UNITED STATES.

[*From the Boston Courier, December* 8.]

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The following is the Ordinance reported to the Convention by its Committee, and which has probably passed that body without opposition:

An Ordinance to provide for arresting the operation of certain Acts of the Congress of the United States, purporting to be laws laying duties and imposts on the importation of Foreign Commodities.

Whereas, the Congress of the United States, by various Acts, purporting to be Acts laying duties and imposts on foreign imports, but in reality intended for the protection of Domestic Manufactures, and the giving bounties to classes and individuals engaged in particular employments, at the expense and to the injury and oppression of other classes and individuals, and by wholly exempting from taxation certain foreign commodities, such as are not produced or manufactured in the United States, to afford a pretext for imposing higher and excessive duties on articles similar to those intended to be protected, hath exceeded its just powers under the Constitution, which confers on it no authority to afford such protection, and hath violated the true meaning and intent of the Constitution, which provides for equality in imposing the burdens of taxation upon the several States and portions of the Confederacy;—And, Whereas, the said Congress, exceeding its just powers to impose taxes and collect revenue for the purpose of effecting and accomplishing the specific objects and purposes which the Constitution of the United States authorized it to effect and accomplish, hath raised and collected unnecessary revenues, for objects unauthorized by the Constitution:

We, therefore, the People of the State of South Carolina, in Convention assembled, do declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordained, that the several Acts and parts of Acts of the Congress of the United States, purporting to be laws for the imposing of duties and imposts on the importations of the United States, and more especially an Act entitled "An Act in alteration of the several Acts imposing duties on imposts," approved on the 19th day of May, 1828, and also an Act entitled "An Act to alter and amend the several Acts imposing duties on imposts," approved the 14th day of July, 1832, are unauthorized by the Constitution of the United States, and violate the true meaning thereof, and are null, void, and no law, nor binding upon this State, its officers or citizens; and all promises, contracts and obligations made or entered into, or to be made or entered into, with the purpose to secure the duties imposed by the said Acts, and all judicial proceedings which shall be hereafter had in affirmance thereof, are and shall be held utterly null and void:

And it is further ordained, that it shall not be lawful for any of the constituted authorities, whether of this State or of the United States, to enforce the payment of duties imposed by the said Acts within the limits of this State; but that it shall be the duty of the Legislature to adopt such Acts as may be necessary to give full effect to this Ordinance, and to prevent the enforcement and arrest the operations of the said Acts and parts of Acts of the Congress of the United States within the limits of this State, from and after the 1st day of February next, and the duty of all other constituted authorities, and of all persons residing or being within the limits of this State, and they are hereby required and enjoined, to obey and give effect to this Ordinance, and such Acts and measures of the Legislature, as may be passed or adopted in obedience thereto:

And it is further ordained, That in no case of law or equity decided in the courts of this State, wherein shall be drawn in question the authority of this ordinance, or the validity of such act or acts of the legislature as may be passed for the purpose of giving effect thereto, or the validity of the aforesaid acts of Congress, imposing duties, shall any appeal be taken or allowed to the Supreme Court of the United States, nor shall any copy of the record be permitted or allowed for that purpose; and if any such appeal shall be attempted to be taken, the courts of this State shall proceed to execute and enforce their judgments according to the laws and usages of the State, without reference to such attempted appeal; and the person or persons attempting to take such appeal, may be dealt with for a contempt of the Court.

And be it further ordained, that all persons now holding any office of honor, profit or trust, civil or military, under this State, shall, within such time as the Legislature shall prescribe, take, in such manner as the Legislature may direct, an oath well and truly to obey, execute and enforce this ordinance, and such act or acts of the Legislature as may be passed in pursuance thereof, according to the true intent and meaning of the same; and on the neglect or omission of any such persons so to do, his or their office or offices shall be forthwith vacated, and shall be filled up, as if such person or persons were dead or had resigned; and no person hereafter elected to any office of honor, profit or trust, civil or military, shall, until the legislature shall otherwise provide and direct, enter on the execution of his office, or be in any respect competent to discharge the duties thereof, until he shall, in like manner, have taken a similar oath; and no juror shall be impannelled in any of the Courts of this State, in any cause in which shall be in question this ordinance, or any act of the legislature passed in pursuance thereof, unless he shall first, in addition to the usual oath, have taken an oath that he will well and truly obey, execute and enforce this ordinance, and such act or acts of the legislature as may be passed to carry the same into operation and effect, according to the true intent and meaning thereof.

And we the people of South-Carolina, to the end that it may be fully understood by the Government of the U. States, and the people of the co-States, that we are determined to maintain this, our ordinance and declaration, at every hazard, do further declare, that we will not submit to the application of force, on the part of the Federal Government, to reduce this State to obedience; but that we will consider the passage, by Congress, of any act authorising the employment of any military or naval force against the State of South Carolina, her constituted authorities or citizens, or any act abolishing or closing the ports of this State, or any of them, or otherwise obstructing the free ingress and egress of vessels to and from the said ports, or any other act on the part of the Federal Government, to coerce the State, shut up her ports, destroy her commerce, or to enforce the acts hereby declared to be null and void, otherwise than through the civil tribunals of the country, as inconsistent with the longer continuance of South Carolina in the Union: and that the people of this State will thenceforth hold themselves absolved from all further obligation to maintain or preserve their political connexion with the people of other States, and will forthwith proceed to organise a separate Government, and do all other acts and things which sovereign and independent States may of right do.

[As every thing relating to this convention will be read with interest, and every transaction may hereafter be important as matters for reference and quotation, we subjoin the address of Gov. Hamilton, on taking the chair of the convention.]

Gentlemen—On looking round this convention, and seeing of whom it is composed, no impulse of self love could lead me to attribute the distinction which has just been given me to any thing else than the high and responsible station I already fill.—When I see in this assembly so many individuals whose experience is more mature, and whose claims are paramount to my own, I can attribute it to no other cause. I feel deeply penetrated, with a sense of your kindness, as well as the greatest responsibility which is thus cast on me. A crisis of no ordinary character has brought us together, and we have solemn duties involving high considerations, to discharge. Results the most important and lasting are to flow from a faithful and inflexible discharge of those duties.

It is scarcely a solecism to say, that here are the PEOPLE. This is the concentration of their sovereignty. An intermediate class of the People's agents have determined that a Convention of South Carolina should be called. This act was passed in wisdom and discretion. We are convened under the solemn injunction from the people to consider the acts of the Congress of the United States imposing duties on goods, wares and merchandize imported into the United States, for the protection of American manufactures, which are, in the opinion of the people of South Carolina, infringements of their rights, and violations of the Constitution, and to divide the mode and measure of redress. These are our duties, and it becomes us to discharge them in a spirit of enlightened moderation, and of inflexible firmness. If there is, and belongs to political bodies a reasonable forecast, and a high moral courage, let us, in the language of the immortal martyr of Constitutional liberty, "put on athletic habits for the contest," and nerve our souls to the struggle.

I shall be often compelled to throw myself on your indulgence, as this is the first occasion I have been called upon to preside over a deliberative assembly. All I can do is to pledge my best endeavours to preserve decorum, and to admit of all the latitude of debate, compatable with the usual parliamentary rules, and in a spirit of kindness to those who are politically opposed to me.

Permit me to say, that ours is no ordinary position. We have the incontestible power of a Sovereign State. Ours is the first Convention which has been held for reviewing the terms and conditions of the Federal compact—not the revision of our State Constitution, but the consideration of high and ulterior questions of Sovereignty. Our present circumstances are a commentary on the safety and beauty of the Constitution. In other countries we should render ourselves obnoxious to the charge of an attempt to disturb and change the very elements of Government. Here, all goes on with tranquillity, and with the harmony of the spheres themselves.

In conclusion, permit me to say, that, in taking the matters under consideration submitted to us, my anxious prayer is, that our deliberations, in their results, may tend to establish *our own* liberties—to maintain the rights and privileges of *our own* People, and with those to give stability to the Union, to restore harmony to our altars, and our firesides—that harmony and affection out of which the Union sprung, and which are its best refuge and defence.

With these remarks, I proceed to discharge the duties of the Chair.

COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE COURIER.

I SAY, FRIEND EDITOR—I have a little story to tell you, but you must let it go no further; I mean, that you must not publish it to the world.—Do you know that the vampires at Head-Quarters have detected me in an error, aye, half a dozen errors, or probably *they* may say falsehoods, but wait a moment: I will tell you the ins and outs of the story: It seems that the three-pence per ton of Survey money does not constitute the whole of the Secret Service Fund.—When a quantity of unlicensed timber is seized, and released upon payment of double tonnage, *a part* of the extra tonnage goes to the Hush Fund:—to that charge of error, I plead guilty, and acknowledge that the *Secret Service Money* is greater, and that the system has been in operation longer than I supposed. Again, the Indian Reserves are not wholly to be sold for the benefit of the Casual Revenue. Notices have been sent to the Indians, that upon due application each of them, or *certain of them*, will receive Grants of a portion of the Lands, which by every principle of Public Faith was formally and legally reserved for their exclusive benefit—and after these Grants have passed, the remainder only will be sold to pay the Civil List.—Here also I confess my error, and humbly admire the official ingenuity which prompted such an equitable distribution of the Indian lands: the portions which may be granted to them *out of their own Lands* will soon pass into other hands, for a mere trifle; and thus will they be as effectually expatriated as if they were at once driven out of the Province, without any compensation for their reputed property. Will you answer me one question?—If the Government had formally ordered that certain quantities of Land, described by metes and bounds, (which will appear by a document that is yet *supposed* to be in existence, locked up in the Archives of a certain office) should be reserved, solemnly and positively reserved for the Aborigines of the Province:—is not the Crown virtually divested of the absolute title to these Lands, and is it not a breach of faith again to assume the proprietorship of such land?—but necessity is said to be the mother of invention. Step by step has the Red man been driven from his natural possessions; his ignorance of the refined policy which too often disgraces the White man, has proved the cause of his destruction; and confiding in the specious protestations of friendship and sincerity which are ever repented to him, and ever violated; he suffers himself to be defrauded of every thing that he once was permitted to call his own.

It is supposed that I have pointed at a certain gentleman high in office, and who fills that office with equal honour to himself and benefit to the community, as the reputed coadjutor of "*A. B. C.*" in the composition of that erudite Essay; and others allege that the censure is intended for a person who by tortuous measures has arisen from comparative obscurity:—both conjectures are equally false: the former person could not condescend to publish such a farrago of nonsense and error; even the surmise of its possibility is a positive insult to the understanding of mankind, and to believe the latter person *capable* of writing any thing that can bear the test of the slightest scrutiny is equally absurd.

I am not yet so grossly foolish as to believe that the Conqueror of Burmah can be *led*, but I think it by no means improbable that he may be *misled* by base and designing persons, until he shall have acquired an intimate knowledge of the Colony entrusted to his government; this knowledge cannot be attained by intuition, nor can he hope at once to be a perfect master of the several matters which are continually in agitation with regard to Colonial Policy. That he may be deceived is very possible, nay, even probable: but this involves no charge, either of his folly or his guilt.—We cannot suspect him of weakness, nor have we yet seen any thing in his conduct that would authorise us to insinuate that he can be diverted from the line of duty—but the obligation is imperative upon him to be wary and vigilant; to him the People look for protection against the power of subordinate officers, and I am well assured that we need not look in vain.

I have a few more confessions for your private ear, but these I will reserve till I write to you again. But you must be *secret*, because if John Gape were proven to have made a false declaration, why there is no knowing what might be the consequence to some of the personages whose folly he is continually exposing. You know, Dear Mr. Editor, that an excess of joy may prove as fatal as an excess of grief: and John Gape can only address to them the words of the sweet bard of Avon—

"Then let the stricken Deer go weep,
"The Hart ungalled play."

Now, Dear Mr. Editor, I will trouble you with a few more

EXTRACTS FROM MY JOURNAL.

Heard that the timber licenses are again to be regularly surveyed by a Deputy Commissioner.—*Mem.* Wonder whether the three-pence per ton survey money will be paid to the Deputies for performing the duty; doubt it very much, because what then would be the fate of the *Secret Service Fund.* *Mem.* If the whole survey money be really paid to the surveyor, even John Gape must confess that some persons are not wholly insensible to shame: let them retrace their steps, and return to the plain path of official integrity, and John Gape will be compelled to look beyond the boundaries of New-Brunswick for wonders.—The past cannot be recalled, but former follies may be partially atoned for by future rectitude—to persist in error may be fatal.

I will now treat you to a *Memo.* out of an old leaf of my Journal, merely to shew that imposition is by no means a novelty in this world.

Wanted to cut 300 tons timber in County Charlotte; was desirous of having as large a front to my license as possible; consulted a friend on the subject, and learned from him that by applying for a 60 *ton license*, I would get as much front (on the stream) as would be given for the whole 300 ton license; put in therefore five petitions each for *sixty tons*, and paid two pounds five shillings fees on each petition—£11 5s. 0d.—which I understood went to the Officers, and fifteen shillings on each for tonnage, £3 15s. 0d. which was paid into the King's Casual revenue.—*Mem.* Heard this system was subsequently abolished, *when the Officers were placed upon salaries*—does this require any comment.—Hem!

Saw a Grant of the Town Plat of Fredericton, in which a certain piece of land skirting the river in front of the town, was described by metes and bounds, and reserved as *a Common*, and for other public uses,—know that part of the said land was sold by order of the Governor and Council, and a pledge given that the money arising from the sale should be expended for the benefit of the town, in local improvement, &c. Know that a small sum was so expended by Sir Howard Douglas, and understand that an order has been received from the Colonial Office, that the residue shall be paid into the King's Casual Revenue. *Mem.* Think the Revenue must be very low when such means are resorted to for its replenishment. Must put on my Gygean Ring, and look behind the curtains. Suppose that *probably* Colonial Ministers do not always scrutinize the documents to which they affix their signature—would like to see the rough sketch of that order—must positively try to geet a peep at the original.—Hem! Suppose of course that the Military ground will go next; would advise this to be done—for example, let the Crown sell the land upon which the old Hospital stands, it is a large space, and would command a round price, enough at all events to pay a ½ years salary to a Clerk, and that will be so much clear gain.—*Mem.* Would also recommend that the inhabitants of Fredericton be instructed to carry all their manure, &c. to the bank of the river, and there deposit it—the bank would by this means be extended, new ground would be formed, the River Deity would be confined within narrower bounds, and the ground *so made* could be sold from time to time as opportunities might offer; surely this scheme is as honourable as feasible, and as convenient as many that have latterly been put in operation; and at the moment when the revenue is scarcely sufficient to defray the expence of half the Civil List *with the contingent expences* of Road Money, &c., no proposition that possesses the smallest degree of plausibility should be hastily rejected. They are railing at John Gape, what folly! he is their best friend, for he is continually ruminating upon ways and means to extricate them from present difficulties, and to supply them with the funds to indulge in future extravagance and possession.—What a knack some people have of sustaining the appearance of generosity.—Hem!

Now, Dear Mr. Editor, I will not impose further upon your goodness, but I shall shortly treat you to a few morsels of scandal about timber licenses, land grants; grants of *made* Islands, (obtained by false pretences) &c. and probably I may give you a few hints about the prophetic spirit which enabled a certain exalted person to secure, by application to the Governor and Council, vast tracts of the best land in the Province, immediately previous to the establishment of the new system of *selling* Crown Lands—but that same person appears now to have entirely resigned all pretensions to even common prudence; he hurries on from one step of despotism to another, regardless of the injury which he is inflicting upon the people, and I believe that nothing short of a miracle, or the *command* of his superior can arrest him in his wild career. Can you guess the name of the person to whom I refer.

I am, Dear Mr. Editor, your ardent admirer,
JOHN GAPE.

A CARD.

JOHN GAPE presents his compliments to a certain mighty but deleterious Weed in the intellectual garden of New-Brunswick—a Weed which has lately been transplanted from its native sterile desert to the genial soil of this Province,—where it has taken root, and now spreads its gigantic leaves abroad over the fair face of nature, obscuring and destroying its more humble competitors, and, like a parasitical dependant of the dreadful Bohon Upas, imparting a fatal quality to the very air which floats around it. We have it upon record, that the Ass of Balaam was once permitted to assume one of the attributes of man; and by a gentle extension of probability, we may suppose that this Weed has, by some powerful and secret agency, (*vide Colonial Office,*) been elevated from the vegetable to the animal creation. *John Gape will therefore call it a Great Man!* John Gape informs the Great Man, that the ridiculous threats of prosecution, or of personal violence, which were *uttered* by the said Great Man, have been duly reported to John Gape.—*When true courage is wanting*, the aid of art, and of physical force, may be summoned to supply the deficiency;—that a professed pugilist, whose sole dependance for impunity from the result of his impertinence, would speedily conquer the weak and humble John Gape, may be freely admitted; and, *if no readier mode of redress presented itself*, we may also believe that the costs of an action for Assault and Battery, might, without special inconvenience, be paid out of the fragments of the public spoils; but that John Gape should be threatened with a criminal action of *Scandalum Magnatum*, (he presumes,) far transcends his powers of conception. John Gape has heard that aphorism of the law, which declares that "*The greater the truth, the greater the libel;*" but the days are long since departed, when such dicta were received with silent deference, and obeyed without a murmur:—secure in the lofty conviction of its own integrity, conscious innocence smiles at the impotent attacks of malice and of slander, but conscious guilt shrinks with terror from even the whisper of suspicion,—a rumour will paralyse its senses, but it is almost annihilated by a direct charge of villainy. John Gape has also to admire the *precocious* wisdom, which at one moment declares him to be the sole, unassisted author of the strictures that have appeared under his name, and the next instant expresses an equally absurd conviction, that he is only the fictitious organ of a *Committee.* John Gape is neither the one nor the other; and the acknowledged fact, that he receives information from *some quarter*, does not invalidate his testimony against the official conduct of any public man; but of this all parties may be assured, that neither the terrors of a *law suit*, nor the fear of a *licking*, will prevent him from exposing and animadverting upon the conduct of any Officer that dares aspire to universal dominion in this Province. John Gape is not of a temper to shrink from the performance of a duty, because it may involve him in danger: the man is unworthy the name of a *Patriot*, who assumes an air of courage only when the political horizon is clear and unclouded, and hurries to shelter when the clouds arise, and the first pattering of the storm is heard.

Let the galled Jade wince.
(Vide Shakspeare.) Hem!

[For the Courier.]

MR. EDITOR,—I have been patiently waiting in the hope that some pen more talented than mine would have testified the approbation which the public entertain for the spirited and patriotic exertions of "JOHN GAPE" and "X. Y. Z." But until this debt is paid to them by some abler individual, permit me through the medium of your paper to assure them that their efforts are duly appreciated by a discerning public, and that every well-wisher to the Province most heartily desires that they may persevere, and *tear the mask* from the corruption, which has for years, been destroying the usefulness of important offices, and the public confidence, which ought to be reposed in them. Do you, Mr. Editor, urge them to persevere in their good work, and their honest expectations will be realized—the slumbering suspicions of the people are already aroused—the spell, which kept them in ignorance, is broken; they will seek redress, and persevere until they obtain it,—and if justice is not obtainable from represented Majesty, they will seek for it at the Throne of a gracious Sovereign, who will not be insensible to the complaint of a loyal people. The *Rubicon* is passed, and silence and forbearance would be a despicable surrender of our rights, and of our justly excited indignation to the talentless oppression and miserable duplicity of a few designing *aspirants*. We love England, and we love her *honest* men—but we hate her *Office-Brokers*, and that official corruption, which would place the prosperity of a Colony in one scale, and out-weigh it with the individual aggrandizement of a favourite, whose only claim is *fraternal influence;*—we can respect intellectual superiorities, and we would be more grateful if our Mother Country would respect our judgment and common discernment, by sending us some better specimens of English talent and English worth, than an Ensign, who has spilt more *sap* in our *bartered* forests than blood in the field of slaughter for his country, and who has hewn down a road to affluence in our woods, whilst his path to fame thro' the embattled plain is still uncut. Although I fully appreciate the opinions of *John Gape* and X. Y. Z., yet I am induced to believe that they are mistaken as to the author of "*A. B. C.*" for I am persuaded that "*A New-Brunswicker*" is correct in his suspicion—the low cunning, the malevolence, the sophistry, and the *would be* STANHOPE, betray the Jesuitical author, who has received the lash of "A New-Brunswicker," and is smarting under it. I was disappointed that "A New-Brunswicker" did not expose the fallacy of A. B. C's arguments respecting the Quit Rents, but I rejoice that this subject has been assumed by other and abler writers. Really, Mr. Editor, the times, and the abuses which characterize them, call imperatively for the constitutional and fearless exercise of talented and honest men to resist the tide of corruption, which is setting against the Rights of the People, and the vital interests of the Province. I shall trepass but little farther on your columns, which I hope will continue to be filled, as they have been of late, with information and arguments, calculated to enlighten a people who have been kept in the dark too long, with respect to the *workings* of the *Machine of State.* But I cannot forbear alluding to a report, which has obtained some degree of credit in this City—I allude to certain *changes* and *appointments* in the Council of this Province—viz. the *indecent* elevation of *one* Councillor *over* his *superiors* in intellect, merit, and claim: and the shameful appointment of other two, without intellect, merit, or claim to a seat in Council. Although the report comes in an unquestionable shape, I cannot, in justice to the Executive believe it. If this be the case, surely the measure of forbearance will not only be heaped up, but running over, and the sentiments of the people will be expressed in unmeasured terms, for respect to the *governing* can only be obtained and ensured by respect to the *governed.* If the report is true, the secrecy which has hitherto withheld it, is an acknowledgement of weakness, and of the consciousness of 'error'; and the power which thus mis-rules must soon sink into contempt.—But I shall take another opportunity to express mine, and the sentiments of the people of this place respecting this OFFICIAL OUTRAGE—suffice it at present to ask the questions: Will any Member of the Council who respects his own respectability continue one moment in the Council, after either of these appointments are officially declared? will they submit to be treated with indignity? and will the People thus acknowledge themselves to be the slaves of *official manœuverers*, and quietly bear any burden of disgrace and corruption, which the cupidity of designing men, who do not see themselves "as others see" them, would unblushingly impose upon us. I sincerely hope your patriotic writers will continue unwearied in their labour of well-directed zeal for the interest of this Province; and I, as one of a grateful community, will be ever ready to contribute my humble measure of approbation. O. P.

The Courier.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1832.

BANK OF NEW-BRUNSWICK.
Director next week, ... *N. Merritt, Esq.*
DISCOUNT DAY,........THURSDAY.
Hours of business, from 10 to 3.
☞ BILLS for Discount must be lodged with the Cashier before three o'clock on TUESDAY.

MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.
Committee for December:
JOHN WARD, Jun. President.
THOMAS BARLOW, CHARLES HAZEN,
J. V. THURGAR, I. L. BEDELL.

NEW-BRUNSWICK
Fire Insurance Company.
Committee for December:
CHARLES SIMONDS, Esq. President.
JAMES HENDRICKS, WILLIAM JARVIS,
JOHN KINNEAR.

THE Office of this Company, is open for business every day, (Sundays excepted,) from 11 A. M. till noon.—Answers to all applications for Insurance, will be given at noon on the day following that on which they are made.

☞ *All communications by Mail must be post paid.* By order.
D. JORDAN, *Secretary.*
St. John, September 3, 1831.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—We were favored, this morning, by Captain REED, of the steamer *Henrietta*, with the *Eastport Sentinel Extra*, containing the President's Message, delivered to both Houses of Congress, at Washington, on Tuesday the 4th December. The Message, (observes the Sentinel,) says but little about Nullification—is Anti Tariff,—Anti-Internal Improvement, and Anti-Bank, of course.—We subjoin a few extracts:

"It gives me pleasure to congratulate you upon your return to the seat of Government, for the purpose of discharging your duties to the people of the United States. Although the pestilence which had traversed the Old World has entered our limits, and extended its ravages over our land, it has pleased Almighty God to mitigate its severity and lessen the number of its victims, compared with those who have fallen in most other countries over which it has spread its terror.

"Notwithstanding the visitation, our country presents, on every side, marks of prosperity and happiness, unequalled perhaps, in any other portion of the world. If we fully appreciate our comparative condition, existing causes of discontent will appear unworthy of attention, and with hearts of thankfulness to that Divine Being who has filled the cup of our prosperity, we shall feel our resolutions strengthened to preserve and hand down to posterity that liberty and that Union which we have received from our fathers, and which constitute the sources and shield of all our blessings.

The relations of our country, continue to present the same amicable intercourse that I had the satisfaction to hold up to your view at the opening of the last session. The same friendly professions, the same desire to participate in our flourishing commerce, the same disposition to refrain from resenting injuries unintentionally offered, are, with a few exceptions, evinced by all nations with whom we have had any intercourse. This desirable state of things may be mainly ascribed to our undeviating practice of the rule which has long guided our national policy, to require no exclusive privileges in commerce, and to grant none. It is daily producing its beneficial effects in the respect shown to our flag, the protection of our citizens and property abroad, and in the increase of our navigation and the extension of our mercantile operations. The returns which have been made out since we last met, will show an increase during the last preceding year of more than eighty thousand tons in our shipping, and of nearly forty millions of dollars in the aggregate of our imports and exports.

"Nor have we less reason to felicitate ourselves on the position of our political, than of our commercial concerns. They remain in the same state as when I last addressed you—a state of prosperity and peace, the effect of a wise attention to the parting advice of the revered Father of his country on this subject, condensed into a maxim for the use of posterity by one of his most distinguished successors, to cultivate free commerce and honest friendship with all nations, and to make entangling alliances with none. A strict adherence to this policy has kept us aloof from the perplexing questions which now agitate the European world, and has more than once deluged those countries with blood. Should those scenes unfortunately recur, the parties to the contest may count on a faithful performance of the duties incumbent on us as a neutral nation, and our own citizens may equally rely on the firm assertion of their neutral rights.

"From Great Britain I have the satisfaction to inform you that I continue to receive assurances of the most amicable disposition, which have, on my part, on all proper occasions, been promptly and sincerely reciprocated. The attention of that government has latterly been so much engrossed by matters of a deeply interesting domestic character, that we could not press upon it the renewal of those negociations which had unfortunately been broken off by the unexpected recal of our Minister who had commenced them with some hopes of success. My great object was the settlement of questions which, though now dormant, might hereafter be revived under circumstances which would endanger the good understanding which it is the interest of both parties to preserve inviolate, cemented as it is by a community of language, manners and social habits, and by the high obligations we owe to our British ancestors for many of our most valuable institutions, and for that system of Representative Government which has enabled us to improve them.

The question of our North Eastern boundary still remains unsettled. In my last annual message I explained to you the situation in which I found that business on my coming into office, and the measures I thought it my duty to pursue for asserting the rights of the United States before the Sovereign who has been chosen by my predecessor to determine the question; and also the manner in which he had disposed of it. A special message to the Senate in their executive capacity, afterwards brought before them the question whether they would advise a submission to the opinion of the sovereign arbitrator. That body having considered the award as not obligatory, and advised me to open a further negociation, the proposition was immediately made to the British Government, but the circumstances to which I have alluded have hitherto prevented any answer being given to the overture. Early attention, however, has been promised to the subject, and every effort on my part will be made for a satisfactory settlement of this question, interesting to the Union generally, and particularly so to one of its members.

* * * It is expected that in consequence of the reduced rates of duty which will take effect after the third of March next, there will be a considerable falling off in the revenue from customs in the year 1833. It will nevertheless be amply sufficient to provide for all the wants of the public service estimated even upon a liberal scale, and for the redemption and purchase of the remainder of the public debt. On the first of January next the entire public debt of the United States, funded and unfunded, will be reduced to within a fraction of *seven millions of Dollars*—of which $2,227,363 are not of right redeemable until the first of January, 1835. The Commissioners of the sinking fund, however, being invested with full authority to purchase the debt at the market price, and the means of the Treasury being ample, it may be hoped that the whole will be extinguished within the year 1833.

"It is my painful duty to state, that in one quarter of the United States, opposition to the revenue laws has risen to a height which threatens to thwart their execution, if not to endanger the integrity of the Union. Whatever obstructions may be thrown in the way of the Judicial Authorities of the General Government, it is hoped they will be able peaceably to overcome them by the prudence of their own officers and the patriotism of the people. But should this reasonable reliance on the moderation and good sense of all portions of our fellow citizens be disappointed, it is believed that the laws themselves are fully adequate to the suppression of such attempts as may be immediately made. Should the exigency arise, rendering the execution of the existing laws impracticable from any cause whatever, prompt notice of it will be given to Congress, with the suggestion of such views and measures as may be deemed necessary to meet it."

In reference to a certain part of the communication of "*X. Y. Z.*" published on Saturday last, our correspondent has since furnished us with some particulars respecting the Royal Road, near Fredericton, the substance of which we have embodied in the following observations; and we perfectly agree with our correspondent, that the declared advantages are delusive and unsubstantial, while the injury is almost inevitable. We are actuated by no malevolent passion towards the originators of that mysterious project; we believe it very possible that the prosperity of the Province was the only motive which prompted Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL to recommend that a Road should forthwith be opened through the wilderness lands, thereby enhancing their relative value, and encouraging a rapid increase of Emigration settlement; that such would be the consequence of the proposed measure, it were the grossest folly to deny; but while we so far agree with him, we are still of opinion that the scheme was premature, and that for many years it cannot be perfected. The quantity of labour already expended upon that Road, is very great,—the cost of that labour has already drained the Casual Revenue to its very dregs, and yet how far has it been opened?—and by what means is it proposed to prosecute the work to a successful termination? The Imperial Government will not appropriate a farthing,—the Ordinary Revenue of the Province cannot be diverted into that channel, nor do we believe that such a proposition dare be submitted to the Legislature,—the Casual Revenue is scarcely more than sufficient to pay the Civil List—that revenue is also decreasing in its receipts:—the amount of monies received, and to be received, from the mighty Land Company, is yet, we believe, undecided, and as far as we can learn, the ultimate embarkation of extensive capital, in that Company, is very doubtful—indeed it is more than surmised that the Company will never go into active operation, thus making even their political existence a matter of uncertainty. To obviate all these difficulties, it is now proposed, that persons shall work upon the Road, and take payment in *Land.* We will not for an instant suppose that the Gentleman from whom this proposition emanated, could have deliberately reflected upon the consequences which it necessarily involves, or that he saw the inference which must be deduced from such an extraordinary procedure; but we will take it for granted that the proposed system may be in some degree successful, and that persons *may* be found to work the Road upon the terms specified in the Secretary's advertisement; yet we must record our *veto* against the propriety or even the honesty of the measure. To prove the accuracy of our position, we will suppose, that a person shall undertake to perform a certain quantity of work upon the Royal Road, for which he is to receive a portion of wilderness land, at the same price which would be demanded from one who was paying the money for such land—probably three shillings and six pence per acre—for 100 acres, £17 : 10; the presumption may be raised, that supplies will be required from some merchant to enable the contractor to finish his work—perhaps £10. For these advances, he must deposit some species of surety—and what more available and tangible surety can he give than a conditional title of the land which he is to receive for his labour? The work is performed—the Grant issues—but the Grantee is unable to pay for the goods which he had received from the merchant,—creditors are seldom *charged* with the weakness of leniency, and the land must be sold to satisfy the demand which arose in the course of the work; perhaps the debtor may be sued:—costs are thus added to the original debt—the Sheriff sells the land—and we appeal to the experience of all our readers, whether the proceeds of that sale would more than satisfy the costs of suit and of sale, leaving the original debt still unpaid. This may be called an extreme case, but we know it is a case of daily occurrence. To prove also, that our opinion respecting the boasted value of wilderness land, is not founded on mere conjecture, we will mention another circumstance which our correspondent notices:—A tract of excellent land, within a short distance of Fredericton, containing about 750 acres, a large part of which is cleared intervale, and raising from forty to fifty tons of Hay annually, was lately offered, *at private sale*, for *one hundred and fifty pounds*, or about *three shillings and nine pence per acre!*

But we will suppose that the contractor can finish his work without extraneous assistance, and that he shall receive his land free from any species of incumbrance, yet he is not placed in an equally favourable position with the *bona fide* cash purchaser: the latter, we believe, is suffered to pay the purchase money *by instalments;* but the former pays the whole price of his land before he can receive a title—nay, he cannot even make the slightest attempt at its cultivation, until he has paid an equivalent to the entire price. But while the contractor incurs a special risk of loss by the proposed system, the Crown derives no possible advantage from its adoption.—We will imagine the possibility, that the Government, by selling its land to *cash purchasers*, is prepared to pay money for all the labour to be performed upon the Road; then suppose the work to be *let out* to special contractors, according to the mode pursued by the Provincial Supervisors, or conducted by faithful and intelligent persons, in whose skill and integrity the most perfect confidence might be reposed—suppose also, that instead of the party (in the latter case) being almost compelled to receive their supplies at an arbitrary rate, from any individual, merchants and others should be requested to give in proposals for furnishing, on moderate and specific terms, all such articles, both of provisions and implements, as might be required,—and we will venture to affirm that the Road may be finished for two thirds of the sum which the Government will be required to pay for its completion, according to either the present system, or that which is proposed by the late advertisement in the *Gazette.* The question then rests upon the ability of Government to pay *cash* for the work; and as we are assured that the objections which we have now advanced, *had* not escaped the observation of the Officers who are placed at the head of Provincial affairs, we feel ourselves warranted in concluding, that the expedient to which we have referred, has been prompted by necessity alone. Viewing it, therefore, as a *dernier* resort, we cannot look with any degree of confidence to its ultimate success; and considering it as a delusive bait, thrown out, perhaps unintentionally, to unwary persons, we must both denounce and deprecate the whole measure, as one pregnant with mischief, and ruinous in the extreme.

To this subject alone, we have at present confined our attention, but we purpose, shortly, to notice other matters connected with the Colonial Government; and we would invite a more extensive correspondence upon Public Affairs than has latterly fallen to our lot. We trust that nothing shall ever appear in the pages of the *Courier*, that shall either breathe a spirit of disaffection to our King and Country, or that shall wound the feelings of private individuals. When public measures are arraigned, public men must, in some degree, be included in the censure: but this is a duty which we shall always perform with reluctance. Yet, although we distinctly avow our intention of rejecting any communication that embodies either personal reflections or disloyal principles, we will cheerfully publish liberal strictures, and give ready publicity to the sentiments of all parties. That abuses do exist in some of the Public Departments, is a fact that is too notorious to be contradicted—that it is the duty of the Press to expose these abuses, is an equally undeniable truth; but for a special knowledge of such abuses, we must rely upon the information that may be furnished by our friends. We therefore again intreat that the slumbering energies of our readers may be roused to action; but we also intreat that *fiction* may not be suffered to usurp the place of *fact.*—"TRUTH *is powerful and will prevail*," and we beg our correspondents ever to keep that aphorism in view.

SOIREE MUSICALE.—Our pleasing task of noticing in a very complimentary manner the highly amusing and rational entertainment at Masonic Hall, on Thursday evening, has been anticipated by a scientific and literary Gentleman, who has also favored us with a translation of one of the Songs.

Expectation, that on tip-toe stood, has been gratified: the Messrs. HERRMANN & Co. have arrived, and the Masonic Hall has resounded to the applause and laughter of a pleased audience. What shall we say of their talents? To those who were present, words would but faintly convey the impression which their singing created—to those who were absent, we can only give a little advice—"Go and judge for yourselves." It may be, however, expected, that some further notice should be taken of the Gentlemen who have enabled us to give wings to one of the most agreeable evenings we have passed in St. John. To state that the Messrs. Herrmann & Co. are distinguished by voices of superior brilliancy of tone, or startling melody, would transgress the bounds of truth: they prove, however, one point, which the world in general forgets, or to which it pays but little attention—that an ordinary voice, scientifically cultivated, and regulated by pure taste, is capable of affording the most thrilling gratification. The fine bass of Mr. Maertl, should, however, be excepted; in richness and depth, it yields to few that we have heard; and it possesses a range seldom distinguishing bass so low and clear. His *falsetto* notes are particularly fine and melodious. Were we disposed to be hypercritical, we thought one or two of his higher bass notes rather wiry—but these were quickly forgotten in the full, rich body of his lower tones. What shall we say of that prince of comic singers, that living image of poor Ambrogetti, that personification of laughter, Mr. Muhlauer? We know not whether he is aware of the Temperance Societies in town, but as he resides at Mr. M'Kee's, we suppose he has some idea of their existence; whilst he was singing the Bacchanalian song, with face like a deal board, we thought that there was a secret roguery in his eye, as, peering over his paper, he laughed in his sleeve, that the devotees of temperance could never enter into that thrilling feeling enjoyed by the son of Bacchus as he chaunts:

"Drink then at all times!"

We hope this song will not be chaunted again: its effect may be pernicious, not only by the music, but the sentiment:

In the Autumn, we must drink,
For 'tis then the time, we think,
When the grape pours out its blood,
And we find the wine so good:
In the Autumn, we must drink!

In the Winter, we must drink,
For 'tis then so cold, we think,
We warm us with the berry's blood,
And find the wine so thorough good,
In the Winter, we must drink!

In the Summer, we must drink,
For 'tis then so warm, we think,
That to cool the heated blood,
Then the icy wine's so good,
In the Summer, we must drink!

In the Spring, too, we must drink,
Then, nor hot, nor cold, we think,
We can quaff with quiet blood;
The wine, too, does us double good:
Then, in the Spring, drink, drink, drink!

We belong to the Temperance Society, but had, we must confess, a severe struggle, that song still lingering in our ears, to pass Condle's without taking a drop, to try its effect in warming a Christian's extremities on a bitter cold night. But to return to Mr. Muhlauer: he possesses all the animal spirit of Harly, without his grimaces; and all the archness of little Knight revels in his eye. Then the demure aspect he will assume;—and who can laugh with him?—Bah! We would sooner hear that laugh, coming from the soul, and look in his cheerful face, than hear that the Bank had discounted our Bill, or its Directors gleaned wisdom from experience! As the Schoolmaster, Mr. Muhlauer displayed another point of his character—we wish all the masters in the city had been there to take a lesson—but for their benefit we will describe him: 1st, He was a perfect gentleman; 2d, He corrected by encouragement; 3d, He looked sharp and did his duty, by keeping his scholars well employed; 4th, He never got angry, into whatever error they fell, but expostulated and reasoned; and when the book was bottom upwards, he did not rage at sloth, but placing the book properly, he set his pupil to work by repeating the lesson with him. We did not, however, fancy that his words corresponded with his gentle deportment. He exclaims in the conclusion, "I would rather be a pig driver: nothing but syllibication, spelling, cutting pens, mixing ink, or guiding the urchins' fingers. Pity, pity the poor Pedagogue!" We do pity him, with all our hearts. His task is truly pig-driving, nay, worse, if possible. Admirable Muhlauer—we wish you had been our schoolmaster, and we should be now something better than having our lives and tempers teazed by the Printer's Devil.

We cannot conclude this, without noticing Mr. Lidel Herrmann's Violincello. The finale of his Waltz Variations, still echo to our imaginings. Oh, that touch! it was truly music at a distance; it reminded us of Linley, far, far away; we fancied the horn in the woods; we saw the hunter in the distance; and the dead silence of admiration fed our momentary dreams. We have heard Paganini, and astonished, electrified as we then were, we would prefer the minute of Lidel Herrmann's imitative horn to all the wonders of the single string, the fighting, shrieking and scratching of the witches; or all the variations of the lover's duet.

Inhabitants of St. John—if you wish two hours of rational, pleasing, enchanting amusement, hear the Messrs. Herrmann & Co.; the harmony of all the pieces will make you in love with human nature; and as you will be gratified with hearing the Laughing Trio, there will be no necessity of calling in the Doctor, or losing 3s. 6d. in Morison's Pills for the rest of the winter. Thus you will only pay 3d. for your ticket!

THE CIRCUS.—The expected addition to the Company lately performing at this establishment having arrived in the *Water-Witch*, from Boston,