bligingly furnished by Captain Handy, are interesting.

"Executions took place almost daily at Cumana; and it was shocking to humanity to witness the barbariety and horrid treatment which the patriots experienced, whenever they fell into the power of the royalists. Persons were daily apprehended as spies, and of being favorable to the cause of the patriots; were sentenced to death, taken out to the plains, (just without the city) where they were shot, and left on the ground for the crows to feed upon. An instance of inhumanity and cruelty took place at Cumana while Captain H. was there, which disaffected a great many persons. It was as follows.—Copy—"CUMANA, JUNE 12.—Witnessed a most barbarous act. A female of the most respectable family in Cumana, for uttering some invectives against the government, and speaking in favour of the patriot party, was tied on a jack-ass, attended by a guard of 10 soldiers led through the streets, and at every corner, and opposite the houses of her dearest connexions, received a certain number of lashes on the bare back, apportionate to 200, the number she was sentenced to receive, what rendered the punishment still more disgraceful, the person who inflicted it, was a large negro, who, when her long beautiful hair, in some degree defended her delicate skin, the inhuman wretch with one hand removed it, that the lashes inflicted with the other might cause the more acute pain. The poor sufferer was blindfolded, and bore the inhuman treatment with as much fortitude, as perhaps was ever exhibited on a similar occasion; her cries were feeble; but I saw, notwithstanding the handkerchief that concealed her face, tears trickling down and falling on her breast. I saw but a dozen lashes inflicted;—my feelings were too much hurt to let curiosity overcome them. I made particular enquiries respecting the unfortunate girl, two days after, and was informed, that she refused all medical aid and food; and a few days afterwards I was informed that she was dead, being from her exquisite feelings unable to survive the disgrace and pain she had suffered.

NEW-YORK, SEPTEMBER 7.

From the Washington City Weekly Gazette.

General Bolivar—The leading articles among the items of foreign news of the day, is the total overthrow and destruction of the army of major general Simon Bolivar.

A prominent cause of the disaster which befel him was, as we understand, a passage in a recent proclamation, wherein he declared that "nature, justice, and policy, demanded the emancipation of the slaves, and that henceforward there should be known in Venezuela only one class of men—all should be citizens." The slaveholders, it appears, did not relish this doctrine very well; and so they fell upon Gen. Bolivar with cudgel, scythe, spade, and pick-axe. This was a great aid to the royal army, which, being thus assisted, compelled their enemies to bite the dust, or to fly with all possible expedition.

No one wishes success to the cause of independence in Spanish America more than we do; no one desires more ardently than ourselves the establishment in that quarter of a national system of free government. But from all the accounts that we have seen of proceedings in that direction, we are decidedly of opinion, that, however prepared the people may be for *independence*, they are not at all qualified at present for *internal freedom*.

Zealots in the cause of liberty imagine that all that is necessary to make any people free in their domestic government, is to frame for them a constitution thereby giving certain names to certain municipal departments and officers. These zealots never reflect that for a liberal constitution to have any influence over a people, the great mass of that people must have previously acquired ideas and habits of freedom. Knowledge and usage must, in some sort, precede the written laws which recognise them.

To exemplify this, we will borrow a simile from military life. The law which authorises the raising of an army, prescribes that it shall consist of so many companies, so many battalions, and so many regiments, to be commanded by such and such officers. This is what may be called the constitution of the army. Now, take the men and officers necessary to compose this force from the walks of private civil life, divide them precisely into the number of companies, battalions and regiments designated, and give the word of command, to wheel and march; what would be the consequence? Why they would immediately get into irrettrievable confusion. And wherefore?—Because they had not acquired the *habit of military discipline*. The same thing takes place among a vitiated people when you present to them for the first time a free constitution of government.—They run into anarchy, because they have not acquired the requisite *habit of political discipline*.

The greater portion of the Spaiards of South-America have been so king ridden, and so vicetroy ridden, that they have, as we conceive, no more notion of what we call the system of republican government than the Chinese. It was wrong, therefore, for those who undertook to deliver them from oppression, to begin by discussing the form of a domestic constitution. They should have commenced as these United States commenced, by keeping that question out of sight as much as possible, and bending all their energies to the attainment of *independence*: that once effected, the form of government might have been settled in a state of tranquility. Although the people of the United States possessed perfect ideas and fixed habits in relation to domestic freedom, which they derived from their ancestors, it is difficult to say how their revolutions would have ended had they began it by starting the question whether their government should be monarchical or democratic.

We have read much concerning Gen. Bolivar—a great deal of very silly eulogium—a great deal of very bitter invective. This is ever the fate of men of his cast. His friends have represented him as a demi god—his enemies have denounced him as a devil. For our own part we consider him neither the one nor the other. He is certainly not a Moses nor a Joshua—a Timoleon nor a Washington: But it is very likely that he is a tolerable partizan officer. Unfit to lead in a vast revolution, but probably very capable of aiding in the accomplishment of it; more competent, however, to storm a redoubt then to fight a general battle. Brave, headlong, and imprudent,, he has failed as a man of his temperament and capacity might have been expected to fail, when undertaking at the head of a handful of whites, mulattoes, and negroes, (a motely band of fugitives and adventurers picked up in the neighboring islands,) to rescue from the grasp of tyranny a vast extent of country among whose inhabitants he met but few resources at his landing, and with whom he found no refuge in the hour of calamity.

It is in vain to think of liberating a people who have no stability of character, and will not assist in liberating themselves. From the commencement of their revolutionary movements, the variable career of the Americans has been marked by the lusts of private ambition, by massacrees, and treachery.

ON THE CLIMATE.

FROM THE RICHMOND COMPILER.

It needs no ghost from the grave' to satisfy us that our climate has undergone and is undergoing several changes.

As the country is opened, the woods cleared away and the morasses dried up, the Sun acts with more power—the spring will encroach upon the winter, and the summer upon the spring. We shall have less snow and frost—and more heat and dryness. Winter will gradually transfer her empire to higher latitudes, and vegetables will grow, where the summer was once too short to cherish them.

We may judge of these effects by those which have taken place in the Eastern world. We know that the climate of Europe has grown warmer than it formerly was—that the rein-deer was once found in the Hercyman Forest, that the Danube was frozen firm enough to sustain loaded carriages; and that snow was no curiosity in Italy. Horace in his second Ode informs Jupiter that they had had *jam satis nivis*, *already snow enough*. Our authority is indeed that of a poet; but of a poet, who had at that moment no inducement to resort to fiction.

The change is not only confessed, but explained by the philosophers of Europe—in the same way as has been mentioned above; the clearing of the country of woods and swamps, and laying its bosom open to the beams of the Sun.

If we compare the same latitudes in the old and new world, the difference of climate is very striking. It is warmer in the same degree of latitude in Europe than it is in America—and we have reasons to conclude that the same causes here will produce the same effects.

Indeed if we listen to the descriptions of the old and experienced, very perceptible changes have occurred within their own recollection. We have shorter winters and more summer; with the suitable *variations* in the *accompaniments* of each season.

We must regard these things in a general point of view, without descending to all the particulars. We must take the *Rule* and not the *Exception*. We must not suppose, from any one year's being cool, that our climate was becoming so; for, it is not every swallow that makes a summer; it is not every variation that constitutes the general principle. We must have an eye to a long success of seasons, and take the average of all—this is the only means by which we come at the truth.

Were we to reason, for instance, from the present season, we should be apt to suppose that our climate was rather falling than rising on the scale of thermometer—the spring has been so cool, the summer so slow, frost so late as to have fallen about four weeks ago and vegetation so backward. But every body exclaims, how *strange* is this! how singular! how surprising! which exclamations only serve to shew beyond dispute, that this phenomena is new to us; and therefore not consonant with the usual course of things. No one is surprised at what is common; it is a things being *extra*-ordinary that makes us wonder at it. Besides we have the same accounts from the other side of the water. In England, the spell of cold weather has been just as strange as it is here. Frost and snow have fallen in sufficient quantities to *astonish the natives*.

"Take it, all in all," the present year is, indeed, out of the *ordinary* course of things. The cool weather is so constant that one can scarcely conceive it to be August. If a warm day comes, it is frequently followed by a cold.—It was but the other night (the 21st) that it was really comfortable to sleep under a blanket. It is also as dry as it is cool. The James River is almost as low as it was in 1806; and every day it is falling. It is now so shallow, that it cannot float all the boats through the locks.

Rain and heat are scarcely to be seen together—When it rains, it gets cool—and when hot, the weather becomes dry. Vegetation, therefore, suffers. The corn is very backward—and it is generally supposed, will be an uncommonly short crop. The samecase perhaps with tobacco.

What is the cause of this uncommonly cool summer? Many suppose that it is to be attributed to a very *distant cause*, viz.: the spots in the sun. Herschell seems, however, to have attributed rather heat and exuberant vegetation from these spots. "Imagining that the luminous atmosphere of the sun is the region of light and heat, he concluded that when the ridges, corrugations, and openings in this atmosphere are numerous, that the heat emitted by the sun must be *proportionally increased*, and that this augmentation must be perceptible by its effects on vegetation. He expected, therefore, that in those years, when the solar spots would be most numerous, vegetation would be most luxuriant; and that this effect might be ascertained from the *price of wheat*, as marking the productiveness of the season. By comparing the solar appearances, as given by La Lande, with the table of the price of wheat in Smith's Wealth of Nations, he obtained results, which, on the whole, appeared favorable to his hypothesis."

LONDON,

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

COCKPIT, June 15.

Diana, alias Hebe, Quedens master—This ship under Prussians colours, landen with porcelain, bronze, &c. sailed from Ostend under a licence, for London, and was seized at Woolwich by Lieut. Seppings, Inspector of Vessels in the Port of London, as British property not legally transferred to a neutral proprietor. It appeared the vessel, then called the Hebe, was captured, on a voyage from Demerara, with West India produce on board, by the French, and carried to Ostend and Bruges, where she was alledged to have been purchased by a Prussian subject, who put the present cargo on board. A claim was given in the Admirality Court, for the ship, as British Property, and cargo as Prussian Property. The Court below restored the ship and cargo to the Prussian claimant; and from this sentence the seizor and the British Claimants appealed.—Their Lordships took time to deliberate on their judgment.

COCKPIT, June 20

The Diana, otherwise Hebe.—This day their Lordships gave judgment in the above case (see our Report of the last Court) and affirmed the sentence of the Court below.

The Dart, Sougey master.—This was a question between Admirals Thornborough and Sawyer, with respect to which of them were entitled to share in the flag eighth of the prize in question. The High Court of Admiralty pronounced for Admiral Thornborough, from which sentence Admiral Sawyer appealed, and their Lordships reversed the sentence, and pronounced for Admiral Sawyer.

COURT OF DELEGATES,

Thursday, July 4.

Henshaw v. *Atkinson.*

This was a case which has been already twice before the public, and is attended with the extraordinary circumstances of having been twice agitated in the Court of Delegates without any decision, in consequence of the Court being equally divided in opinion on each occasion. It was an allegation originally propounded in the Consistory Court of Chester, and it was attempted to impeach the validity of a will executed by the late Mr. Thomas Henshaw, in which, after making various dispositions of a large property, he, by a codocil, bequeathed to a Mr. Atkinton, the sum of £21,000. Mr. Henshaw unfortunately afterwards committed suicide, and the Coroner's inquest found a verdict of lunacy. The suit therefore was brought to desire that an intestacy should be decreed, but the Consistory Court had decided in favour of the will; and, upon a removal of the cause to York, this decision was confirmed. An appeal was then made to the Court of Delegates, composed of six Commissioners, who dividing equally upon the codocil in question, without disturbing the rest of the sentence of the Ecclesiastical Court, a second Commission, consisting of eight members, was appointed, whose inquiries were terminated by a similar result. The cause now came on to be tried before a Court composed of six of the Judges, and of eight Doctors of Civil Law.

Dr. Stoddart was proceeding to open the case on the part of the respondents, when Serjeant Copley, who was retained on the same side, submitted to the Court, that, as one of the Serjeants, he, in point of rank, had a title to precede a Doctor of Civil Law, and that it was due to those of his own order that this title should be asserted. The Learned Serjeant then handed a written paper containing an extract from some authority on the point.

Dr. Stoddart declared he should feel very sincere satisfaction to find that the precedency was due to his Learned Friend. He could not lay claim to any great