

more to a par with that of the United States. The short period of two years to which the convention is limited, shews that it is only an experiment; and we do not doubt that our government has, in bringing that of France to these terms, had to encounter many obstacles. The subject has been long under discussion, and one great obstacle to any agreement has been the strange claim which the French Ministry set up under the Louisiana convention. This point, although warmly contended for, as we have understood, by M. de Neuville, must have been waved by his most christian majesty, as we find no mention of it, or reference to it, in the new convention.

Improvement in Naval Architecture.

On Thursday last, the public were much gratified and astonished, at the exhibition of an Iron Steam Boat in the River Thames. A large party of distinguished Naval Officers and Engineers and Servants, embarked at Parliament Stairs, on board the Aaron, Iron Steam Boat, which immediately got under weigh, and proceeded to Battersea Bridge; she then descended to Blackfriars, and manœuvred for several hours between the bridges in very superior style. This steam boat was built at the Horsley Iron Works, by Mr. Manby, and put together in Rotherhithe. She is the most complete piece of workmanship in the iron way that has ever been witnessed, and draws one foot water less than any steam boat that has ever been built. She is 106 feet long, and 17 broad, and is propelled by a 30 horse engine, and Oldham's revolving oars; the most perfect piece of mechanism that has yet been adopted in steam boats. The great advantage of these oars is their entering and leaving the water edgewise, by which means no power is lost and they are particularly useful in rivers, with narrow bridges, as they occupy little more than half the breadth of the common wheel. We have no doubt but the Iron Boats will be generally adopted, particularly where a small draft of water is necessary. Another advantage they have over steam boats in general, is their perfect safety from fire, and uncommon steadiness under the engine. This boat will leave London in a few days for Paris, the first instance of a direct communication between the capitals of France and England.—*Lon. paper.*

At the late birth-day levee of the British King, the American minister was among the most distinguished visitants. Preparations for this King's visit to the continent, and its chief cities, were making in London. He is to take Scotland in his tour home. The popularity of GEORGE 4th, appeared to be increasing. His recent visits to the Theatres had called forth all the enthusiasm of *John Bull*, for royalty, and to have renewed the ancient good feelings of the Sovereign. The following is given as an instance in point.—On his visit to Covent Garden, as Mr. FAWCETT, the Manager, was lighting him to his box, the King said, "Stop, Fawcett, I want to speak to you. I have done a thing I am very sorry for. I went to Drury Lane the night of your benefit here; I must have done you an injury. Had I known it at the time, I would not have done so on any account."

A tremendous hail storm, which caused the greatest disasters in the south of France, occurred on the 7th May. Its effects extended over 30 communes. The hail stones were between two and three inches in diameter. All glass exposed to it, and even in many places tiles were broken. A great quantity of game was found dead, and a large stock of pigeons was also destroyed. In the marshes between Hergnies and Bruille, a great quantity of geese which are the principal wealth of the district, were destroyed. In all places where the hail fell, the harvest has been ruined. Many accidents also happened to carriage drivers. The hail was accompanied with a strong wind.

The Cholera morbus was making frightful ravages in India. At Bossora the deaths amounted to 150 per day. Thousands had perished on the Arabian coast. In the Province of Omman, 40,000 people had died, and not less than 10,000 had fallen victims in 10 days, in the city of Muscat and villages.

The anniversary meeting of the African Institution was held in London on the 10th May, and 1500 persons are said to have

been present. It appeared from the report which was read, that a great increase had taken place in the Slave Trade since the last annual meeting. The greatest traffic was carried on in the river Bonny and at Calabar, where 352 vessels had entered for the purchase of slaves. The meeting was addressed by several distinguished gentlemen, who complimented the North and South American governments for their Zeal in suppressing this abominable traffic. John Randolph, Esq. late member of Congress was present, and addressed the meeting. He returned thanks for the handsome manner in which his country had been mentioned. He was applauded in the course of his speech, and sat down amidst bursts of applause.

EASTPORT, JULY 27.

Latest from Europe.

The latest intelligence from England as by the Hercules at New-York, and is down to the 9th of June. No material change has occurred in the views and operations of the principal powers.

Great Britain.

The third reading of the navigation Bill was called for in the House of Commons on the 31st of May, but was postponed to the 4th of June, when it was taken up, discussed, and passed to a third reading by a majority of nine.

Successive petitions for Parliamentary reform have been rejected in the House of Commons.

Mr. Curnwen's motion, (as an amendment to the plan of the Chancellor of the Exchequer) for a total repeal of the Salt Tax, has been negatived by a majority of 44.

At the island of Scio the Turks had shed rivers of blood, and the Greeks had strongly fortified themselves in the mountains.

The war between Turkey and Persia was said to be continued, though no circumstances of it are given.

The distresses of IRELAND are alleviated, but not yet removed. The subscriptions continue to be liberal, and the prospect for potatoes, wheat and barley, especially in the County of Clare is represented to be remarkably fine.

The number of persons who had been tried in that kingdom during one year for offences not capital, was 6000, and for offences capital, 2500.—Of the former one half had been convicted—of the latter one seventh only.

France.

On the 4th June the King of France opened the session of the Chambers with a speech. In allusion to Russia and Turkey, he hopes war may be averted. And of the condition of France, he speaks with satisfaction.

Some apprehension had been entertained as to the object intended by a considerable army stationed on the Spanish frontier. The King in his speech to the Chambers on the 4th June thus remarks upon the subject.

"I have adopted precautions which have kept from our frontiers the contagion which has ravaged a part of Spain. The present season does not permit that we should relax these precautions, and I shall therefore continue them as long as the safety of the country may require it. Malevolence alone can discover in these measures a motive foreign to my real intentions."

Russia and America.

We have several times noticed the extraordinary claim set up by Russia to all that part of America beyond the 51st degree of north latitude, and her interdiction of vessels of other countries from approaching within 100 miles of the coast of the territory so claimed by her. This claim has been the subject of a correspondence between the American Secretary of State and the Russian Minister at Washington, which has been published by the American Government.

The American Government, though the cheapest of all Governments, is at the same time the most effective for all that regards the public welfare; and on this occasion the usual promptitude and the usual skill have been displayed. A more preposterous claim than that of the Russians certainly never was set up. The Americans will never of course allow it; and should Russia presume to enforce it, she may come to find the difference between American seamen and Turks.—*Eng. paper.*

From the New York Albion.

THE WELLINGTON SHIELD.

A press of matter prevented us from inserting a description of this elaborate ornament, as we always intended.

This magnificent trophy, executed in silver, richly gilt, together with two ornamental columns of the same costly material, has been completed, under the superintendance of Messrs. Green, Ward, & Co. of Ludgate-street. It was ordered in 1814, by the Committee of Merchants and Bankers of London, as a splendid record of the Duke of Wellington's high achievements; but the time which has since elapsed has not been thrown away: the subject has undergone the fullest study and reflection, the first artists have been employed, the designs and models have been made with the greatest taste, the workmanship has been directed with the utmost care and ability, and the result is undoubtedly one of the finest productions of art ever executed in the precious metals.

On Saturday last, this magnificent *Wellington Shield*, forming, together with the ornamental columns, one of the finest productions of modern art, was presented to the illustrious General, whose name it bears. The death of some of the artists employed in the work, and other incidental causes, having deferred its completion till very lately, the presentation could not take place earlier; but on Saturday his Grace (having previously appointed that day) attended at Messrs. Green and Ward's, accompanied by Lord Fitzroy Somerset, and was there met by William Manning, Esq. M. P. the Chairman of the Committee, who delivered the Shield and Columns to his Grace, in the name of the Merchants and Bankers; and at the same time expressed to him the sentiments of respect and attachment, with which they, in common with their grateful country, are animated towards his Grace's person. The illustrious Duke made an appropriate reply to this Address, and testified his high admiration of the singular richness and beauty of this valuable present.

We shall attempt a short description both of the shield and of the columns, which are meant as ornamental accessions to it, when placed among the other splendid memorials of the illustrious General's victories.

The SHIELD is circular; its diameter is about three feet eight inches. At the first glance of the eye three concentric divisions strike the spectator, namely, a convex broad border of deadened gold richly ornamented in basso relievo, an inner circle of burnished gold radiating from the centre and slightly convex, and a bold group of figures in alto relievo executed in deadened gold, occupying the centre of the Shield.

The central group, nobly prominent, and beautifully relieved by the radiant ground on which it is placed, consists of 14 equestrian figures, besides an allegorical representation of Fame, crowning the illustrious Commander; and there are three prostrate figures under his feet, descriptive of the violence, the devastation, and the despotism to which his victories so happily put an end. The Duke of Wellington himself appears on horseback in the middle, and he is surrounded by officers who held important commands under him in the Peninsula. The grouping is most admirable. The Duke, without appearing detached from his associates, is sufficiently distinct and striking; whilst the other officers fill the surrounding space, without producing any effect of crowd or confusion. Some of the countenances struck us as remarkable likenesses, especially those of Lord Beresford and Sir L. Cole, which are both finished with a precision and sharpness truly surprising in this sort of workmanship.

The outer border is divided into ten compartments, representing the principal features of the Duke's military life, up to the General Peace of 1814, when the plan of this costly work was first adopted. Of course, the last unparalleled triumph does not enter into the series of events here recorded; but it must remain indelibly engraved on every British heart to the latest posterity. The subjects of the different compartments are as follows:—

1. THE VICTORY OF ASSAYE (Sept. 23, 1803).—The British cavalry and infantry, having left the artillery, whose progress (being drawn by bullocks) was too slow, advance, and overcome all opposition; and the charge made by the 18th regiment

of dragoons overthrows the Mahrattas, and decides the day.

2. THE BATTLE OF VIMIERA (August 21, 1808).—This victory led to the delivery of Lisbon. The charge of the 91st Highland regiment, which mainly contributed to the defeat of the French, is here introduced.

3. THE PASSAGE OF THE DOURO (May 12, 1809).—The city of Oporto is here personified, surrounded by women and children, who receive Wellington as their deliverer. The French are seen flying at his approach.

4. TORRES VEDRAS (March 6, 1811).—The Allied troops advancing from the lines and pursuing the enemy, whose flight is marked by conflagration and famine.

5. BADAJOS TAKEN BY ASSAULT (April 6, 1812).—This subject may be said to represent the conquest of the many strong holds on the frontiers of Portugal.

6. THE BATTLE OF SALAMANCA (July 22, 1812).—The British army having entered Spain, defeat of the French under Marmont, at Salamanca. Marmont wounded.

7. THE BATTLE OF VITTORIA (June 21, 1813).—Where the usurper Joseph is defeated in person, the females of his suite, baggage, waggons, &c. taken, and the French eagles captured.

8. THE BATTLE OF THE PYRENEES (1813).—An officer is seen planting the British colours on the heights, before which the imperial standard is overthrown. The city of Bourdeaux is personified, rising to welcome the British army, and hoisting the ancient colours of France.

9. THE ENTRANCE OF WELLINGTON INTO TOULOUSE (April 12, 1814).—Where all sexes and ages hail him as their deliverer; an old Knight of St. Louis is seen grasping his hand, and welcoming him as the restorer of the Bourbon Dynasty, &c.

10. THE DUKEDOM OF WELLINGTON CONFERRED (1814).—The Duke with the "Baton de Mareschal" in his hand, kneeling before the Prince Regent to receive the Ducal Coronet.

The COLUMNS are intended to represent the fruits of the victories depicted on the shield. They are each about four feet three inches in height, including the figures of FAME and VICTORY, by which they are surmounted. The body of each column is formed by the trunk of a palm-tree, with a capital of leaves: it stands on a triangular base, and is surrounded in each instance by three characteristic figures.

Around the column, sustaining the figure of Victory, are rising in attitudes of repose, three soldiers of the United Kingdom, namely, a *British Grenadier*, a *Highlander*, and an *Irish Light Infantry man*; each supporting the flag of his country, distinguished by the Rose, Thistle, and Shamrock. The subjects described in basso relievo on the base are—*Britannia awarding the laurel wreath alike to the Army and Navy—A return to the full occupation of the useful and ingenious Arts—And the old and young joining in the festive dance*—Groups of military trophies and weapons are heaped up at the angles, as if no longer required.

Around the column surmounted by the figure of Fame, are placed in quietest attitudes, three soldiers, emblematical of three of the nations whose troops the Duke commanded, namely, a Portuguese, a Sepoy, and a Guerilla, who are supposed to have bound a medallion of the Duke among the folds of their respective flags. Under each figure is a bas-relief, describing the peaceful occupations of the several Countries, released from their enemies; thus, under the Guerilla are Spanish peasants dancing, while the vine and the ox denote the return of agriculture and the vintage. Under the Portuguese, the long neglected vineyard appears restored to its productive harvest; and beneath the Sepoy, a Hindostanee family reposes in peace under the protection of the British Government, while a Warrior is relating an account of the Battle of Assaye, by which the country was freed from the ravages of the Mahrattas.

The guardians of the scene are—*A Soldier of the 19th Dragoons and a Sepoy*, with a Mahratta Captive. Groups of military trophies and weapons ornamented the corners of the base, as in the first column.

JOHN R. M'PHERSON, respectfully informs the Public, that he has removed to the House of Mr. NEVILL, in Regent Street, where he has on hand a good stock of Saddlery and Harness, which he will dispose of cheap for Cash. Frederickton, 14th May, 1828.