
150 do. Russia sheetings
100 do. Ravens duck
20 barrels tanners' oil
100 boxes mould candles
100 do. dipt do.
50 do. chocolate
10 do. cotton cards.

They have also on hand,

30 pipes 4th proof French brandy
10 hhds. New-England rum
10 do. Antigua do.
20 quarter casks Malaga wine
150 barrels pork
100 do. beef
250 bags green coffee
150 kegs lard
1 case mace
5 do. cloves.

January 12. d3t-e08t

To be Rented,

AN excellent three-story BRICK HOUSE, No. 43, South-street, which from its contiguity to Bowly's wharf, may answer very well for both the accommodation of a private family and for a merchant's counting-house. Possession to be had the 1st of April. For terms, apply to

JOHN OLDHAM, South-street.

January 24. eo

To be Let or Sold,

A convenient and well-finished three-story brick dwelling HOUSE, in South Gay-street, adjoining Messrs. Lemmon and Campbell's vendue store. Possession may be had immediately.

The above property, in fee-simple, would be sold low for cash, or on short credit; or bartered on reasonable terms for German Linens. For terms apply to

WM. COCHRAN & BROTHERS.

October 21. eo