

WASHINGTON CITY.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25.

The let mail from Fort Snodden brought us the following letter from a gentleman of the first respectability covering the subject of declaration of the American citizens at the Mobile—

LETTER.

"I know not whether amidst the multiplicity of publications of the same name the enclosed will be thought worthy of a place in your paper.

"My only apology, indeed, which I can suggest for expressing, on behalf of the people here, a wish that you would insert it is that the original character of our sentiment, (a very recent) our local situation, standing alone in a wild wilderness, and our unexampled commercial privations, will have given some little interest to the expression of our sentiments at the present momentous crisis."

It is not merely with pleasure, but with pride, that we comply with this request. The declaration of our fellow citizens on the Mobile will be read with a deep and affectionate interest throughout the U. States. The fidelity of the operations and the purity of the public virtue, shed a lustre on the American name, and will prove, if the fact goes any longer so fully established, that on the score of foreign origin we are not a divided people. It will prove that the American citizen, wherever or however situated, whether in the bosom of peace and prosperity, or exposed to the vicissitudes of war, as he ought, a supreme devotion to his country, as the seat of liberty, and as the sure asylum of virtue and merit.

We have been reproached with wanting a national character. But nothing can be less founded in fact. Because we have not initiated the turbulent and quarrelsome governments of Europe; because we have carried out for ourselves a far different course; because we have preferred peace to war, justice to injustice, the most unobscured simplicity to the republic to the false splendors of monarchy, we have been charged with a want of patriotism, and because, in establishing the virtues of hospitality, we have peacefully lavished attentions on foreigners, we have been stigmatized with being without respect for ourselves.

Let recent events decide the justness of these reproaches. Let the fire which now glows in every American breast from St. Mary's to Portsmouth be the criterion! Let the patriotic ardor felt on the Mobile decide!

Yes, we have a national character; but it is, thank God, far from a divided complexion from that which has hitherto marked the nations of the old world.

It does not consist in an exclusive devotion to the soil; in the prejudice that exists in the only country that is not a republic; in the labors of the husbandman; in the belief that we are the chosen people of a ruling and omnipotent deity; in the belief that we are an object of devotion to the universe; in an alien objection to this medium or to that folk, who rejoice in our independence; in the expression that our felicity depends on the injury or destruction of all other nations; in the consequent animosity to them. No—these are no ingredients in the national character of our Emerald Isle. Our national character excludes them all. But we have other and nobler materials.

We have a country, rich as nature has made it, not the least, as good as any on the globe; a country, which from the variety of its soils, hills, rivers, and the long and intersecting streams that wind in every direction, is fitted for the production of all the articles that administrators to the comfort of man.

We have a portion of information, which the means of traveling to us supplies to every other people.

We have a virtue, equal to that enjoyed by any of our contemporaries.

We have the benefit of political institutions never before enjoyed by any nation.

We have a government, which, from its nature, does not, and cannot oppress us.

We are exempt from every species of political or ecclesiastical tyranny. The only tax is free and equal, as the air.

Industry and ingenuity are unfettered, the field for their exertions un-

bounded, and the harvest secure. We are not a divided people, and we are not a greater rapidly than any other nation has risen.

These are the sources of this elevation are within ourselves.

We are consequently the friends of all who are so situated as to be in our lawful pursuits, and our predominant feeling towards the whole world is that of good will.

These are the materials of which our national character is formed, a character, great, dignified, and imposing, inasmuch as it is founded exclusively on truth and virtue; a character, at which no American need blush, however it may cover with blushes the faces of his enemies. This digression requires no apology. The proceedings on the Mobile follow:

THE DECLARATION OF THE WISCONSIN CITIZENS ON THE MOBILE, WITH RELATION TO BRITISH AGGRESSIONS.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of Washington county, in the Mississippi territory, at the court house, in the town of Waukegan, on the 6th of Sept. 1857: A. C. ... by the British ship of war ...

Situated in a remote corner of the territory, which is not and unconnected with every other body of American citizens, the people inhabiting the country of the Mississippi and the Mobile, have at length heard of the outrage which has been committed on our national rights by the arrogant representatives of British despotism.

We think and feel on the occasion as every American thinks and feels. We despise the bully and the coward who, as captain of the Leopard, was the instrument of establishing the enormous extent of the claims of the pretended mistress of the ocean. But our attention is first attracted to ourselves and our own situation—Is British or national independence a dream—Shall G. Britain or any other nation come at pleasure into our territory, and lay hold of whomever she pleases, under the pretence that she has a right to do so? Is that man in her employ, that here there is a man, and there a deserter? Our national rights are in jeopardy, in whatever quarter of the world they are found; much more so, then, when they are sought to be trampled upon by a nation that claims to be our ally, and that has fled to our aid. We have a right to foreign force had a right to invade our territory; no foreign officers, civil or military, had a right to exercise his functions within our limits, or to transport the supposed offender to the precincts of his own empire.

If there be a mutual convention between two nations reciprocally to delineate as to which is the seat of jurisdiction has a right to force another into such a stipulation. And shall the people of the United States, who are not of a felony having been committed; but the mere plea of desertion from a service, has a right to demand from a territory, the surrender of the whole civilized world against it; shall such a plea be ground sufficient for us to surrender our national rights, or to surrender our claims to perfect and unqualified independence?

England may claim upon our divisions—She is mistaken. The vineyard is not in the hands of the Americans. We judge not only from what we hear, but from what we see.

"The principal settlement in Washington county, in the Mississippi territory, are the Tombigbee and Alabama. The number of inhabitants capable of bearing arms, in the years 1859 and 1859. Their nearest neighbors, excepting Indian, are Spaniards, are at New Orleans, 230 miles to the west—in Tennessee, 200 miles to the west—in Georgia, about the same distance to the N. E.

They are not directly connected with the Mississippi territory; but naturally and commercially with New Orleans and West-Indies.

among ourselves. Our own situation is equally considered, and still in a great degree consists of those who adhered to England in the Revolution. They were the part who were the people's their elders taught them, that resistance was sinful; and they imbued from their infancy a deep reverence for their king. But the delusion lasts no longer. We have since seen that King engaged in almost incessant wars on the liberty and happiness of man; whilst the government which has succeeded him in America, has preserved us in peace with all the world, and been peacefully engaged in promoting our national prosperity. Old feelings are forgotten; we all view with the same sympathy, any outrage on the honor of our common country; and old whigs and old Tories will cordially unite in denouncing their lives and fortunes to the vindication of the rights of America against the insult and oppression of any government upon our country. What may be the issue of an appeal to arms we know not. That knowledge is confined to the Lord of Hosts, and can be entrusted to the justice of our cause, we rely with humble confidence.

But the operations and events of war are always uncertain, we can calculate with some confidence, that if we shut our eyes no longer to our connection with G. Britain, will establish the manufactures of America on the terms which we have proposed, we will ever shake. It will render us forever after in a high degree independent of British manufactures, and will give us more to pay in the way of work, and still more so those of our own. Our planters too will benefit and find their market more extensive. If we are to pay in the way of work, and still more so those of our own. Our planters too will benefit and find their market more extensive.

Had we not been told that in the U. S. the people are divided into parties, some of which are violent opponents of the system and measures of the present federal administration; we should have been surprised to find on this occasion to express our full confidence in the wisdom and patriotism of those who have given us the right to the cotton-wool of the United States. As to ourselves, we have neither seen nor have we looked for any such divisions among our fellow citizens, overstraining the sinews of national strength and industry to support large mercenary armies and widely navies; but we have thought that we have seen the genuine patriotic republican feelings of the people, and a strong anxiety to promote internal improvements. We will indeed, open new channels for the talents of our rulers; but we have a strong confidence that that intellectual and moral progress, which is the result of the convulsions of the world, has become so conspicuous in peace, will not be extinct on the instant of the appearance of war.

As to ourselves and our own local concerns, it is true we have some reason to be satisfied that we are not overlooked in the council of the nation. Our population is increasing, and we are surrounded on the Spanish side, by the most powerful tribes of Indians existing within the limits of the United States. The want of land cuts us out from the prospect of having our streams discharged into the Ohio, or any other river, by making a valuable addition to land, would have invited population, and we are in a state of security and respectability, would have been razed. But we have been disappointed. Yet as we are not contented ourselves as an advanced guard, designed to defend the immense territory of the United States, which intervenes between the settlements on the Mobile and the state of Tennessee. We may perch at our posts, but we shall not move from these.

We have likewise suffered numerous injuries inflicted upon us in consequence of the war with the Spanish government. But if we have ever thought ourselves aggrieved—our interests at the present juncture are in our own affairs, shall no longer find a harbor in our breasts. If when we have been the subject of

incessant oppression from the officers of his Catholic majesty, for a series of years; if when the produce of our lands before it could reach the market, they were for our own country, has been subjected to a duty of 12 per cent, ad valorem to a foreign nation, which we have been constantly the sport of venacious searches & arbitrary seizures—when we have been compelled to pay 12 per centum to the King of Spain on every thing which we have imported, even from the next town within the American limits; if when through the joint operation of the revenue systems of Spain and of the United States, we have frequently been obliged to pay from 42 to 47 per centum ad valorem on the price when first imported into the United States, and the most essential articles for family consumption; if when suffering, not yesterday or today only, but every day and every year, for a length of time, these series of oppressions, without hearing, clear and decided expression of our national indignation, we have sometimes, in the spirit of despondency, been led to yearn for the restoration of the rights and protection of American citizens; the moment has now arrived, that we feel our eyes no longer to be closed to discard our personal jealousies—the moment has now arrived, when we shall cease any longer to be misled by local grievances, till those of the nation are redressed. We will give to the King of Spain 12 per centum, but we will continue to pay a double price for the commodities of Europe; we will assist our neighbors at the Natchez, instead of being assisted by Spain, and we will pay only four; we will view these things light as air compared with despotism and authority, and systematic isolation of our territory by a foreign power; we will seek ourselves to our country, and we will not consent to be divided by any other object than permanency to national existence, and unity to national independence.

The charter of that independence was drawn up in seventy-six; it was ratified by the people in eighty-three, but it still cries for the blood of American citizens to seal it, and to give practice and validity to the blood should be mingled with that of other Americans in offering solemn sacrifices to the altar of Liberty. That the Chairman of this Meeting forward to the President of U. S. a copy of this Declaration, and that he give his sanction as he may deem it proper.

Witness the request, and in behalf of the Meeting,

JAMES CALLER, Chairman.

Attest,

T. MALONE, Secretary.

FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

The following propositions and suggestions, for creating a certain permanent and extensive market for THE COTTON-WOOL OF THE UNITED STATES.

PROVISIONS & RAW MATERIALS IN GENERAL.

See a copy of the address of the several States, and of the President and Congress of the United States, in a copy of the address of the several States, and of the President and Congress of the United States, in a copy of the address of the several States, and of the President and Congress of the United States.

I am anxious to bring under public consideration, and particularly to consider that of the southern cotton planters, some reflections, to which I find myself strongly disposed. They relate to a really and enlarged market for cotton wool.

I have never urged the sacrifice of the national and mercantile interests to that of the manufacturers, manufacturers actually and naturally engaged, and that we ought to foster them as far as our other duty will admit.

It is clear, that manufactures do afford considerable encouragement to our other objects of individual pursuit and employment. Our distilleries have aided trade, for example, by demanding the importation of live stock to the value of millions of gallons of molasses in a year. The leather manufactures, as well as the iron, by the aid of the farmers' frontier settler, and Indian under, skins sufficient to make good worth ten or twelve times their cost.

As another example, the cotton wool of the United States is sold for household and shop manufactures in the stores at and around every city, and in the markets of the state of Pennsylvania, however remote from the sea. The quantity thus sold has increased, and will continue to do so, a few years. Manufacturers therefore unfettered and aided only by the imposition of necessary duties on foreign goods, really add agriculture and trade.

I assume the position, then, that manufacturers have already contributed to create, maintain and enlarge the market for cotton wool, and have thereby afforded agricultural production.

My object is, to suggest the deliberate pursuit of a course of legislation, association & habits, which shall render the market for cotton wool both large and steady.

This may be done—1st. By obliging or inducing foreign nations to make imports of necessary duties on the manufacture at home.

It is certain, that the mere prospect of any prohibition with foreign nations, linen, sheet and leather goods, has had some effect on the foreign demand for cotton wool, silk, and Lancashire linens, Essex and Lempen linens, thread and silk hosiery, neckerchiefs and edgings, shawls, and lace, table cloths and napkins, fringe and lace hats, silk and leather gloves and mitts, silk gowns and dresses, and millinery, and foreign articles being deemed likely to be excluded, substitutes of cotton have been more extensively thought of, by the British manufacturers.

On a similar consideration, which has attended the existing non-importation law, ideas have arisen, that without any prohibition with foreign nations, we might render their manufacturers and our own, instrumental to the creation, maintenance and extension of markets for our cotton wool.

The whiteness of cotton goods, the capacity of cotton to receive and retain many colors, and its fitness for manufactures adapted to seasons, prompt success to our customers to procure its increased employment in Europe, in the manufacture of goods of various kinds, such as hamp and leather. As to those foreign nations, who sought us out for the purchase of our goods, it is in our power to occasion their employment of cotton wool of which we supply the raw material, and that we may instead of foreign Sax, hemp, wool, &c. silk, of which we do not supply any material, and that we may supply goods of cotton, made in the countries on this side of the Cape of Good Hope, and that we may supply our duties on goods from the other side of that Cape to twenty-five per cent, for example, on the duties on all foreign goods of wool, hemp, flax and silk to the same; it is plain, that it would contribute to increase the employment of our cotton wool, and to increase the American manufacture of that raw material, and of our own sheep's wool, and of our clothing, furniture, &c. in the use of foreign goods might, perhaps, be more advanced in duty from the better quality of wool, silk, and linen, table cloths, and linen bed ticks, in order to encourage cotton substitutes for clothing, furniture, &c. in the United States, may weigh twice as much as the same quantity of wool.

The design of this communication, is to produce general attention to a subject, which has long been very important to the cotton planters, and to the duties on our cotton, and the various circumstances, of the exportation of cotton wool, and to the importance, to the utmost importance, to encourage manufactures from our raw materials, and to the measure of mercantile policy, that would be perhaps, to add manufactures to our raw materials, by means of manufactures.

This proposition being directed immediately to the manufacture of a new article, may be supposed, of first order, to be too favorable to the southern planter, and to be too disadvantageous to the slave; the plan will be found highly beneficial to the farmers of the western and middle states, and to the present it is fact, that the production per