porting among them commodities loaded, with domestic [illegible]ntics, was at length abandoned. Something like a better system has succeeded. Regulations have been formed, according to which, altho' at times and under increasing prices, increasing portions of the drawback on sugars may be retained, yet, in compensation for this, it is with some apparent fairness provided, that in other cases a bounty shall be superadded when the prices fall beyond a certain point. There is, indeed, in the ascending scale of bounties but one solitary step of compensation, whilst in the descending the drawbacks are diminished through many and various degrees of decline, into total extinction. All assurance also is suspended, as to the permanent benefits of this arrangement by its limited existence, and consequent dependance upon uncertain opinions, and upon political events and combinations yet more uncertain.

"From discussions of this sort, all questions of finance ought upon principle to be excluded. Whatever sacrifices commerce may make to navigation, she should make none to revenue."

Readers who prefer instruction to amusement will set a high value on the present pamphlet; and the superior orders of persons will discern in it much of that accuracy and precision, which men of scientific views and habits sometimes happily introduce into the treatment of subjects on which moral probabilities are alone concerned. We take leave of it with the acknowledgment that it has highly gratified and instructed us; and we cordially recommend it to the attentive perusal of all who are possessed of either commercial or political influence.

WASHINGTON CITY.

WEDNESDAY, July 17.

The President of the United States left this city on Monday on a visit to Monticello.

By a circular letter from the Secretary of State dated on the 12th July, 1805, the Consuls and Commercial Agents of the U. States are instructed to forbear to issue any certificate whatever relative to purchases of foreign vessels by citizens of the U. States, except to such persons as may satisfy the Consuls and Commercial Agents, that the purchase was made without knowing this alteration in their instructions; and they are also restrained from allowing the exception itself after the expiration of two months from the date of the advertisement they are directed to publish of this instruction.

On Monday at an election held by the Contributors to the Permanent Institution for the Education of youth in the City of Washington, the following citizens were duly chosen Trustees for the ensuing year.

Samuel H. Smith,
William Cranch,
Gabriel Duvall,
Thomas Munroe,
Robert Brent,
Thomas Tingey.

The entire board consists of Thirteen Trustees; and the remaining seven are to be elected by the Council on Monday next.

William Brent is appointed Clerk of the Circuit Court, in the room of General Forrest deceased.

A letter from Captain Meriwether Lewis to the President of the United States.

Fort Mandan, April 7th, 1805.

Dear Sir,

HEREWITH inclosed you will receive an invoice of certain articles, which I have forwarded to you from this place; among other articles you will observe by reference to the invoice 67, specimens of earths, salts, minerals, and 60 specimens of plants; these are accompanied by their respective labels, expressing the days on which they were obtained, the places where found, and also, their virtues, and properties when known; by means of these labels, reference may be made to the chart of the Missouri, forwarded to the Secretary of War; on which the encampment of each day has been carefully marked; thus the places at which these specimens have been obtained may be easily pointed out and again found should any of them prove valuable to the community on further investigation.

You will herewith also receive a part of Captain Clark's private journal, the other part you will find inclosed in a separate tin box. This journal will serve to give you the daily details of our progress, and transactions.

I shall dispatch a canoe with three, perhaps four persons, from the extreme navigable point on the Missouri or the portage between this river and the Columbia river, as either may first happen; by the return of this canoe I shall send you my journal and some one or two of the best kept by my men. I have sent a journal kept by one of the sergeants to Captain Stoddert at Fort Lewis, in order as much as possible to multiply the chances of saving something, we have encouraged our men to keep journals, and seven of them do so; to whom in this respect we give every assistance in our power.

I have transmitted to the Secretary at War every information relative to the Geography of the country we possess, together with a view of the Indian nations, containing information relative to them, on those points with which I conceived it important the government should be informed.

By reference to the muster rolls forwarded to the War Department, you will see the state of the party; in addition to which we have two interpreters, one negro man servant to Captain Clarke and one Indian women, wife to one of the interpreters, and a Mandan man, whom we take with a view to restore peace between the Snake Indians and those in this neighbourhood, amounting in total with ourselves to 33 persons; by means of the interpreters and Indians we shall be enabled probably to converse with all the Indians we shall meet on the Missouri. I have forwarded to the Secretary at War, my public accounts rendered up to the present day; they have been much longer delayed than I had any idea that they would have been when we departed from the Illinois; but this delay under the circumstances which I was compelled to act, has been unavoidable. The provision perogue and her crew could not have been dismissed in time to have returned to St. Louis, last fall, without evidently in my opinion hazarding the fate of the interprise in which I am engaged, and I therefore did not hesitate to prefer the censure that I may have incurred, by the detention of these papers, to that of risquing in any degree the success of the expedition. The detention of these papers has been a source of serious disquiet and anxiety to me, and the recollection of your particular charge upon that subject, has made it still more poignant. I am fully aware of the inconveniences which must have arisen to the War Department from the want of these vouchers, previous to the last session of Congress; but how to avert it was out of my power to devise. From this place we shall send the Barge and crew early to-morrow morning, with orders to proceed as expeditiously as possible to St. Louis, by her we send our dispatches, which I trust will get safe to hand; her crew consists of ten able bodied men, well armed, and provided with a sufficient stock of provisions to last them to St. Louis; I have but little doubt they will be fired on by the Siouxs, but they have pledged themselves to us that they will not yield, while there is a man of them living. Our baggage is all embarked on board six small canoes, and two perogues; we shall set out at the same moment that we dispatch the barge, one or perhaps both of these perogues we shall leave at the falls of the Missouri; from whence we intend continuing our voyage in the canoes and a perogue of skins, the frame of which was prepared at Harpers Ferry. This perogue is now in a situation that will enable us to prepare it in the coures of a few hours; as our vessels are now small, and the current of the river more moderate, we calculate on travelling 20 or 23 miles per day, as far as the falls of the Missouri; beyond this point, or the first range of rocky mountains, situated about 100 miles farther, any calculation with respect to our daily progress can be little more than bare conjecture. The circumstance of the Snake Indians possessing large stocks of horses, is much in our favor, as by means of horses the transportation of our baggage will be rendered easy and expeditious over land from the Missouri to the Columbia river. Should this river not prove navigable where we first meet with it, our present intention is to continue our march down the river, until it becomes so, or to the Pacific Ocean. The map which has been forwarded to the Secretary at War, will give you the idea we entertain of the connection between these rivers, which has been formed from the corresponding testimony of a number of Indians, who have visited that country, and who have been separately and carefully examined on that subject, we therefore think it intitled to some degree of confidence. Since our arrival at this place, we have subsisted principally on meat; with which our guns have supplied us amply, and have thus been enabled to reserve the parched meal, portable soup and a considerable proportion of pork and flour, which we had intended for the more difficult parts of our voyage. If Indian information can be credited, the vast quantities of game with which the country abounds, through which we are to pass, leaves us but little to apprehend from the want of food. We do not calculate on completing our voyage within the present year, but expect to reach the Pacific Ocean and return as far as the head of the Missouri, or perhaps to this place before winter. You may therefore expect me to meet you at Monticello, in September 1806. On our return we shall probably pass down Yellow Stone river, which from Indian information, waters one of the fairest portions of our continent. I can foresee no material or probable obstruction to our progress, and entertain therefore the most sanguine hopes of complete success. As to myself, individually, I never enjoyed better health, than I have since we commenced our voyage. My inestimable friend and companion Captain Clark, has also enjoyed good health generally; at this moment every individual of the party is in good health and excellent spirits, zealously attached to the enterprise, and anxious to proceed; not a whisper of discontent, or murmur is to be heard among them, but all in unison act with the most perfect harmony. With such men I have every thing to hope and but little to fear.

We have at length the satisfaction of presenting our Paper in a new dress, after experiencing no inconsiderable disappointment in our arrangements.—The species of new type, principally relied upon, being much smaller than that previously used, will enable us, on extraordinary occasions, to offer a larger mass of matter than it has heretofore been in our power to do.

It may not be altogether useless to avail ourselves of this occasion, to remark that the same principles, that have, from the commencement of the National Intelligencer to the present day, guided the Editor, will continue to be observed. It has been his effort by the diffusion of facts and correct political sentiments to enlighten the public mind, and to fortify the convictions of his fellow citizens in favor of their republican institutions. Sincerely believing that their happiness depends upon the establishment of these institutions and on their correct administration, he has been persuaded that the people of America only require information to think and to act correctly. It has been his ambition to make his Press the vehicle of such information, in its most interesting forms.

There is one topic which may, perhaps, on this occasion, justify a distinct notice. In several states, divisions having arisen among the republicans on subordinate points, the Editor determined, at an early day, to pass them over either lightly, or with entire silence. Various considerations led him to consider this not only as policy, but duty. Having full confidence in the ability of the republicans of the respective states to settle their differences more amicably without than with the interposition of others, it was thought most advisable to leave them to themselves, thus avoiding much of that inflammation which was likely to arise from an extension of their scisms. The great object of the National Intelligencer being to enforce the leading principles of republicanism, this abstinence was considered, and still is considered as no unimportant branch of Editorial duty. Fortunately, in all the cardinal points of republicanism, we are agreed; and it is universally acknowledged that the administration of the general government is admirably conducted for the maintenance of pure principles, and the peace and prosperity of the nation. To preserve this unity of sentiment and confidence unimpaired, so long as it is merited, is of all objects the greatest. This has been, and will continue to be, the polar star of the National Intelligencer. So long as it continues, liberty has nothing to fear from the assaults of its enemies, or the errors of its friends.

THERE is a curiosity, implanted by nature in the human mind, that prompts it to extend its views into future times, and to sketch in imagination the scenes that may then arise. Indulging this natural feeling, it may not be uninteresting, or even unprofitable, to contemplate the state of things which may exist a few years hence. There is no country on earth in which a short period will produce so striking a change.

The present population of the United States may be computed at six millions. In twenty-three years it will amount to twelve millions; in forty-six years to twenty four, and in seventy years, to fifty millions. Let us carry our minds forward to this period, and endeavour to delineate our situation at that period in other respects.

Assuming it as a fact that our wealth and resources will increase in the ratio of our numbers, it will be in the power of the general government, with as little burthen to the people as is imposed at present, to raise an annual revenue of eighty million of dollars, supposing specie not then to have depreciated, or a sum correspondently larger to its depreciation. At this period, unless some unexpected disaster should occur, or we should fall into some egregious folly, we may calculate upon there being no national debt; and consequently upon the ability of the government to devote the whole of the revenue raised to objects of immediate and present utility.

It is probable that with the extinguishment of the debt, the people will be released from a large part of their present taxes. Say one half, and there will still remain a revenue of forty millions.

The lands belonging to the United States, will at this time, have become of great value, and it will not be extravagant to estimate them as producing annually ten millions.

On what object will this immmense treasure be disbursed?

The answer to this question is infinitely important.

The actual and necessary expences for the ordinary support of government cannot, on a liberal allowance, exceed five millions. The residue will establish a vast fund, whose direction will be productive of the greatest good or evil.

Three great objects, it would appear, will come into competition. Internal improvements, education, and a naval establishment. Either of these may absorb the whole, or it may be divided among them. There is no country on earth in which there can be a wider field for internal improvements; nor is there any country, in which greater political effects would probably flow from those improvements being carried on under the auspices of the general government. The great advantages resulting therefrom would be system, liberality, & economy. Canals would be cut and roads made not for local but for general purposes; the scale on which improvements were made would be munificent, and nothing being done unless recommended by general views and the general interest would insure the truest economy, that economy which steered clear of all waste of labor. The enevitable effect of such a plan pursued by the general government would be to make it dearer to the people, by uniting them to it by the strong ties of interest. Another effect, perhaps still more important, would be the intermixture of interests that would arise among the remote parts of the union by an interchange of their commodities, and an association of their citizens. No causes more auspicious to harmony, and the indissolubility of the union can be conceived.

Forty-five millions of dollars annually expended would defray the expence of making ten thousand miles of turnpike road, and twelve hundred miles of canal navigation. Such a sum, applied for a term of twenty years, would establish turnpikes of two hundred thousand miles in extent, and canals twenty-four thousand miles in extent. Supposing the populated part of the United States to embrace at this period a district of a thousand miles square, we should have turnpike roads, passing, in the direction of East and West, from one end of the district to the other, in parallel lines, at the distance of ten miles from each other, intersected by similar and equidistant roads in the direction of North and South. And, thus, there will be no part of this immense district, that will not be approached by a turnpike within the distance of five miles, while the greater part of it will be much nearer, and one half within one mile and a half. This will appear evident, when it is considered that the effect of the above roads would be to divide the whole country into plots of ten miles square, on each side of which there will pass a turnpike. The centre of these plots will be exactly five miles from the roads, and just as you recede from the centre, you will necessarily approach one or the other of them.

We shall also have canals, passing in the direction of East and West, from one end of the district to the other in parallel lines, at the distance of about eighty miles from each other, intersected by similar and equidistant canals in the direction of North and South. When the term *parallel lines* is used, it is only for the purpose of giving a general view of the distances of the canals from each other, as it would not probably be practicable to carry them far either in straight or parallel lines. In this case no part of the district would be more than forty miles from canal navigation, while one half of it would be within ten miles, and one fourth within five miles.

The effects of such an arrangement in increasing intercourse would be astonishing. Every part of the country would be enabled to carry its productions to market. In the first instance the turnpike would be easily approached, and that once gained, a few miles travelling would reach a canal, whence, at a very trifling expence, productions could be carried to some great commercial or manufacturing deposit. The necessary effect would be the production in each district of country of those articles for which the soil and climate would be most favorable; and the interchange of these for productions most congenial to other districts. By these means the whole productive faculties of the nation would be embarked and directed in the most useful channels, and it is no extravagant computation to suppose that one half the labor now used in the production of a given quantity of consumable matter would be competent to it.

Another great object to which the resources of the United States may be applied is education. I am aware, that on this subject there is much diversity of opinion, as well on the abstract propriety of governmental interference, as on the constitutional power of Congress to interfere. With regard to the latter difficulty, if it has any force, it may easily be overcome. The constitution itself, being subject to amendment, may be modified so as the most efficaciously in this respect to advance the general welfare; and if, hereafter, it shall be found that a system of general education would be best promoted by being placed under the auspices of the general government, there would probably be but little difficulty, in so modifying the power, as to guard it against all apprehended abuses. If the power shall be considered dangerous, when exclusively placed in the hands of the general government, provision may be made for its exercise being entrusted to the state governments, or to bodies independent both of the general and state governments, and the government of the United States be alone under the obligation of raising and investing the revenues destined for this object.

With regard to the abstract propriety of governmental interposition, it is probable the ultimate decision of this point will depend upon the modes devised for its exercise. If plans can be devised so unexceptionable, as to admit the great benefits that would inevitably flow from such a direction of the national resources, while they excluded the leading evils apprehended from it, it may rationally be expected that popular favor would gradually attach itself to it, whatever preconceived prejudices may have existed.

Supposing such a plan to be approved, how competent would the resources of the United States be to carry it into effect? The answer is easy. Forty-five annual millions would be more than competent to the most extensive and munificent plan which has ever been suggested, as well for the purpose of extending to the whole community the benefits of education, as for fostering the most splendid establishments for the encouragement of the arts and sciences. Such a plan, once established, and wisely directed, we might consider the republic as placed on an imperishable foundation. Other free states have been eternally exposed to the collisions of factions, until they have been shaken to their centres, good men been driven from the administration of their governments, and power been usurped by tyrants and demagogues. Whence has this arisen but from the ignorance of the great body of the people, who have, unreflectingly suffered themselves to be made the instruments of designing and unprincipled men? Take away this ignorance, give the people, in its room, knowledge and vigilance, and the greatest danger to which liberty has been, or can be exposed, is removed. Who, too, can estimate the effecs of such a plan in adding to the comfort, and increasing the elegancies and refinements of social enjoyment. Science would lift her head to prouder heights than have ever heretofore been reached, and the arts could not fail to flourish with unprecedented luxuriancy! Our institutions, our habits, and our country would attract the attention, command the homage, and secure the imitation of an admiring world. The grandeur of power, founded on the affections of the people, and constantly diffusing happiness among them, would blaze with more captivating splendours, than have ever irradiated the thrones of tyrants! Feeling, fashion, interest and good sense would surround such a government with ramparts unassailable by hostility; and could any human institutions lay claim to immortality, such institutions might.

It would betray an ignorance of the human heart, to hope, that centuries hence our manners will continue as simple as they now are. Luxury will keep pace with our growth; and he is a wise man, who, instead of attempting altogether to check its progress, devises the best way of directing its course; thus, disarming it of many of its deleterious properties, and rendering it the cause, in many respects, of positive blessings.

We are here then presented with two vast objects, not incompatible with, but promotive of each other, which must in future times from their great utility, and from their intimate connection with our peculiar ideas and the structure of our governments, lay claim to serious attention. Will they receive that attention which shall hereafter entitle them to be considered as radical and inherent features of national policy? Happy for America, happy for the world, happy for the cause of liberty and truth, if this shall be the case! Then, indeed, we may hope that America will run a different race from the great nations that have preceded her; that her ways will be those of peace; and that the numerous millions within her limits will attain and preserve the largest measures of felicity that are allotted to mortals.

But should a different destiny hang over our country; should her carreer develope the triumph of power over right, of strength over justice, of ambition over patriotism, then has the world, the cause of virtue, and of liberty every thing to dread from the colossal giant of the new world. Commensurate to her strength will be her schemes of ambition and conquest. Resistance will only consolidate her energies, and render the fate of vanquished nations and extinguished empires more humiliating. War will light her lurid torch, and disorder fill the universe.

It is not difficult to foresee that, under such views, a navy would become the mighty instrument of aggrandisement and terror; and should such views prevail, it is equally clear that all plans for internal improvement, for general education and the advancement of the arts and sciences would give way to the embodying a great warlike force. To this the resources of the United States would be fully adequate. A navy composed of two hundred ships of the line might be created, which, growing with her numbers and resources, would not fail to command the empire of the seas.

What would be the effects of such an establishment upon other nations, and what would be its effect on ourselves?

To suppose that such a mighty engine of power, uncontrollable by others, would adhere to the rigid principles of justice, and confine its energies to the redressing of wrong and maintaining right, would be to indulge Eutopian weakness, and to supplant for the uninterrupted experience of history the visions of romance. Occasions would arise, and they would be seized with eagerness, for curbing and eventually crushing every rival interest. If successful, they would not fail to be as ruinous to the victor as vanquished; for that power which had proved irresistible on the ocean, and in warfare with foreign powers, would be turned with augmented force, when it ceased to have external enemies, upon the liberties of the country to which it owed its birth. The issue would be no less certain and awful than that so frequently found on the records of history. If unsuccessful, a protracted, perhaps ceaseless war would be waged with the other parts of the world. Nations, feeble in themselves, would be driven into a confederacy terminable only with the cause that produced it. One thing is indisputable. Vast, and almost boundless wealth would be exhausted in inflicting evils on the human race, instead of promoting their happiness.

Here then is presented to our view a picture of the future fate of our country, and of those distinctive traits which may hereafter characterise her policy. On the one hand, under a wise and benevolent direction, her resources may lift her to the most honorable elevation among nations, and may surround her with brighter and more durable glories than are recorded in the annals of time. While, on the other hand, the same resources, under a weak and vicious direction, will only carry her to that dangerous height, from which her fall and that of surrounding nations may be the more conspicuous and awful.

These views will teach us the infinite importance of correct views, even at the present day, as on the principles now established as the ground work of our future greatness, must eminently depend the stability of liberty, the duration and extension of our prosperity, and the general welfare of a large portion of mankind.

Philadelphia, July 12.

Don Joseph Cabrera has lately been tried before the Mayor's Court, and convicted of having counterfeited three checks on the bank of Pennsylvania, in the name of the Marquis Yruja, Spanish minister—we have not heard the sentence of the court.