

### CONDITIONS.

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### NEW-YORK.

From the Albany Advertiser.

The legislature of this state met in this city yesterday. David Woods, Esq. a member from Washington county was chosen speaker of the House of Assembly, and Aaron Clark, Esq. clerk. The other officers of the house the same as at the last session. The votes of the federal members for speaker, were given to James Emott, Esq. a member from Dutchess county. After the house was organized, the Senate met them in the hall of the assembly, and at 12 o'clock his Excellency the Governor attended, and delivered to both houses the following speech:

Gentlemen of the Senate and of the Assembly, I avail myself of the present occasion to express to the people, through their representatives my acknowledgments for the renewed honor conferred on me, by committing once more to my charge the administration of their government.

The general state of peace in which mankind at length repose, is a subject of felicitation. Europe, hitherto the theatre of perpetual and bloody contention, now presents a spectacle of amity, rivalling each other only in quiet industry, commercial enterprise, and all the means of repairing the ravages caused by their long and cruel wars.

The southern part of our continent the principal exception to universal peace. There we behold a vast population, inhabiting a boundless extent of fertile territory, struggling to dispel the clouds of superstition, and shake off the chains of foreign despotism. An effort so noble challenges the best wishes of the philanthropist, and cannot fail to receive the sympathy of the citizens of the United States: And if, in the dispensations of providence, it shall be decreed that our southern brethren may terminate their political sufferings in the establishment of a great confederacy of republics, mutually cultivating the arts and sciences, conducting extensive liberal commerce, promoting agriculture, becoming respectable and happy at home and honored abroad, and enjoying the blessings of political and religious freedom. This western hemisphere will present a scene of delightful contemplation.

Within our own borders every thing tranquil and happy; and although the productions of the earth have not been so abundant the past season as they usually are, a bountiful harvest, fully sufficient, with prudent management, to supply all the necessities and comforts of life, is still left us.—and the general healthfulness of the season, call forth warm emotions of gratitude to the great Dispenser of every good.

The present meeting of the legislature being appointed by law for a special purpose, I shall submit to your consideration at this time such subjects as are of pressing and indispensable importance.

In the month of September James Northrop, of the county of Saratoga, was convicted of the crime of murder and was sentenced to be executed on the last Friday of the present month.

The jurors who tried him have reported that his punishment may be commuted, but the chief justice, who presided at the trial, is so well persuaded of the mental derangement of the unfortunate convict, that he does not think him a fit subject for punishment of any kind. It is, however, considered dangerous to permit him to go at large, and therefore if a pardon be granted, a condition that he be confined in some lunatic hospital or asylum is respectfully recommended.

The progress, of vice keeping pace with the rapid increase of population, becomes impossible to accommodate, the single edifice of New-York, all the convicts which are sent from the different parts of the state. So crowded indeed is that prison, that serious discussions are entertained of increasing and other alarming consequen-

ces. For this reason many pardons are recommended by the judges of the Supreme Court, and the inspectors of the prison, on the plea of necessity, which perhaps would not have been advised on the ground of merit.

This necessity renders punishment more uncertain, and that uncertainty destroys the respect for, and operation of, the laws: and the grand melioration of our code, which substitutes deprivation of liberty and subjection to hard labor for sanguinary and capital punishments will not have a fair experiment, or be truly tested, unless the mild sentences pronounced are endured. You will readily perceive the high importance of removing the present embarrassments to the full execution of criminal sentences. The communication from the inspectors of the institution, which I now present, suggests several remedies for the existing evil. Without expressing an opinion on the propriety of ultimately adopting those which are experimental, and will be more difficult and tedious of accomplishment, it is respectfully submitted to your wisdom to make provision at the present session, for employing a part at least of the state prisoners, either in building the new prison at Auburn, erecting fortifications, opening and repairing great roads, constructing canals, or in making other improvements.

It is greatly to be deplored, when capitalists had, from the purest motives of patriotism, and when the best interests of the country required it, adventured their property in them, that establishments for domestic manufactures should have been suffered to be suspended or even to languish. An appeal to the general government has produced partial relief; but the utmost exertions of the state legislature will be required to yield such further encouragement as will place manufacturers of domestic articles upon an equal footing with the importers of foreign merchandize.

GENTLEMEN, When we compare the situation of the United States with that of other countries, we have great cause of self gratulation. We find ourselves in the enjoyment of every rational right, civil and religious. Our government has proved itself capable of resisting the shock of most political changes which peace or war can produce. Its duration, then, may confidently be predicted coeval with the intelligence and virtue of its inhabitants.

The present state of the world, and the general disposition of mankind, are propitious to the encouragement of learning, the advancement of the arts, and the extension of religious information; the certain and only means of perpetuating our happy condition.—As the guardians of the prosperity, liberty and morals of the state, we are therefore bound by every injunction of patriotism and wisdom, to endow to the utmost of our resources schools and seminaries of learning, to patronize public improvements, and to cherish all institutions for the diffusion of religious knowledge, and for the promotion of virtue and piety.

DANIEL D. TOMPKINS.

Albany, Nov. 5, 1816.

FROM THE CLARION.

### CHOCTAW TREATY.

We congratulate our readers on the final termination of all the difficulties about the lands ceded to the U. States by the Creek Indians in the summer of 1814. The extinguishment of the claims set up by the Cherokees and Chickasaws by the commissioners (Gens. Jackson and Meriwether) appointed for that purpose, we noticed in a former paper, and we have now the pleasure of announcing the return of Gen. Coffee and John Rhea Esq. commissioners appointed to treat with the Choctaw nation for the claim they set up, to about seven millions of acres of the land ceded by the Creek nation lying east of Tombigbee river, and running to the dividing ridge between the Cahawba and Black warrior rivers.

The gentlemen called a meeting of the Choctaws and agreeably to their request the Indians met, to the number of about two thousand, including all the head men or mingoos and chiefs.—When met, a committee of the most intelligent chiefs was chosen by the tribe to confer with the commissioners, and receive the propositions they had to make. The commissioners informed them what they were authorized to do, which the Indian committee did not appear to like, and proposed to amend the terms offered, but the commissioners would not assent to any of their propositions. They could make no arrangement in waiting, submitted to for his as-

sent or dissent. The offer was unanimously accepted, and the treaty immediately concluded. The commissioners then distributed a few thousand dollars worth of Merchandize among the Indians, and all retired in order to their respective habitations.

For a country about 150 miles long and 65 broad, we are to give six thousand dollars yearly for twenty years, without any reservations or extra pay for improvements. Considerable part of which tract of country is very good farming land, and will amply repay the government when brought into the market for the expenses of quieting the Indian claim. There is no calculating the loss to the nation in the lives of those brave men who fell in the Creek war, but the expense of that war could not amount to more than twelve hundred thousand dollars, and the money to be paid to the Cherokees, Chickasaws and Choctaws, with presents, &c. will not exceed three hundred thousand dollars more, making in the whole one and a half million of dollars for which the United States have the quiet possession of at least twenty millions of acres of land, in the most desirable part of the United States.—Taking the whole cession into view, we are told the land would not be considered more than one third good, of which one third, a fourth would command in the market to day at least ten dollars an acre, a fourth seven dollars, a fourth five dollars, and a fourth two dollars, making an average of six dollars per acre for the third of the cession, equal to two dollars an acre for the whole.

The immense country obtained from the Indians is the fruit of Tennessee prowess and unmatched valor, and some small part of it would be well disposed of if given to the poor fellows who conquered it. We conceive it to be our duty to call the attention of our representation in congress to this subject. If no better terms can be had, let there be provision made for bringing the land into market as soon as possible, let every one hundred and sixty acres be offered for sale, and if it will not bring more than two dollars, retain it, and after the whole has been offered for sale, give the soldiers and others who were out in the Creek war the privilege of entering a tract, and in order that all might have this privilege, shut the office to all other persons for six months or a year.

We cannot think any person in the United States could object to this plan. Better terms might probably be had—we think that those who fought, amidst every privation, the battles of their country, ought to be compensated by donations, as much as Yazoo or New Madrid speculators.\*

We know the members of the government have been very liberal with the public funds on more than one occasion, and we cannot think they will be parsimonious when the widow, the orphan, or the poor veteran appeals to them, for a resting place. We hope that an attempt at least will be made to effect an object so dear to the citizens of this state.

\*The merits of Yazoo speculation we suppose is known to most of our readers—the other is of a recent date, and if possible equals the other. Last winter application was made to congress to relieve the sufferers by the earthquakes at and near New Madrid—the pretended object was a good one but the law was so loosely worded and framed that an immense section of the first rate land in the Missouri Territory has been located. We are told that the delegate in congress has profited largely in the speculations, and immense fortunes were made by purchasing rights from the unwary holders.

The recent events and the present situation of America, furnish a spectacle that fills us with wonder and delight. Nothing that ever happened resembles it. We look in vain into the accounts of every nation of whom history bears record, to find a parallel to its rapid growth in power, the happiness enjoyed as a nation and as individuals, the mildness, the harmony, the love of order and virtue among its citizens. Other nations have exceeded it in tumults and bloodshed; in the productions of fastidious luxury; in the splendor and pomp of courts, raised on the servility and misery of nations—some have been peopled by multitudes of miserable beings, whom the strong arm of despotism has driven from their homes to languish in sterile plains, or to perish in frozen waters. But we have exceeded our highest hopes, and have effected, by the simple act of enabling the people to be happier, what power and compulsion have utterly failed to accomplish.

The people have done much to deserve the share of prosperity and happiness which we now enjoy. It is the government of our country that speaks its will, and in ours is identified with the people. Here we have fortunately had honest intentions and an inviolable

regard to justice. We have gained an exalted national character; and that of being the only nation who has regarded the dictates of justice. Is there any nation that can lift up her voice against us as an invader of her rights? Is there an individual at home or abroad that can criminate our government as the wanton cause of oppression and injustice? We may boldly say there is none; and what nation is there that can say as much? Even at this moment those who trample on right themselves, reverence our regard for it, and in their hearts pay us that admiration which the image of justice cannot but extort from the most abandoned.

The great excellence of our government is, that it is eventually guided by the voice of the people. A few potent or daring men may propose schemes of ambition, of domination, of war, for their aggrandisement; but the people coolly observe, and silently reflect, and however ignorant it may be the fashion of the ministers of England to esteem them, they have proved, in this country, that their discernment is far beyond that of those who think themselves capable of teaching them.

The people of America have not been without their tempters; but they have withstood the seducers, and now enjoy the result of their virtue; a prosperity unrivalled by any present nation, and of which no parallel in history is recorded.—*Sav. Repub.*

From the Boston Patriot.

### A VIEW

Of the actual state of Great Britain in September, 1816: By an Englishman, just arrived.

(CONTINUED)

If we take a view of the condition of the suffering interests in Britain, we shall find that the agriculturist stands foremost in the catalogue of woe—the individual who, of all others, is in well regulated state, generally the most happy, the most contented, is not the most independent.

The first circumstance which we may regard as lying at the root of the evil here; is the forced progress of agriculture by the temporary demands of the war, and the exclusion of England from all continental supplies. The commencement of hostilities in 1792—3, produced the stagnation of trade and manufactures which usually accompanies a transition from peace to war; but these difficulties were of uncommonly short duration, and the successes of the British arms at sea, the capture of some of the enemy's colonies, the revolt of others, and the crippled state of his mercantile resources at home from internal confusion, speedily diminished his commerce in an extraordinary degree, augmenting that of Britain in nearly the same proportion. In estimating the progress of agriculture, it will be necessary to glance at circumstances touching the condition of trade and manufactures as connected with it; for it must be obvious to every political enquirer, how intimately these branches of economy are interwoven with each other, and that their mutual dependence is essential and established.

It seems to have been the ruling principle of France to endeavor to extend her territorial influence by a persevering system of warfare until nearly the whole of Europe felt her sway. Neglecting the arts of peace, which alone bring commerce, and with its riches, the sinews of war, she seems to have seen the sacrifice of her colonies and of her marine with less emotion than the loss of Spain, or even of a petty German principality, in all probability, might have excited.—With somewhat less pride and more policy, France might have been at this day a great & powerful, instead of a humbled nation. Professing a desire for ships, colonies and commerce, Bonaparte shewed his knowledge of political economy, but he failed in the practice of it. As his conquests or influence extended over other nations, possessed of trade or colonial establishments, these in their turn became exposed to the British maritime hostility, and lost their commerce and their plantations, so that in a very short time, England obtained a mercantile and colonial monopoly, altogether unprecedented even in the most successful of her former wars.—The consequence was a sudden extension of her manufacturing industry and wealth, and a proportionate augmentation in her agriculture necessary to enable the country to feed the towns, whose population is ascertained to have wonderfully increased. The financial and military operations of the war concurred also to raise the prices of agricultural produce; the necessity of a large war expenditure collected capital in masses, to be expended less economically in feeding a number of persons more carelessly than the same

individuals would have been supported by part of the same capital had it been left in the hands of private persons. A given sum in the hands of government, even of the most economical masters, especially if allotted to meet the various pressing exigencies of warfare, must be expended with much less care and parsimony than the same sums appropriated to the uses of private families, under all the checks imposed by individual prudence. The tendency of such a national expenditure unquestionably is to raise prices above their natural level for a year or two at least, and thus to force cultivation forward.

These circumstances were attended by the cultivation of the ground, and the red-which in its consequences, might have facilitated this operation, viz. the stoppage of the bank of England in the early part of 1797. The alarm in which that extraordinary measure originated, was lulled by a public avowal on the part of the leading bankers and merchants to agree in taking bank of England notes in all payments. The minister of the day, Mr. Pitt, took advantage of this disposition in his friends, and supporters, and he thereupon introduced a bill into Parliament, which was passed, authorizing the bank of England, to suspend its payments of specie, and rendering bank notes a legal tender. From this moment the origin of a pernicious system of credit, is to be dated, the evil which is now lately developing itself, involving all in one general vortex of calamity.—The restoration of confidence speedily followed the prevalent opinion of government and the bank of England being materially connected in credit and security. A paper circulation to an immense extent ensued, increasing with the demands of the state till it became almost the sole medium of circulation, and gold and silver rapidly disappeared, being exported either to pay the troops abroad, or to furnish subsidies to allied powers. With the restoration of public confidence, which was materially aided by the consideration that England had become from her unusual situation, the rock of safety, when other nations were crumbling into dust, came a disposition to accommodate on the part of country bankers, wholly unexampled. These bankers usually speculated in land with the fictitious capital they had thus created by an issue of their own notes, because and was rising to an unexampled height, and seemed to keep advancing with the progress of the war.—The bank of England increased its issues to a prodigious extent, and instead of government being its own paymaster, this bank was rendered the vehicle of an unprecedented paper issue, though the medium chiefly of the discounts afforded to the merchants and traders of the metropolis, and which constituted a source of enormous profit to the proprietors, of the Bank of England Stock.

But not only were these discounts afforded in an immoderate degree so as to embrace a considerable quantity of accommodation paper, as we shall hereafter perceive. To the bank of England was delegated the office of paying to the public the dividends, as they are called, or interest on the funded debt of Great Britain, and instead of government possessing an office of its own for that purpose, which would have had the good effect of keeping separate and distinct the affairs of the nation and of a private banking company, who are ever liable to disaster, all payments on account of government were made by the bank, who justified by the restriction act, as before alluded to, invariably paid in paper money only. The attentive observer will readily infer how prodigious an effect these accommodations and this fictitious capital must have had in furnishing the means of speculation in land, generally the most valuable species of possession in England during the war, when wheat had risen to 126s. per quarter. How wide a difference between this and say 63s. the present price! and how great a revulsion arising from this decline, especially now that the means afforded for such speculations are withdrawn!

It cannot be denied, however, that the system of discount and accommodation at the bank, as well as the credit afforded by the country bankers, tended in a very great degree, to promote that wealth and circulation which alone perhaps enabled the nation to raise and equip armies, and to conduct with effect, the prodigious operations of the war. We are not to overlook also the promotion, partly by these means, of the commercial, trading and manufacturing interests.—They contributed likewise with other

\* Now September, 1816, from 57 to 66 and 70s. per quarter, according to the quality.