to claim higher pretensions to the rank assigned them. They present more elevated parapets, deeper ditches with other indications of military art. Perhaps, however, when more accurately examined in all their aspects, they will be found to be only the habitation of a chief of some powerful tribe. The love of distinction prevails with no less force in the savage, than the civilized breast. M'Kinzie, in his unadorned narratives, mentions frequently the habitation of the chief or king, as much larger, and even as commodious, when compared with those of inferior rank. In latitudes so high as those which he traversed with heroic perseverance, necessity compelled the savage to contrive more warm and durable habitations; but the same principle which would give marks of distinction to the residence of the chieftain in one climate, would produce the same effect in any other, though they might assume different appearances. Besides, it might not be improper to recollect in an examination of those works, that the French began to build forts in the Miamis, and Ilinois country, as early as the year 1680; and that they were afterwards systematically continued until the loss of Canada.

I cannot conclude this letter, already I fear too long, without mentioning another curious specimen of Indian labor, and of their progress in one of the arts. This specimen is found within four miles of the place whose latitude I endeavored to take, and within two of what are improperly called *Burning Springs*, upon a rock of hard free stone, which lies sloping to the south, touching the margin of the river, and presents a flat surface of about 12 feet in length and 9 in breadth, with a plane side to the east of 8 or 9 feet in thickness.

Upon the upper surface of this rock, and also upon the side, we see the outlines of several figures, cut without relief, except in one instance, and somewhat larger than the life. The depth of the outline may be half an inch; its width three quarters, nearly, in some places. In one line ascending from the part of the rock nearest the river, there is a Tortoise; a spread Eagle, executed with great expression, particularly the head, to which is given a shallow relief; and a child, the outline of which is very well drawn. In a parallel line there are other figures; but among them that of a woman only can be traced. These are very indistinct. Upon the side of the rock, there are two aukward figures, that particularly caught my attention. One is that of a man, with his arms uplifted, and hands spread out, as if engaged in prayer. His head is made to terminate in a point; or rather, he has the appearance of something upon the head, of a triangular or conical form; near to him is another similar figure, suspended by a cord fastened to his heels. I recollected the story, which Father Hennepin relates, of one of the missionaries from Canada who was treated in a somewhat similar manner; but whether this piece of seeming historical sculpture has reference to such an event, can be only matter of conjecture. A Turkey badly executed with a few other figures may also be seen. The labor and the perseverance requisite to cut those rude figures in a rock so hard, that steel appeared to make but little impression upon it, must have been great; much more so than making of enclosures in a loose and fertile soil.

Yours, &c.

JAMES MADISON.

B. S. Barton, M. D. one of the V. P. of the A. P. S.

For the National Intelligencer.

TO THE PEOPLE.

THE DEFENCE.

No. II.

The nature of the Executive duties of a great nation is such as not to admit of discharge by one man. They are so various and extensive that the exertions of an individual, however splendid or mighty, are inadequate to the task of fulfilling them. Although, therefore, the theory of the government vests in the President the whole Executive power, qualified in some instances by the advice and consent of the Senate, yet it is no less manifest, from the legal provisions established than from the reason of the thing, that a division of power was contemplated among subordinate agents. Hence the establishment of four great departments, each possessed of a supreme control over a circumscribed sphere of delegated powers. The government was no sooner put into operation than laws passed establishing the departments of State, of the Treasury, and of War; and as soon as the public exigencies required a Navy, a law was passed establishing the Navy department.

At the head of each of these departments the President was required, with the approbation of the Senate to place an individual, whose continuance in office should depend upon his pleasure. Laws passed from time to time, defined the duties, as well of these officers, as of those placed under them. These laws were, in several cases, so many limitations of the Executive power of the Chief Magistrate. They devolved specific duties upon subordinate agents, and left only to him a general superintendance, divested of all discretion. Even the responsibility of appointing proper officers is divided with the Senate, who are possessed of the right of rejecting any candidates offered by the President; as instances may occur, and probably have occurred, in which names have been proposed by him, as much from a knowledge that they would be acceptable to that body, as from his own estimation of their qualifications.

It is not the object of these remarks to derogate from the responsibility of the President. It cannot be denied that his powers are vast, and, of consequence, that he should be held under a rigid responsibility. It is only meant to shew that this responsibility is not absolute; and that all the measures of the Executive government, in their various details, are not to be considered as his. It is true, however, although he does not possess an absolute control over the acts of subordinate agents, he yet does possess the efficient power of removal and of thus preventing a continuance, though he may not have been able to prevent the first occurrance of misconduct.

It is apparent, from this feature of the government, that much depends upon the character of the men called upon to fill offices, and particularly of those on whom are devolved the superintendance of the four great departments. To the Secretary of state is immediately committed the conduct of foreign relations, on which the peace and commercial prosperity of the nation depend; to the Secretary of the Treasury is committed the management of the whole resources of the government; and to the Secretaries of War and Navy are committed all the duties attached to those mighty engines of national defence. Besides the distinct discharge of these great duties, these high officers, in conjunction with the Attorney General as members of the Cabinet, are called upon to advise the President in all cases of great moment, and to co-operate in the taking effectual measures in every interesting crisis of affairs. From these considerations, the formation of a ministry has been deemed under all governments a work of the greatest delicacy and difficulty; and so arduous as to have been reputed a criterion of the talents of the man at the head of public affairs. In proportion to the freedom of the government, does this difficulty increase; for, under free governments, it is not only necessary that men of talents should be appointed, but likewise that they should enjoy the confidence of the people, without whose hearty co-operation it is impossible for such a government to be efficient or respected.

When, therefore, the present Chief Magistrate assumed the reigns of government it was with no misapplied solicitude, that the nation looked forward to the designation of these great officers of State. Madison was called to preside over the department of State, Gallatin over the Finances, Dearborn over the War department, and Smith over that of the Navy; while Lincoln was named Attorney General.

All these men entered office with pure hands, and with a reputation for personal worth, which even suspicion had not dared to impeach. All of them had acted a conspicuous part in the public concerns, and had thus exposed themselves to the severe ordeal of party. During the whole of this fiery trial, inflamed by the rancour and malice of party, however prodigal the reproach cast upon their public conduct, no one laid to their door a single act derogatory of the purest integrity. Men, neither affluent or poor, their deportment was equally free from the arrogance of wealth, and the meanness of poverty. From the humble ground of unassuming citizenship, they had risen to the first distinctions in their respective states by the exertions of their own talents. It is not surprising that the nation, with conspicuous joy, welcomed the induction of such men into office.

It will not be unprofitable to dwell a few moments more on this branch of our subject.

Of all the duties assigned to executive agents those attached to the department of state are the most important. From their peculiar nature they require a mind, not only of the first lustre, but likewise one regulated by habitual prudence. He who discharges them should, moreover, be possessed of the public confidence. A man, more eminently combining these qualifications, was not, perhaps, to be found than Madison. Devoted from his earliest years to the public service he had diligently improved his time by mingling the exercises of the closet with active duties. Unfettered by any profession, and regardless of wealth the whole vigor of a mind, imbued with great natural acuteness, had been uninterruptedly directed to political researches. Having occupied, for several years, a seat in the old Congress, he was named by his native state a member of the illustrious body that formed the Constitution, under which we now live. In this body, in which many distinguished men were satisfied with the silent co-operation of voting, Madison outstripped all competition. The splendor of this triumph can only be appreciated by recollecting that among his coadjutors were a Franklin, a Hamilton, a Wilson, a King, and a Dickinson. This superiority arose, no less from the penetration of his genius, the soundness of his judgement and the extensiveness of his information, than from the candor of his mind and the conciliation of his temper. These attainments earned him a leading agency in the formation of the Constitution, a greater part of which is ascribed to him than to any other member of the body.

It will be recollected that when this constitution appeared it received violent opposition. Among those who met and repelled this opposition Madison was the foremost. His pen and his voice were actively engaged in its defence. In his own state, he had to contend with the thunder of the most eloquent man of America, supported as it was feared, by a majority of the Convention. The instrument was not without imperfections; they were pointed out; and he had not only the magnanimity to acknowledge, but the patriotism to engage, as far as his influence extended, to have them removed by amendments. Virginia ratified the constitution; as did the necessary number of states. It went into operation. Madison not unmindful of his promise, proposed and carried many of the most important amendments called for by the correct jealousy of the friends of liberty.

After effecting this great object, he participated in all the leading arrangements of the government. The time soon came in which the spirit of party, and with it the spirit of persecution, entered the legislature. He met it at its first onset; and however unable to subdue, he resisted the excesses to which it led. The memorable alien and sedition acts and the British Treaty found no where a more enlightened or vigorous opponent. Such, however, was the infatuation of those days, that his great efforts, and those of his co-patriots were fruitless; and ambition menaced, by daring steps, the subversion of liberty. He retired from a body unworthy of his virtues and talents; resolved to make one more effort, through the medium of the states, to arrest the impending danger. Every one remembers the celebrated report and resolutions of the Virginia legislature on the measures of the general government. They are a monument of profound talent and exalted moderation, of firmness tempered by mildness. They excite no turbulent passion, they awaken no narrow prejudice; but dispassionately address the understanding and subdue it by the force of argument and truth.—This was the production of Madison.—Its effects were astonishing: and it is no unjust derogation from the splendid performances that at that period irradiated public opinion, to say this was the most luminous. Having discharged this duty he retired to the tranquil scenes of contemplative and rural life; when the voice of friendship, and the dawn of a new political era called him to a more extensive sphere of usefulness. How he has discharged the duties of his station, will soon appear.

CURTIUS.

The following extract is from the *Charleston Courier*. Need we inform our readers that the print is *federal*. We offer it as an evidence of the ignorance and folly of many of those who attempt to lead the public opinion.

"THE chief magistrate of every great nation ought, for the honour of that nation, for the enforcing due respect and obedience to the laws, and for the purposes of general security, to be invested with every dignity which tends to excite reverence, and without the active intervention of the arm of the law to exact submission, and repress too near approach. We do not mean this as applying to the man in his natural condition, or mere civil capacity, but as applying to his great office in which the whole majesty of the people is reflected as objects are in a mirror. It is idle to say that the people have rights which it is treason to violate, dignities, which is guilt to treat with irreverence, and laws which it is criminal to disobey, if the great depository of those their high properties, the ark of their social covenants, the focus in which every ray of their wisdom and power are concentrated, is not rendered sacred, and defended from the prophane touch of vulgar vice, by awe, by reverence ought by power.—That great sanctuary ought never to be defiled; because the very soul, the essential essence of all that is great, valuable or estimable in the people, in their corporate state, is to that case defiled also, and the lustre of the nation which should be kept eternally new and bright, and untouched even by a breath, is sullied and blurred incurably. In this case the person who represents the majesty of the people is allowed no discretion, no arbitrary will. If he has been in the habit of not respecting himself, the law should compel him to respect his sacred, office. If he is in habits of a low gross or vulgar kind, the law should compel him to relinquish them, or forfeit his office. Even in cases morally innocent, where habits or particular acts indicative only of meanness, and nothing worse, are disclosed, the person so forgetful of his duty should be made to remember and to perform it, not only with the scourge of satire, but with the long and strong arm of the law, invested with a proper instrument of penalty. That this is in the contemplation of our constitution is obvious from the circumstance that the provision made for the President of the United States is in a certain degree proportioned to the dignity of that office. In our opinions, however, much less than the people owe it to themselves to bestow upon the very important purpose of cloathing the conservatory of their rights, with all the grandeur that becomes that awful and august office. If the constitution gives five and twenty-thousand dollars a year to the President, he insults them, offends the feelings and brings a blush into the cheek of sense, if he descends to acts which in the eye of infirm human nature always appear degrading to the opulent, because they are the fruits of penury and inferiority. If for instance the chief magistrate and high executive head of this great country, were to dress with shabby frugality, whether real or affected, to ride to Congress without an attendant, and hitching his horse's bridle on a peg, leave it to stand there while he himself is employed in the public discharge of his great trust (and we have been assured that such things have happened) then we say he has so far lowered his office. The man it is true is harmless in the act, but the magistrate is wrong; and though nothing is farther from our thoughts than the idea that such a deed would be deserving of penalty, we do maintain that it is greatly reprehensible. In short every thing that tends to cheapen the authority of the magistrate in vulgar estimation, or to lower it in the public respect and esteem, is injurious to the public and highly faulty in him who does it."

WASHINGTON CITY,

WEDNESDAY, September 12.

The votes of one hundred and thirty-two towns of New Hampshire, give the following votes for representatives in Congress.

Republican ticket	8,414
Federal	8,394
Republican majority	20

From an address of Governor Claiborne to the Municipality of New-Orleans the Vaccine innoculation appears to have been introduced in that place in the room of the Small pox, by Dr. Scott.

We have lately invited the attention of the public to the propriety of paying regard, at this time, to the great internal improvements of the country. The following concise view, extracted from Pinkerton, will illustrate the importance of the subject. The more we reflect on the plan, suggested in a late paper, for establishing a line of banks for the promotion of these interesting object, the more it appears to us to merit a serious consideration.

"The Duke of Bridgewater is justly venerated as the grand founder of inland navigation; his spirit and opulence were happily seconded by Brindley, than whom a greater natural genius in mechanics never existed. It was in the year 1758, that the first act was obtained for these great designs. The first canal extends from Worsley mill, about seven computed miles from Manchester, and reaches that town by a course of nine miles, a circuit of two miles being necessary for the sake of the level. In this short space almost every difficulty occurred that can arise in similar schemes; but mountains and rivers yielded to the genius of Brindley.—There are subterraneous passages to the coal in the mountain, of near a mile in length, sometimes cut through the solid rock, and occasionally arched over with brick; with air funnels to the top of the hill, some of them thirty seven yards perpendicular.—This beautiful canal is thrown over the river Irwell, by an arch of thirty-nine feet in height, and under which barges pass without lowering their masts. Yet the expence of this noble canal, in the then comparatively cheap state of labor and provisions, was only computed at 1000 guineas a mile. The various machines and inventions of Brindley, for its construction and preservation, deservedly excite wonder, but a detail cannot be here expected. The Duke of Bridgewater soon afterwards extended a canal of twenty-nine miles in length, from Longford bridge, in Lancashire, to Hampstones, in Cheshire.

"After this deserved tribute to the fathers of inland navigation in England, it will be eligible to review the other canals in a geographical manner, proceeding from the north to the south. In the county of Durham, a canal was projected by Brindley, from the romantic village of Winston, on the river Teer, to Staindrop, and thence by Darlington to Stockton: but this design, and others not yet carried into execution, shall be passed over and only the most important of those which have been executed shall be commemorated.

"First in order is the Lancaster canal, extending from Kendal, in Westmoreland, by Lancaster, to West Houton, in Lancashire, a space of about 74 miles.

"The canal from Leeds to Liverpool, directed in a northerly course by Skipton, winds through an extent of 117 miles: and from this canal a branch also extends to Manchester, begun in 1771.

"From Halifax to Manchester is another considerable canal, commonly called that of Rochdale; length thirty-one miles and a half, begun in 1794.

"Another canal extends from Manchester towards Wakefield; and another called the Peak Forest canal, stretches from the former, south-east, about 15 miles.

"Another joins the river Dun, several miles above Doncaster, to the river Calder, near Wakefield.

"To pass several of smaller note, the Chesterfield canal extends from Chesterfield, in the county of Derby, to the Trent at Stockwith, a course of forty-four miles and three-quarters, begun in 1770.

"In Lincolnshire, one canal extends from Lincoln to the Trent, and another from Horncastle to Sleaford. Grantham canal reaches from that town to the river Trent, a course of thirty miles.

"The grand design of Brindley was to join, by inland navigation, the four great ports of the kingdom, Bristol, London, Liverpool, and Hull. Liverpool is accordingly connected with Hull by a canal from that long navigable river the Trent, and proceeding north to the Mersey. The canal which joins these two rivers is styled the Grand Trunk; and was begun in 1766, under the direction of that great engineer; but was not completed till 1777; the length is 99 miles. It was attended with great difficulties, particularly in passing the river Dove, in Derbyshire, where there is an aqueduct of twenty-three arches, the tunnel through the hill of Hare castle, in Staffordshire, is in length 2880 yards, and more than 70 yards below the surface of the ground, was executed with great labor and expence*. But the utility corresponds with the grandeur of the design: salt from Cheshire, coals and pottery from Staffordshire, and manufactures from various places, are transported on this canal.

"From the Grand Trunk five or six branches extend in various directions: among which must not be omitted that to the river Severn, near Bewdley, which connects the port of Bristol with those of Liverpool and Hull: the length is forty-six miles; completed in 1777.

"From the city of Chester one canal extends to the Mersey, and another to Namptwich; another proceeds south to Shrewsbury, uniting the Mersey and the Severn; with north-west and south east branches of considerable length.

"From Coventry, in the centre of the kingdom, canals extend to the Grand Trunk; to Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and to the Braunston, or Grand Junction Canal.

"What is called the Staffordshire canal, extends from the Grand Trunk to the river Severn; and is met by the Kington canal, which reaches to Kington in Herefordshire, so as almost to join the rivers Trent and Wye. It may here be observed, that in this description the grand courses of navigation are attended to, rather than the minute names and divisions of the canals.

"Several inland navigations pass by Birmingham. The union canal completes a course of 43 miles and three-quarters, from Leicester to Northampton, whence the river Nen is navigable to the sea.

"Another canal extends from Gloucester to Hereford; and the south of Wales presents several navigations of considerable length, particularly that from Brecon, in Brecknockshire, to Newport, in Monmouthshire.

"The Severn is not only joined with the Trent and the Humber, by various courses of navigation, but is united with the Thames, by a canal extending by Stroud to Lechlade, a course of near 40 miles.

"Other canals branch out from the Thames in various directions: that of Oxford extends to the Grand Trunk, or rather joins the Coventry canal, after a course of 92 miles.

"The Braunston, or Grand Junction canal, reaches from Brentford, on the Thames, and joins the Oxford canal at Braunston, in Northamptonshire, after a course of 90 miles. It is styled the Grand Junction, because it may be said to unite the numerous canals that pervade the central counties, with the capital of the kingdom.

"On the south of the Thames, a canal proceeds from Reading to Bath; and another from Weybridge to Basingstoke; and a third from Weybridge to Godalming.

"A small canal or two have been executed in Devonshire. The Andover