NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER,

AND

WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

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WASHINGTON CITY.

MONDAY, October 24.

Columbian Academy,
Oct. 12, 1803.

The Scholars belonging to the Columbian Academy in George Town are divided into four Divisions for public speaking, to exhibit monthly. This afternoon at 4 o'clock, a number of well-chosen Orations were delivered to a polite and attentive audience by the 2d Division. The speakers were Lewis P. W. Balch, Richard B. Dorsey, Benj. Bohrer, Thomas Magruder, George Templeman, William Mecklin, James Corcoran, Thomas Corcoran, John Traverse, Samuel Magruder, Richard Polkinghorne, Benj. Harbaugh, Jos. Clarke, Joseph Semmes, Wm. Worthington, John Hyde, Henry Gosler and Charles Worthington. Several Gentlemen of considerable literary acquirements attended the exhibition and were highly pleased. Some of the last speakers that appeared on the stage, and who are here first mentioned delivered themselves with peculiar ease, propriety and animation. They felt their subject and made their hearers feel.

This Academy is now and has been for some years past, under the direction of the revd. David Wiley. There are about seventy five scholars at present attached to this institution. Upwards of 30 of them are studying the Latin and Greek languages—The present building could accommodate about a hundred. The branches taught in this seminary, in addition to the learned languages, are reading, writing, English grammar, arithmetic, Geography, mathematics, &c. Suitable teachers are always retained for the instruction of the pupils, & globes, maps, and various mathematical instruments are provided.

Boarding may be had in Georgetown on reasonable terms.

We the subscribers, most chearfully & heartily recommend it to Parents and Guardians of youth to send their sons and wards to this rising Seminary, being assured that the greatest attention will be paid both to their education and morals.

Stephen B. Balch. John Crookshank,
Charles H. Beatty, John Ott,
James Melone, Tho. Corcoran,
John Travers Wm. H. Dorsey,
Elisha Riggs.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

We have not hitherto noticed the improvements which have been carried on in this city during the past season, in consequence of the appropriation of 50,000 dollars, made last session. The meeting of Congress having put a stop, for the present, to the further progress of the work, it may not be uninteresting to our readers at a distance, to know in what manner this money has been applied: we have therefore endeavored by diligent enquiry to collect correct information on this subject.

Ever since the removal of the sittings of Congress from Philadelphia to this city, the Senate have occupied their own Chamber in the North wing of the Capitol, the only part of this building which has been tolerably completed. In this wing the offices of the House of Representatives have also been kept; a part of it has been appropriated to the use of the courts of justice of the district and of the United States. Of the wing intended for the future accommodation of the House of Representatives, the lower walls of the exterior were carried up about 10 feet above the natural surface of the ground; and the lower part of the internal area of the hall raised to the heighth of about 20 feet. Over this area, which is of an eliptical form, a temporary roof had been erected so as render it capable of accommodating the members with tolerable convenience, though at a very great distance from their offices in the North wing.

In this state the work remained at the close of the session, when Mr. Latrobe, of Philadelphia, was appointed to the direction of the public buildings. In the month of April he began to make the necessary arrangements for compleating the South wing of the building.

On examining the walls it was found necessary to pull down the whole of them. For though above 5 feet thick, and to appearance strong, they consisted of two external casings of thin masonry, inclosing small stones and rubbish loosely thrown in, with scarcely any adhesion; and so extremely bad were the materials, that they could be of little use, even in rebuilding the work in a more solid manner. That part of the building in which the House are accommodated, and which is part of the design, and ought to have been so much done towards its completion, was found, on opening the walls for examination, to have been executed in the same manner. But as it was absolutely necessary, if possible, to preserve this part of the work during the present session: it has been suffered to remain standing, though cracked and spread to a considerable extent; and it has been secured by strong timber, in such a way that, no possible danger need be apprehended.

Another circumstance also delayed the commencement of the work. A considerable mass of foundation wall had been laid down, in no way corresponding to the wing already built, which in its external appearance, at least the new wing, must be an exact copy. All this work was taken up; and the exterior walls being removed, the whole has been rebuilt in the most solid manner, & of the best materials which could be procured. In the opinion of good judges, no public work in America promises more permanence than that which has been here erected.

Upon the new foundation walls, the superstructure of the wing in freestone has proceeded up to two-thirds of the height of the lower story, in the same style of execution.

We understand that this work would have made much greater progress, had it been possible, with the greatest exertion, to procure a sufficient supply of freestone from the quarries at Acquia during this season. But the long intermission of the public works, and the short notice at which they were resumed, render much preparation necessary. We hope that during the ensuing winter, steps will be taken to prevent any delay arising from this cause.

In the north wing means have been used to render the Senate chamber warm: for during the severest days of last winter it was almost impossible to hold the session on account of the extreme cold. Air and light have also been admitted into the cellar story; and such parts of the floor as had given way on account of defective construction, or had decayed by confined and foul air, have been rendered perfectly safe.—It appears that much improvement may yet be made in this wing for the better accommodation of the house.

Although the late appropriation contemplated the completion to a certain extent of the President's house, we understand that nothing has been laid out in that building, excepting in putting up the stair-case, finishing an additional bed-chamber, in digging a new well, and in some repairs to the roof,—the leakiness of which has already damaged several of the walls, and injured the furniture.

The road between the public buildings, along the Pennsylvania Avenue, has been put into the best repairs,—foot-ways have been made along the south side, and, what was almost as necessary as the repair of the road—poplars have been planted to shade it along its whole length.

FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

To the SENATE of the United States.

Louisiana contains all the variety of climates in the United States, and extends further south, and northward indefinitely. No country enlightened by the sun has a better soil to expose to its rays; or a soil capable of higher cultivation, or of richer or greater variety of produce.

No country is better accommodated with springs, brooks, rivers and navigable waters and waters for mill seats, forges and furnaces. It is also well supplied with mines of iron, lead, copper, and the more precious metals. There are also salt-springs, and in the interior of that country there is an extensive mountain of salt;—the very surface is said to be so salt, that it produces no vegetables.—This lies in the midst of an extensive country of the best soil in the world, between latitude 34 and 38.—

This country also grows the same timber trees with the United States, and live oak and red cedar in abundance. There are large settlements in this country besides New Orleans. On the bay of Mexico, south of New-Orleans, there is an extensive settlement by Americans, Spaniards, French and others. That settlement produces cotton, indigo, corn and cattle in abundance for the New Orleans market They can also grow the sugar cane and the coffee-tree.

There are also settlements on the rivers, St. Francis, the Red river, the river Adayes, the Black river, the river Arbenassau, and the Missouri, all navigable rivers of great extent. It is said that on the river Missouri, about sixteen hundred miles from New-Orleans, there is a settlement in which there are nearly 3000 Americans: there they raise hemp, flax, corn and cattle in the greatest abundance. There are also several considerable towns on the Mississippi, which include both sides of that river for 240 miles up it, which may contend with the south of France, or the most beautiful parts of Europe, in the elegance of particular seats and gardens, the cultivation of the plantations and the delightfulness of situations and landscapes. Here we find are the different produce mentioned above, and progress has been made in growing the sugar-cane;—they already make annually about five thousand hogsheads of sugar, each containing one thousand pounds.

The writer of these notes has traversed the lands and waters, and seen many settlements of that country. He has contemplated with amazement its goodness, its extent, and its population;—he has seen upwards of 120 sail of vessels lying at one time in the port of New-Orleans. Such, Americans, is the price put into your hands, if you have hearts to improve it.—Such is the country, almost equalling your own, which your rulers have obtained for you, without war, without bloodshed, availing themselves of the folly of others.

The southern boundary of Louisiana on the gulph of Mexico, and the western on unpassable mountains, will improve the present boundaries of the United States in that quarter. The great river Mississippi is better calculated to draw people together than to separate them;—that must be incessantly filled with the vessels of all nations—nothing short of a chain of forts, and an extensive military establishment, could insure that tranquility which is now secured by the nature of the new boundaries.

The located and improved lands in and about New Orleans, and other parts of that country, and the public buildings and works belonging to the king of Spain heretofore, will now fall into the hands and management of Congress, and will be of very great value. The natives are thinly scattered over that country, and it is presumable that their claim might be extinguished for a small matter, and 3,360,000 farms of 160 acres each—the estimated contents of Louisiana—30,000,000 acres of these new lands would produce to the treasury of the United States an incalculable sum of money.

It need only be further suggested, which must occur to every body, that in looking forward only a few years, Louisiana may well be estimated a fifth part of the great American Republic; and when a fifth part of our revenue shall be raised in that district, a fifth part of the present national debt will be lightened from the shoulders of the present United States, and fixed on the district of Louisiana, so that the fifteen millions purchase money will be repaid to us in the improved lands and buildings now there, in the sale of the new lands, and in the assumption of a rateable share of the present debt by that district. Warriors may prefer a title acquired by arms, and hungry contractors, and men of desperate fortunes may clamour for war—but war gives no title;—it may give possession; but a title can only be acquired by the contract which makes peace; this is more costly and less safe than a title acquired by a contract which prevents war. Emigrations have been and will continue from the United States to the Louisiana country, let who will rule it. Those emigrations heretofore injurious will in future be beneficial to the United States;—that country will supply us with the few articles wanted to complete our independence. Materials for ship building are there inexhaustible—the live-oak, the red cedar, and the forests of that country will secure us against the fear of diminishing the timber trees on the Atlantic shores. The flax and hemp of that country too will supply us for use and for exportation. The hardy race of mortals which will continue and multiply in the eastern States will furnish seamen, mechanics and artificers, while our ships and their cargoes, even for the Indies, may be furnished from Louisiana, and New-Orleans become the greatest MART on the continent.

A PEACE-MAKER.

Providence, Oct. 4, 1803.

For the National Intelligencer.

I shall make no apology for noticing a publication which appeared in the Washington Federalist of Monday last; being an extract from a paper of Newbury Port, in the state of Massachusetts; wherein the Editor has been pleased to observe an address to the voters of St. Mary's county. With all due respect to the opinion of Mr. Editor, I still contend, that an open appeal to the virtuous example of a man, must be far more impressive than the bare supposition of his evil designs. The most unerring testimony of the rectitude of a government is the happiness of the people; and the greatest attestation of the merits of the Governor, the approbation of the governed. Where integrity has never been openly tellified, a doubt whether we should ever witness its operation, although ungenerous, yet cannot be deemed criminal. But when the cogency of experience has no longer left us room to doubt or to fear, it is equally absurd and ridiculous to advance the feeble efficacy of conjecture, against the irresistible power of positive proof; and to attempt by the magic of implication to draw a conclusion so manifestly unjust, that the most credulous can never stoop to believe.

Evasively, to treat of the present administration has never been intended by any, but such as are confounded by the uprightness of its measures—The greatest beauty of its proceedings can alone be seen upon a close examination; where they only diminish in the sight of those who have neither penetration to discern, nor candour to acknowledge their merits—Barely to assert without the possibility of proof, advances but a few strides towards the goal of credibility. Mr. Editor after complaining that declamation has been used by the Republican party in the place of solid fact; so far neglects what he thinks so highly necessary, that in the next line he comes forward with six successive charges; but without the smallest shadow of evidence to support these accusations which he vainly wishes the public to believe—In order to shew that the government was injudiciously and corruptly administered, he should have given us at least a single instence of public oppression or injustice. There is nothing more easy than by malicious insinuations, to rouse general apprehensions. But impressions like these, must be as transitory as they are unfounded. Like bubbles on the surface of the water they rise and depart, without leaving a single vestige of their momentary existance.—The federal presses have been particularly unfortunate. Equally skilled in foretelling what would come to pass, and representing as fact, what never happened, neither the genius of divination has aught availed them: nor has the spirit of falsehood wrought the mighty miracles intended. To accomplish their purposes the sanctity of private character has been profaned, and the dignity of official pre-eminence has been wounded by the foul shafts of the most inveterate malignity.

But happily the noble deeds of our sages will outlive the reproaches of their enemies; and an admiring posterity cannot fail to draw just inferences from their conduct, and not from description. The friends of the opposition, from being the supporters of political opression, have become the loudest advocates for justice and mercy. They mourn over the reliques of our violated constitution; they bewail the departed spirit of the beneficent judiciary: and humanely sympathize in the distresses of their discarded and fallen associates—There was a period when this ardour of commiseration would have done honor to the goodness of their hearts; for it would have been an expression of sorrow for the real miseries of their fellow beings, and not an empty lamentation over the mouldering tomb of martyred federalism.

Were we to judge from the heart-rending complaints against government, we should imagine ourselves on the brink of approaching dissolution. No measure is honest: no scheme rightly designed, or properly executed: On every side is seen confusion, darkness and dismay. These are the gloomy tokens of wounded reputation; the unmanly and sordid revenge of blasted ambition.—It is a truth which cannot be denied, that those convulsions in a state which do not affect the repose of the people must be inconsiderably small—As soon as a disease attacks the vitals of government, its whole frame is quickly debilitated. The peple need only look at their own situation to be assured of the equity of the laws, and the good conduct of their rulers.

Are they oppressed and enslaved? then there is a defect in government which it is their duty to remove. But are they protected in the enjoyment of every estimable privilege? Are they contented and happy? Then those laws which govern them are just; and those magistrates they have appointed to enforce them, have never violated that solemn duty which they owe to the majesty of the people. It was never the object of my humble labours to impose vague assertions upon the people, unsupported by the powerful aid of reality. The justice of every word must come home to themselves. They feel too sensibly the alleviation of taxes, and the restoration of their rights to wish a return of that reign of terror, which increased the former, and deprived them of the exercise of the latter. Since they are free, it will be impossible for federal ingenuity to make them think themselves slaves; but I will not say that federal measures could not reduce them to an equally deplorable situation.

JUVENIS.

TRIAL OF EDWARD KEARNEY,

FOR HIGH TREASON.

Dublin, Sept. 1.

Yesterday sat at Green street, pursuant to adjournment, at which lord Norbury, Mr. Justice Finucane, Barons George and Daly, presided.

Edward Kearney was the first prisoner put upon the trial. He was indicted for high treason, in levying war against the king; the overt acts were, assembling with others in arms on the 23 day of July, and attacking the king's troops.

After several challenges, a most respectable jury was sworn, to whom the prisoner was given in charge.—The following are the names of the jury:

Richard Allen, Foreman,
Robert Henry French,
James Walsot Fitzgerald,
William Snell Magee,
John Halpen,
William Mocree,
John Duncan,
Godfrey Burne,
Richard Davidson,
Thomas Conner,
William Stanford,
Thomas Kinder, Esq.

His Majesty's Attorney General, in a speech of great eloquence and learning, stated the case against the prisoner.

Patrick M'Cabe, the first witness sworn, that he lived in Francis street, where he carried on the trade of a calendar man—that on the 23d of July last, he was with a number of others, in Thomas-street—he had heard the day before that a *rising* was to take place that night between 9 and 10 o'clock; he was informed on the morning of the 23d, that the plan was to assemble in a field near the canal, to attack the artillery barracks at island bridge, and get possession of the arms, artillery, and ammunition, then to seize the magazine in the park, in order to obtain the gun powder, then to attack the castle of Dublin on Ship-street side; he met the persons who gave him this information by appointment; they directed him to go to Ramsford-street about 9 o'clock, which he did—he had received a blunderbuss about 6, and went thus armed to his post, where he remained about three quarters of an hour, during which a number of persons passed him armed with pikes, and going towards Thomas-street—several passed also unarmed.—He went to Thomas-street where he heard persons calling to know where the arms were—they were answered by a person, who said that if they went with him they should get arms—witness, said he had no ammunition, when a person gave him ball cartridge, about forty rounds.—the crowd went through Marshall-alley to Dirty-lane, to get arms; where the witness saw a number of pikes, which the men took up; they returned to Thomas-street where they stopped a carriage; a tall slender man came out of it with a box and trunk; witness cried out "they were looking for liberty, not for plunder;" the crowd went then to Vicar-street to attack the watch-house and to get the arms; they went towards the Combe, when the Combe guard fired upon them, most of the mob ran away; witness saw no more of them, but returned to Francis-street about one o'clock, and was taken by justice Drury as he was waiting to get into his own house.

Cross examined by Mr. C. Ball.—Was concerned in the rebellion of 179[illegible]—had often conferred with the persons concerned in that rebellion respecting