NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

CONTAINING

POLITICAL, HISTORICAL, GEOGRAPHICAL, SCIENTIFICAL, | STATISTICAL, ECONOMICAL, AND BIOGRAPHICAL

DOCUMENTS, ESSAYS, AND FACTS;

TOGETHER WITH


H. NILES, EDITOR.

THE PAST—THE PRESENT—FOR THE FUTURE.

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NILES' REGISTER—APRIL 5, 1825—MISCELLANEOUS.

quired what he was to receive as a compensation for his trouble. One of the directors answered very promptly, you may have the ashes." "Agreed," replied the gentleman, "for it will make the best shaving soap in the world."—Monitor.

LONGEVITY. In January last we made known our intention of keeping a monthly record of the decease of persons, (as mentioned in the news papers) whose ages amounted to 100 years. During the month of February, we did not hear of the death of any such person, and for the last month have only to notice Mrs. Mercy Paige, who died at Hardwick, Mass. aged 105.

REMARKABLE FAMILY. There now lives near Guildford, England, a woman of the name of Punten, at the age of 96 years, whose daughter is the mother of sixteen children, one of whom, (a daughter), has had sixteen children, one of whom has also become the mother of sixteen children; consequently the family has twenty grand children, sixteen great grand children and sixteen great-great grandchildren, all living.

CHURCHES, &c. in Philadelphia.—March 1825.—Presbyterian 13, one of which African; Episcopal 10—one African; Baptist 8—one African; Methodist 14, 1 African; Society of Friends 5; Roman Catholic 4; Reformed Dutch church 2; Congregational 1; Lutheran 1; Lutheran (German) 2; German Presbyterian 2; Associate Reformed, Moravian, Free will Baptists, Free Quakers, Swedish Lutheran, Covenanter, Mariner's church, Prison chapel, Jew's, New Lights, New Jerusalem, and Unitarian, 1 each; Universalists 2, and those churches with denominations not given—total 80.

HONEY. A tree was lately opened near Dennis' Creek, Cape May county, N. J. 51 feet in circumference, that was found to contain a honeycomb, extending 18 feet in length, completely filled with honey; and a paper published at Bridgetown, in the African Society Advocate, speaks of a Free state in Legum which was split open a few days since, at the shop of Messrs. Johnston and Sheppard, in this town, in the heart of which was found a honeycomb fifteen inches long, containing honey of an excellent flavor, and in a perfect state of preservation—the comb was closely enveloped on all sides with the insects. How many years have passed since the honey was thus deposited, it is impossible now to discover.

CAIN, the champion of England. This famous bruiser and fighter for money, has exhibited a trait of character that should cover many of his bad actions—as charity covers a multitude of sins.

TSA. The monopoly of tea by the British East India company, costs the people of Great Britain the annual sum of about $2,700,750 sterling per annum—say twelve millions of dollars! It appears by a statement made out from actual sales, that one pound each of Boliem, Congo, Souchong, Hyson and Lapsi, cost in India 55. and 7s. 6d. in New York, the prices, in both instances, being exclusive of the duties levied by the respective governments. The preceding is a brief statement of the facts shewn in a British paper. Now, if we had that kind of "free trade" with England that people speak of so much in the United States, the export of a single cargo of tea from New York to London, costs five to six thousand dollars, and makes a fortune for the skipper equal to the fee-simple of a German principality. "Let us alone."

SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES. From the Baltimore American—addressed to the editors: "As many English travellers and writers have shamedfully slandered the American system of slavery, which was shewn by the following remarks in refutation of their calumnies, and as displaying sentiments which the just and liberal of all countries must applaud. They are extracted from the interesting remarks during a journey through North America," contained in the October No. of the Christian Observer, a British paper, which has been translated and candor which the writers for the "Courier" and "Quarterly Review," and the rest of our friends, will not presume to claim for themselves.

The author, (whose very judicious observations on our country and character have been continued through many of the last numbers of the work), after giving an affecting account of an auction sale of negroes which he had witnessed in Charleston, S. C. proceeds thus:

"The melancholy feelings with which I quitted this scene were not diminished by the reflection that it was my country which first transported the poor African to these western shores; that it was there that they were the shores of a British colony, the last slave ship that reached there, British capital and with the sanction and encouragement of a British parliament. Would that I could forget that, in a single year, (1753,) no less than 30,000 slaves were introduced into America by a single and one vessel belonging to Liverpool alone; that the efforts of many of the American states to abolish the importation of slaves has never been defeated by the royal negative which was put on those acts of the colonial legislature which had for their sole object the extinction of the slave trade; and that Burke was too well justified in stating in parliament, that "the refusal of America to deal any more in the inhuman traffic of negro slaves, was one of the causes of her quedual withdrawal from the British empire."

Would that I could forget that if America has still her slave holding states, we free Britons have also our slave holding colonies; and that in neither the one nor the other has one step yet been taken towards the emancipation, however remote, of the injured Africans! Do not think me insane enough to overlook the difficult part of the subject. I am insensible neither to the consideration due to those whose property is invested under legislative sanctions, nor to the cruelty of liberating slaves till they are prepared for freedom; but surely no man, much less a free-born Briton, or an American republican, can rest satisfied in the horrors connected with every thing is to be regarded, in any region of the globe, as necessary, irremediable, hopeless and protracted.

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The time I hope is not far distant when a better order of things will prevail in this respect, even when the darkest; when this blot will be effaced forever from the fair creation of that common parent who hath made of one blood all nations of men, for to dwell on the face of the earth.

A good bit. From the Connecticut Mirror. "We must apologize to the Massachusetts Peace Society, for interfering with its concerns; for, as members of the first battalion company in this place, it would be inconsistent with the duty which we owe to the respectable body of men, of which it is composed, to belong to any peace society whatever. But laboring as we do, under this unyielding objection, we trust their principles of benevolence will excuse us for suggesting to them the immediate expulsion of all Negro, the Emperor of all the Chinese, from their body. And that the lovers of liberty throughout Europe may be apprised of the fact, we tender the Connecticut Mirror as a proper medium, through which to convey the intelligence."

By the bye, will some worthy remark, that those who were the warmest friends of the 'magnanimous Alexander,' when he was fighting against Napoleon, are now his most bitter enemies.

MAGNET. Philadelphia, March 14. On Monday evening professor Patterson exhibited to his class an artificial magnet, of the horse shoe form, which attained the enormous weight of one hundred and sixty-two pounds. Its own weight is only thirty-two pounds.

This is said to be the most powerful magnet known. It was prepared under the direction of Mr. Lukens, of this city, who has discovered a method of touching, which is much superior to that used in Europe. This large magnet will, in future, be found among the curiosities in the Philadelphia museum.

GEORGIA. Milledgeville, March 11. The result of the late attempt to hold a treaty with the Cherokee Indians, has been truly unfortunate. And, from the disposition manifested by that nation, there is scarcely now the hope that the meeting in August next will be more successful.

The commissioners, we understand, under the expectation that the Indians would at least attend at the agency and hear what might be urged in favor of selling their lands, procured a large supply of provisions, and had tents built. Some few did attend, but so scrupulously did they observe the orders in council which had been previously passed, that, although the weather was very inconsiderable, they would not touch a ration, or venture in the inside of a tent. We could wish that civilized society should always present such examples of obedience to the laws of the land.

A dependent on couriers waited on Hicks, the principal chief, and remonstrated with him on the course that had been pursued by the nation. He heard them through their story very patiently, and dryly asked: "Will you give us two dollars per acre for our land?" Being answered in the negative, he said "Very well, we know its value. We are in the debt, and our forefathers never had against us, we do not regard them. We can pay them without selling our land, whenever they are properly presented." These things are most inapplicable indications that the people of Georgia must be contented with what land they have already got, unless they adopt the idea of a certain titled son of Mars, who shall be nameless for the present, that Indians stand in the same relation to white men as the wild beasts are to the farmer. Yet it is impossible that it is competent for the latter to drive the former from their possessions by force whenever douceurs fail of their usual effect.

The "Washington News" gives the following account of the affair—it appears that, at the last session of the national council of the Cherokees, in October, the resolution was introduced, with a determination to cede no more territory, and forbidding a meeting with the United States' commissioners, if they were sent to treat for more land.

To this resolution they most scrupulously adhered, and there was no convention. The commissioners repaired to the agency, Calhoun, where, after waiting a few days, they addressed a circular to the nation, and distributed it by express. This produced no visible effect. But few answers were returned, and these referred to the resolutions of the council, as being the bar to the proposed meeting. The commissioners then determined on visiting some of the chief in person, which they accordingly did. By doing so freely on the subject, they ascertained that there was no possibility of a meeting while the resolutions were in force. The commissioners returned to the agency, and communicated an address to the head chiefs, remonstrating against the resolutions, as being rash and premature, and disrespectful, insisting on their convening the council, that the resolutions might be repealed, and appointed the 9th of August, another meeting, at Talonoy, on the federal road. It is confidently believed that a meeting will then take place.

The national council of the Cherokees is divided into two branches: The council is composed of 15 men, and the committee of 33. The council-men are chosen by the nation, and the committee men by the council. The first hold their appointments for an indefinite period, and the latter for one year. They meet annually, at a stated seat of government, and are styled the national council.

FOREIGN NEWS. By an arrival at Charleston, London date, the 11th February have been received—four papers containing important documentary articles, which we shall give below, and some items of news, as follows:—

The Spanish minister had left Paris, by order of the Cortes, after remaining some time at the request of the British minister, who endeavored to bring about an accommodation. The late French minister at Madrid had reached Bayonne—some fears had been entertained for his personal safety.

The Spanish Cortes and the nation appear to stand unconquerably firm—and to act as if they had counted the cost of the contest, with a resolution to meet it like freemen. There is a report that a party of the priest-led rebels had made an attempt to get to Madrid, to obtain the person of the king—they had a battle with the constitutionalists; and, though it seems from one account that they obtained a partial advantage, another makes it out that they were beaten and dispersed.

Spain and Portugal are on the most friendly terms, and appear resolved to make a common cause in the defence of your honor—i.e., your frontiers and peninsula. The latter is to furnish 30,000 men in the event of a war between the former and France.

Mina has taken Seo d'Urgel, the late head quarters of the "army of the faith." The British minister at Madrid is in great favor with the people of that city—and he gives splendid entertainments.