ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL AT WASHINGTON.

The Capitol of the United States, is one of the most splendid edifices in the world. The striking beauty of its architectural proportions, its finished and costly workmanship, and its noble site, are surpassed by few, if any, of the modern erections. The following description of the Rotunda or central entrance of the Capitol from which the vast central dome springs to an elevation of ninety-six feet, is from the pen of Mr. De Witt, of Kingston, a member of the House of Representatives, and senior editor of the Ulster Sentinel. It is minute, accurate, and interesting, particularly the description of the fine representations, in *basso relievo*, commemorative of the aboriginal character, and of early historical scenes of interest. The writer remarks that he has avoided as far as practicable the use of technical terms, and has employed the plainest and most appropriate words.

[Albany Daily Adv.

This magnificent apartment comprehends the spacious area between the two wings of the structure, and is of a circular form. It is entirely of marble, (and so indeed is every permanent part of the Capitol,) excepting the light doors, covered with green baize that lead out of it, and the frame of the sky light above.—The height of the dome soars beyond the roof, and it may well be immagined, is awful and sublime. The floor is beautifully paved, and the sound of a single voice uttering words in an ordinary tone reverberates aloft like the faint rumbling of distant thunder. When two or more converse, there is an incessant roaring, absorbing, if I may so speak, the entire medium of sound. Even the simple touch of my walking stick on the pavement distinctly echoes along the circumference, and dies away slowly in the capacious vault.' So extremely elastic is the air within! There is nothing, I believe, equal to it in this country, and, of itself, it well deserves a journey to Washington.

In the niches left on purpoae about fifteen feet from the floor, are four sculptured pieces as large as life, which I will endeavour to describe. The first, on the right as you enter the door leading from the Hall of the House, represents a combat between an Indian chief and a white man, the scene of which is laid in 1773.

The white man having fired off his musket, (which is plainly indicated by the state of the cock & pan,) has seized it by the barrel and is in the act of aiming a blow at the head of the chief with the butt—who having hold of that part with his left hand, strikes it down—and thus the piece is brought verticaliy between them, the barrel pointing up and the lock being about on a level with their heads. in this position, with his left hand elevated and grasped around the barrel, and his right leg advanced, the white man, disappointed of his blow with the musket, firmly clenches in his right, which hangs down by his side, and is a little drawn back as if to give force to the meditated thrust, a long, sharp pointed knife, evidently directed at the warriors heart—who again on his part, holds in his right hand, high in the air, the deadly tomahawk ready to descend with fatal vengeance. They both stare each other fiercely in the face. The countenance of the Indian is terrible. The corners of his wide mouth are drawn down: he shows part of his large separated teeth; his brows are knit; his nostrils distended; and every muscle in his gigantic form seems strained to the utmost. He has no cover for his nakedness save the usual wrapper about the loins, and a blanket, not spread open, but gathered like a scarf on his shoulder with one end thrown over his arm. The aspect of his antagonist betrays no less interest, and not being distorted seems to indicate a more cool and confident expectation of victory. The portrait is truly admirable. Every line of his countenance denotes him to be in earnest. With powder horn and shot pouch at his side—his hat off—his hair in good order—a noble eye—a prominent nose—high cheek bones—compressed lips—a projecting chin—and the frigid garb of a hunter—he presents altogether one of the most striking figures I ever beheld. He and the warrior, as they are thus grappled in deadly strife, stand each with one foot resting upon a dead Indian—the victim already of the former's unerring aim. The attitude of this dead Indian is scarcely less deserving of contemplation. He lays on his side with his knees drawn up towards his breast—the right a little more than the left—and his head resting upon his hands, which he seems to have placed, open, one above the other. There are two or three wrinkles in his forehead—his eyes are closed as in sleep—and about his lips the smile of mortality seems playing—while in his side we behold the gaping wound that laid him low. I do not think a more natural counterfeit of death could be produced. This battle is fought under a tree, the branches of which project over head. For the performance, which was designed to commemorate an exploit of the celebrated Daniel Boone, we are indebted to the chisel of Mr Causici, the ingenious Italian artist, who executed the statue of Washington, recently elevated upon the monument at Baltimore.

Passing farther round, we come to a scene of another description—the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth. An Indian, the shape of whose head shows him to be of a tribe different from that of the warrior in combat, sits astride of a low narrow ledge almost upon the very point of the famous rock, with the elbow of his right hand resting upon the knee of the right leg, (which by being placed a little higher on the ledge than the other, becomes conveniently crooked for that purpose,) while the left, fully exposed, is thrown back, and therefore rests partly on the toe. He leans forward, looking wistfully, and holds out in his right hand an ear of corn, pointing at the same time with the fore finger of his left down to the extremity of the rock, near which two more ears are lying. This savage, like the one, already described, has a braided tuft of hair on his crown—large ornaments in his ears—leggins—and a kind of coarse matting about his loins. He is met face to face by a pilgrim, with one foot on the rock and the other in the bow of a boat, beautifully sculptured and bearing the inscription in figures 1620. The dress of this personage is plain, and doubtless according to the costume of the age. The brim of his slouched hat is blown back by the breeze, so as to afford a distinct view of his features, and he appears to wear a pair of long waterman's boots. The expression of his countenance is striking and characteristic. His cheeks are broadly marked with a smile, and he looks with complacency upon the harmless being before him.—His left arm is crooked, and with the open palm elevated as high as his head, he seems mildly to remonstrate and to refuse the proffered gift, saying, 'Poor simple Indian, I came not here to take away your corn, nor to tread upon your land without leave. My only object is to seek an asylum for me and my oppressed brethren, our wives and little ones.' Behind the pilgrim, in the boat, stands his wife, clad in a neat cottage bonnet and cloak, with her eyes lifted up to Heaven as in prayer for a blessing—while at her side is a youth pointing earnestly at the Indian. This admirable group is also from the chisel of Mr. Causici.

The next niche presents us with a view of William Penn and two Indian Chiefs, in treaty under the memorable elm on the right bank of the Delaware, near Philadelphia. The short, compact, sturdy figure of the good man, with the broad brim of his round hat turned up behind and at the sides—his curly locks, capeless coat, tight breeches, and buckled shoes—above all, the sedate and artless air of his full face—seem to point him out as a calm, contented, comfortable Quaker, neither fearing evil from any one nor intending it himself. He holds in his left hand, depending by his side, a scroll partly developed, and points with his fore finger to the inscription, 'Treaty, 1682.' The two chiefs stand before him—the younger with his arm around the neck of the older, and partly between them. With the elder, who bears the insignia of a distinguished Sachem, he is in the act of shaking hands; while the other as if to explain more distinctly the purport of the treaty, seems to be in earnest conversation with his countryman, looking him sharply in the eyes and enforcing what he says with an emphatic gesture. The old chief, holding perpendicularly before him a large *calumnet* or pipe of peace, listens attentively staring in turn at the orator—while William Penn, unmoved, watches the effect of his eloquence. This spectacle, though not so deeply interesting as the others, is still well worthy of the place it occupies. It is from the chisel of Mr. Gevelot.

Lastly, we come to the narrow escape of Capt. John Smith, the first successful adventurer in Virginia, from the uplifted war club of King Powhatan. He is represented in a recumbent posture, partly on his side, with his left leg laid over the shin of his right, his head a little raised from the stone on which it had been placed for the convenience of being easier smashed—and his eyes directed with an imploring look toward the countenance of the chief. His hair is thick and curley—his beard long and bushy—he wears a kind of tunic, buttoned up from the waist to the neck—breeches buckled at the knee—and coarse shoes tied with strings. The captain, judging from this sculpture, must have been a spare man, not to be compared with the brawny Penn; but his countenance is fine, and bears the impress of a daring spirit. At the crown of his head, bending over him and partly kneeling, is the king's daughter, Pocahontas.—With her hands clasped in agony, she looks with inexpressible tenderness at the chief, and supplicates him to stay the blow. Nothing indeed, can be more captivating than this figure; and though Pocahontas doubtless wore only the simple drapery of her race, the artist has so judiciously disposed of it as not to offend the most delicate taste.—Opposite to her, and at the other extremity of the intended victim, stands a tall chief, (whom the reader may suppose to be Powhatan,) with his right foot on the captains thigh—his left hand open and drawn back—the war club laid down on his shoulder—in a word his whole appearance indicating the utmost surprise at the interference of his daughter. He stares, not at Pocahontas, but at a warrior next him, who, in a kind of crouching posture, as if himself dreaded the stroke, holds up his hand to ward it off and intercede for mercy. On his right, partly behind Pocahontas, stands another, with his war club elevated, ready for execution, glancing sharply towards the chief, as if impatient for the signal to begin. But to be more explicit, I will here transcribe from the Captain's own book in the library of Congress his account of the scene. He speaks modestly of himself in the third person:—

'Having feasted him after their best barbarous manner, they could, a long consultation was held, but the conclusion was, two great stones were brought before Powhatan; then as many as could layd hands on him, dragged him to them, and thereon layd his head, and being ready with their clubs to beat out his brains, Pocahontas, the king's dearest daughter, when no intreaty could prevaile, got his head in her armes and layed her own upon his to save him from death whereat the emperor, (Powhattan,) was contented he should live to make him hatchets, and her bells, beeds and copper.'

This interesting production, bearing the inscription 1606, is from the chisel of Mr. A. Capellano.

Besides these sculptures, in four larger compartments lower down, are the enchanting pictures of Col. Trumbull, each commemorating an important epoch in our history, viz. the Declaration of Independence, the surrender of Burgoyne, the surrender of Cornwallis, and Gen. Washington's resigning his commission at Annapolis, Dec. 23, 1783. We see here Congress in session, the principal officers of either army meeting face to face, many of them mounted, and all of them accurately painted as large as life. The horses are admirably grouped, and the noble grey of Gen. Lincoln, as he reins him sideways on breaking off an interview with three distinguished commanders of Cornwallis, seems literally to live and move. As, however, these paintings were exhibited in the Academy of Arts at New York previous to their removal hither, and were there seen by all who profess to have a taste for matters of the kind, it will not be necessary for me to enter into a more minute description of them. Four spaces still remain blank which it is hoped may speedily be occupied in a similar manner.

From the Annapolis Republican.

CONTESTED ELECTIONS.

The House of Delegates have been engaged, for the three last days, in a very animated debate upon the Report of the Committee of Elections, in the case of Mr. McNeill, of Allegany County.

The Committee reported on Tuesday, that they had not been able to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion in the case, and requested to be discharged from the further consideration thereof on Wednesday.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, on the subject, Mr. Done in the Chair.

Mr. Steele moved that the order submitted by him a few days before, declaring Mr. McNeill entitled to his seat, be substituted for the last sentence of the Report of the Committee of Elections

Mr. Grason moved an amendment to Mr Steele's order declaring that Mr. Travilla, having received a greater number of legal votes than Mr. Wallis, was also duly elected a Delegate from Kent County. On this proposition to connect the two cases, a very earnest debate ensued, which detained the Committee to a late hour. We regret not being able to give even the names of all the gentlemen who partook of the debate; much less the substance of their arguments. Mr. Grason's amendmen failed.

At some period of the debate, Mr. Buskirk offered a substitute for both the order and the amendment, proposing to order a new Election for a Delegate from Alleghany County. Mr. B. advocated this proposition at some length, and with much ingenuity, but was warmly and ably opposed; amongst others, by Mr. Thomas the Speaker. It was finally rejected by the Committee—after which, on motion of Mr. Ely, the Committee rose, reported progress, and had leave to sit again,

On Thursday the subject was resumed in Committee, by a substitute proposed by Mr. Nicholas, in substance much the same as that offered the day before by Mr. Grason, coupling the cases of Mr. McNeill and Mr. Travilla together, and declaring Mr. Wallis' seat vacant. A lengthy and interesting discussion occurred on this substitute which lasted till about four o'clock in the evening. The substitute was opposed as being out of order, having been yesterday decided, and as being contrary to the rules of the House to insist on joining the two cases together, which were thought by many to be dissimilar. The substitute was supported by Mr. Thomas, Mr. Buskirk, Mr. Yoe, and Mr. Nicholas, and opposed by Mr. Blackistone, Mr. Brawner, Mr. Wells, and Mr. Wootton. The motion to divide the proposition, which was originally made by Mr. Steele, was afterwards withdrawn by him, and renewed by Mr. Claude It being decided by the Chair, and confirmed by the House, that it was in order to divide the proposition, the question was put on the first sentence of the substitute—'Shall the seat of Hugh Wallis be vacated?'—which was determined in the affirmative by a very close vote The question was then taken whether Mr. Travilla should take his seat, and determined in the negative. The question was then about to recur, whether Mr. McNeill should take his seat, when Mr. Thomas moved that the Committee rise—determined in the negative. The motion was again made that the Committee rise—determined in the ngative 39 to 39. The motion was then again renewed—determined in the negative. The Committee then decided that Mr. McNeill is entitled to his seat—and rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

Yesterday the Committee of the whole resumed the consideration of the subject, and after another struggle, rendered ardent by the close division of parties, at length rose and reported to the House. The House resolved to admit both Mr. McNeill and Mr. Travilla, to seats in the House, to which there can be no doubt a majority of their constituents did design to delegate them.

The debate upon this occasion, we understand from gentlemen who were present, was sustained on both sides, with talents which done honour to the State. The result arrived at, was generally anticipated, and will no doubt give satisfaction. Where the will of the people can be ascertained satisfactorily, incidental accidents should not be allowed to frustrate that will.

From the Norfolk Beacon.

ARRIVAL OF THE DELAWARE.

The U. S. Ship Delaware, of 74 guns, (late of the Mediterranean Squadron,) Com. William M. Crane, anchored in Hampton Roads yesterday, after 47 days passage from Port Mahon; and we have the pleasure to state, her officers and crew all in good health. Left U. S. ship Lexington, Capt. Hunter, from Smyrna the only U. S. vessel there) all well.

The Delaware passed Gibraltar without toughing there. The officers who came up last evening from the ship, informed us, that there was no news at Mahon when they sailed, and there were no occurrences of the voyage worthy of particular notice.

The Delaware passed the Ontario sloop of war, Capt. Stevens, about 70 miles S. W. of port Mahon, standing for that port, presumed from Gibraltar.

The U. S. ship Fairfield Capt. Parker, relieved the Lexington at Smyrna, and was left there on the 21st Oct. all well.

The brig Leander, Sterling, of Salem, left Malta about the 26th Oct. for Smyrna all well. The Delaware left at Mahon an American ship for New York, to sail the same day.

We learn from an officer of the Lexington, who arrived in the Delaware; that the Russian squadron, under the command of Admiral Count Heyden, consisting of 4 line of Battle ships, 1 frigate, and two sloops of war, (one of which was captured from the Turks) of the English squadron, 4 line of Battle ships 1 frigate, and the French Squadron, 4 line of battle ships 2 frigates, and two brigs, were at Vourna in the Gulf of Smyrna, when the Lexington sailed from that port.

The British frigate Blonde, was at Constantinople 16th Oct. with all her armaments on board, a courtesy not heretofore accorded to any armed ship.

The following officers came passengers in the Delaware. Capt. John Downes, late of the U. S. frigate Java, Richard McColl, Esq. U. S. Navy Agent, at Gibralter. Purser N. H. Perry, late of the sloop of War Fairfield; Sailing Master Frederick W. Moors, and Midshipman Benjamin S. Slye.

List of Officers attached to the U. S. Ship Delaware.

Wm. M. Crane, Esq. Commander.

Lieutenants.—Mirvin P Mix, Charles L. Williamson, Irvine Shubrick, Edmund Byrne, L. M. Goldsborough, Levin M. Powell, Elisha Peck, R. R. Pinkham, Samuel Barron.

Purser.—Silas Butler.

Surgeon.—George Terrill.

Assistant do.—William Plumstead, Samuel Moseley.

Captain Marines.—John Harris.

Lieutenant do.—F N. Armistead.

Secretary.—Thomas Miller.

Midshipmen.—Robt. B. Hitchcock, John C. Carter, John C. Sharpe, Henry Tooley, Jr. Gabriel A. O'Brien, Jas. S. Palmer, Charles H. Poor, John W. Cox, Geo. A. Prentiss, John K. Mitchell, Lorenzo T. Bennett, Wm. H. Peter, Edwin W. Moore, Francis Huger, Ezekiel Mulford, James M. Gilliss, Wm. C. Farrar, Chas. S. Boggs, Alex. L. Dade, Henry C. Hart, Robt. H. Calhoun.

School Master.—George Hill.

Capt's. Clerk.—Fayette M. Randolph.

Gunner.—Asa Curtis.

Carpenter.—Calvin Oaks.

Sail Maker.—William Ryan.

Boatswain.—Thomas Ring.

THE CONVENTION.

RICHMOND, Jan. 2.

The Select Committee, of seven, it is said, having met on Thursday, and Mr. Doddridge having waived his right to the Chair, and at his request Mr. Madison having taken it, proceeded to distribute the labors assigned to them viz: the Legislative Department to Mr. Leigh of Chesterfield, the Executive to Mr. Johnson, and the Judicial to General Marshall. It is conjectured that the Committee will report the fruit of their labors to the Convention this day.

We are grieved, as well as astonished, to find the impression prevalent, that the Constitution to be reported, on principles heretofore sanctioned by the Convention, will be lost in that body by a decided and mixed vote of East and West. This impression springs from the idea, that every portion of the Convention is dissatisfied with some particular provision, and that this partial hostility will be of sufficient efficacy to induce such portion to reject the whole.

[Whig.

January 4.

On Saturday, the Select Committee, at half past 12, not having reported, on motion of Judge Summers, they were empowered to have their Report printed, and on motion of Mr. Campbell, of Brooke, the Convention adjourned.

On Saturday evening, the Convention finished their duties, (excepting the arrangements of Districts,) and yesterday their Report appeared in print. This day it will be presented to the Convention, and more important scenes than have yet been exhibited in that body, may be anticipated.

Much speculation is afloat as to the fate of this Constitution, and much activity has prevailed for the last 48 hours, in preparation for the struggle. Attempts, will unquestionably be made to supersede some of of its provisions—to alter the basis of representation—to deal more gently with the Judicial corps, and to change the mode of choosing the Chief Magistrate. Some of these attempts may possibly find a majority, and it is allowed to be greatly uncertain, whether as a whole, the reported Constitution would at this time be accepted or rejected. The hope of changing some of its provisions would, in the first instance, induce some to vote against it, who ultimately, that hope being disappointed, would vote for it.

[Ib.

January 5.

THE PROGRESS OF THE CONVENTION.

The *Signs* have varied so much in the course of the two last weeks, that they seem to have puzzled the most sagacious observer to read them aright.—We suspect, however, that they are assuming a more definite character; and the general opinion now appears to be that the Convention will not adjourn, without submitting a Constitution to the People. Such is our own opinion.

[Enquirer.

The U. S. Sloop Florida, having been refitted left the Navy Yard, on Thursday last, under the command of Lieut. Morris, for the Tortugas to complete the survey in which Lieut. Tatnall is engaged.

[Pensacola Gaz. Dec. 14.

From the Geneva Gazette.

One of the most brilliant achievements of modern medicine consists in the *application* of the STETHOSCOPE, or *Cylinder*, in detecting the diseases of the lungs and neighboring organs of the chest, and in distinguishing these diseases from each other, and from the disease of some of the organs of the abdomen, with which they have been hitherto frequently confounded even by physicians of learning and experience. By means of this valuable though simple instrument, for which we are indebted to Laennec, the condition of the important organs of respiration and circulation may be ascertained with a facility and precision so truly remarkable, that many valuable lives will doubtless be prolonged when it shall have attained that place in public and professional confidence to which it is entitled. A gentleman* eminent for his professional talents and acquirements, remarks, in a letter now before me, that the Stethoscope; like most other important additions to science, has been attacked by the ridicule and contumely of the ign rant and prejudiced, but that the most implicit 'faith will be reposed in the instrument by all who will patiently investigate its nature, and who are of a temper and will be at the pains to acquire a competent skill in its employment, as the principles upon which it is useful are as fixed and clearly demonstrable; as any others pertaining to physics. To be able to detect the presence and slightest variation in inflammatory conditions of the lungs; to detect the earliest approach of tubercle, effusion, adhesion &c. the usual precursors of pulmonary consumption, and consequently to prescribe where those unskilled in this instrument must wait till 'too late' to prescribe judiciously, are a part of its advantages. The power of discriminating between a disease of the heart; (which is not, as has been supposed, a rare disease,) and other organs of the chest, alone, would render it invaluable; and indeed, without it a medical gentleman cannot do justice to his pulmonary patients for by it alone, can we accurately determine either the location, extent, or nature of pectoral diseases, or prognosticate their result. The state of the pulse is in many cases far from indicating the state of the circulation in general and consequently fails in many instances to be a sure guide as to the expediency of blood letting. The certainty and facility with which the cylinder points out the correct course to be pursued in such cases (cases which have been hitherto considered among the most difficult in practical medicine) is another advantage not interior in value to those above mentioned.

The Stethoscope consists simply of a cylinder of wood, perforated in its centre by a board a few lines in diameter, one extremity of which is hollowed out in the form of a funnel. This funnel may be obliterated at pleasure by fixing in a plug, which alters it into a plain tube having the central bore of the same size throughout. The former conformation is adapted to receive the sounds emitted from the chest during respiration or breathing; the latter acquaints us with the condition of the heart, and with the various modification of voices, the effect of disease. One termination of the Stethoscope is applied to the ear of the operator, and the other to the chest of the patient.

The small pox, once the most fatal and universal of all diseases, has nearly ceased to occupy a place in our bills of mortality by the introduction of vaccination. It may not be visionary to predict that the Stethoscope will often hinder and baffle death in his attempts upon human life, when most families may not have to deplore the death of one or more of its members cut off for the most part in the unfolding bud of life by a fell disease which robs the world of more than one sixth of its population. R. E. D.

*The eminent Doctor John Godman.

From the Providence Journal.

TRADE OF THE BLACK SEA.

Perhaps no section of the United States is more deeply interested in the result of the late war between Russia and Turkey, than that of New England. The opening of the ports on the Black Sea, to all nations, presents a new field for commercial enterprise; particularly to the carrier and the manufacturer. New England stands foremost in both interests; and in that of manufactures, the great focus is our immediate neighborhood, and on which much, if not most of our prosperity depends.

The present depressed state of this branch of industry, must necessarily lead the manufacturers to seek new channels for the disposition of their fabrics; and could such channels be found, would it not be of vital importance to this community.

Heretofore, the manufacturer has been content to realize a fair profit on his products, within our own country; and so long as that could be realized, his course may have been deemed a prudent one; but the time has arrived when it becomes us to look abroad for a market; and that we can compete with Great Britain, on an equal footing, in furnishing the most necessary descriptions of cotton cloths, is not, at this time doubtful.

It is true that shipments of American cotton cloths have occasionally been made to South America, to advantage; but in most cases if not all, the merchant and not the manufacturer, had the credit, and reaped the profit of these temporary enterprises.

That the opening of the ports on the Black Sea afford the prospects of a new market, admits of no doubt. The quality of the cloth required there, is that of our own substantial goods, which can be furnished at the lowest rates; and nothing remains for us, but an attempt to take the lead in supplying them with every prospect of doing so, successfully.

These are hasty hints, and may not be like 'bread thrown upon the waters.'—Those that feel most interested can weigh the chances, and whether it is a subject of interest depends upon the opinion of more than one individual.

COLONIAL TRADE.

Navigation of the St. Lawrence—It appears that there has been a meeting of the Montreal Committee of Trade, at which some alarm was expressed lest the direct trade should be opened between the United States and the British West India Colonies. These proceedings also allude to another important object, for which it is rumoured the United States are negotiating, viz: the free navigation of the St. Lawrence. One of our evening contemporaries, which thinks that wisdom will die with it, says this is a subject 'of which the public now hear for the first time.' Had the editors substituted 'themselves' for 'the public' the assertion might have been correct. The fact is, this question of the free navigation of the St. Lawrence has long been entertained, and the discussions respecting it created no little excitement at the north, five or six years ago. And it was with particular reference to this subject, and the conduct of this negociation, that President Adams so earnestly wished Gov. Clinton to accept the English mission in 1825. That the United States are fairly entitled to a full participation in the navigation of the St. Lawrence, from Ontario to its estuary, there is do doubt. The principle was maintained by the American Congress so long ago as Mr. Jay's mission to the Court of Madrid, during the war of the revolution, when he was specially instructed respecting the navigation of the Mississippi. The same principle has also been asserted, successfully, as we have all very recently seen, in the case of Russia and Turkey. It was for the establishment of the same principle that we claim in regard to the free passage of the St. Lawrence, with respect to navigation of the Hellespont and the Black Sea, that the Russian Emperor mainly went to war. He obtained his right, and established it for all nations, by the sword. We hope our rights will be obtained by more peaceable means.

[N. Y Com. Adv.

WEST INDIA TRADE.

The editor of the Portland Argus says, he 'has seen a letter from Washington, dated Dec. 27th, in which it is stated that despatches have been received from our Minister in England which furnish strong grounds of hope that the trade with the British West Indies will be opened to us on terms satisfactory to this country. Indeed the letter states that there is now but little doubt remaining.'—We cannot but repeat the suggestion made last evening, that we hope the direct trade will only be accepted upon the same terms of perfect reciprocity, which were insisted on by all preceding administrations. But that English ships shall be permitted to make the triangular voyage—that is, by sailing from Liverpool direct to the West Indies—from the West Indies to New York—and hence to Liverpool, freighted with our cotton, &c.; can never be allowed. The truth is, the loss of the British Colonial trade, is only *ideal*. The indirect trade, through the neutral islands, is in truth more profitable than the direct would be, if the carrying is to be divided between British and American bottoms. The British colonies must have our produce; and they do have it. And if we have not the advantage of *direct* voyages, the American ship owner has the advantage of *the whole* instead of *half* of the West India trade.

The National Debt is now about 58 millions. Seven millions of this, however, should be deducted, as it is owing the United States Bank, which owes the Government the same sum. The real debt, therefore, is little more than 40 millions. We can spare 12 millions a year, easy, to paying it—so that, presently, we shall be out of debt and have a large income. After reducing the duties, as far as is consistent with the protection necessary to our own products of the field or workshops, we shall still have a rich revenue to spare of at least ten millions of dollars a year. What shall we do with it? Shall it be divided among the States? If so, by what ratio? by the number of the free white inhabitants? by the Federal numbers, that is, the white inhabitants adding 3-5th of the Slaves? or by the Representation in Congress—Senate and House included? A great question is about to rise, which will create keen interest.

The National Debt paid, and more revenue than we know what to do with the United States would present a spectacle of wonder to the world.

Would it not be best, after all, to regard the Constitutionality of making Internal Improvements as settled, and to go on and improve effectually, the internal condition of the country; aiding the States in their plans of improvement? In this way the money could be most beneficially applied.

[Village Record.

The re-publication in Baltimore of the following account of a robbery, extracted from the Leicester (Eng.) Chronicle, may be of service, if the *checks*, by which, we suppose, are meant certificates of deposite, should ever find their way across the Atlantic and be presented for payment.

Mr. Nathaniel Payne, formerly of Hinckley, but latterly of America, having been on a visit to his friends at Hinckley, set out from that place on his return to the United States, on the 6th Nov. Meeting with an agreeable sort of acquaintance on the coach, he was prevailed on, when he got to Birmingham, to spend the night at the Lion and Lamb public house, where there was to be found good and cheap accommodation, instead of going to an inn which was expensive. Having partaken of some refreshment, his new acquaintance proposed that they should take a glass of gin and water before they parted, and, by way of passing the evening more agreeably, introduced a friend to join them, who, it was said, was going to Liverpool, and would be pleasant company for Mr. Payne.

At length, having separated for the day, Mr. Payne retired to bed, and slept very soundly till five o'clock in the evening, when he found that his pretended friends had disencumbered him of one hundred and thirty-five sovereigns, (part of which, for greater safety, was secreted in a belt that went round his body,) his watch, and two checks for money, one deposited in the Maryland Bank, at Baltimore, and the other in the Savings' Institution, at the same place. The consternation which his loss occasioned when he awoke, we will not attempt to describe. It must suffice to state, that his kind friends were no where to be found, and that the want of pecuniary means to prosecute his journey obliged him to return to Hinckley, where he remained till Sunday last, when he again set out in a coach for Liverpool.—'Much,' adds our informant 'is said of the deceit or villainy of the Yankees, but I think they can't excel this act.'

Police.—PRECOCIOUS VILLAINY.

Two little boys, one aged seven, the other eight years, were apprehended yesterday, on a charge of having a few days since broken a pane of glass, in the window of Mr. Marquand's jewellery store, in Broadway, and taken therefrom a suit of pearl and diamonds—consisting of a broach, ear-rings and bracelets, valued at about 170 dollars.—The whole of the property was found, and had been secreted in different parts of the city. A part was found in a yard in Reed street; and what is very remarkable, in the same hole in which it was deposited, was found the key of Mr. Marquand's store, which was stolen about two years ago. The magistrates contemplate sending the infantine culprits to the House of Refuge

[N. Y. Gaz.

HORSE POWER.

We every day hear of Steamboats and manufactories having engines of perhaps 20, 30, or 40 horse power; but as there probably may be among our readers some who do not precisely comprehend what that power means, we beg leave to explain the subject as it is now understood. The power of a horse is considered to be that which will elevate a weight of 33,000 lbs. the height of one foot in a minute of time, equal to about 90lbs. at the rate of four miles an hour. (Aother estimate reduces this to only 22,000lbs. raised one foot high in a minute, equivalent to 100 lbs. 2½ miles per hour.) This is a force greater than that exerted by a common cart horse, which is not estimated at more than 70 lbs. that is to say, that a horse harnessed to a cart, weighing, with its load, 40 cwt. or two tons, and drawing, on a level road, at the rate of four miles an hour, make use of the force as if his traces, instead of being fastened to a cart, were passed over a pully, and lifted perpendicularly a weight of 70lbs. The expression of the power of the steam engine in horses' powers is consequently more practical than scientific. It was introduced when steam engines first began to supersede horse mills, when the manufacturer naturally inquired, how many horses a steam-engine would dispense with.

[Liverpool Albion.

NEW YORK CANAL TOLLS.

It appears from the Report of Mr. Staats, Canal Collector at Albany, that the whole quantity of down freight upon which toll is charged by the town, that was conveyed on the Erie and Champlain canals to Albany, during the season of canal navigation, in the year 1829, amounts to seventy-five thousand five hundred tons. The flour amounts to 2[illegible] bls. Ashes, 18,558 do. Whiskey, 19,194 bls. and 3,744 hhds. Salt, 39,218 bushels.

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