satisfied: and I have heard before that a war belt has been circulating among your different tribes, for them to take up the hatchet against the Americans.

Brothers—This I hope is not true—Not because we are afraid of war, but because we love peace. Because we had rather see the chain of friendship brighter, than to see the hatchet bloody.

Brothers—I have been told, by a very swift bird from Fort Wayne, that the red people have formed a plan to take my fort. This I do not believe, for red men are not fools: Nor do I fear it—because my eyes are open; our *knives* are not only *big* but *sharp*, and our flints never miss fire.

Brothers—I was told four days ago by a friendly bird, whispering in my ears, that you were going to bring me some wampum and a very friendly talk, in order to *blind my eyes*, that I might not see you lift the hatchet, till I felt the blow——This I do not believe.

Brothers—But suppose you were to take my fort, and get my scalp, with those of my brave soldiers, into the bargain; what would you gain by it? or what would your great father loose by it? Very little!

Brothers—It would only kindle his anger, which is terrible when it burns—and you, and your wives, and your little ones would all be consumed! He knows all your lodges; he knows, to a man, how many warriors you have; he has his white children and warriors planted all around you. You could not escape. You would all be cut off as clean as I cut off my beard when I shave. Who would be left to tell the story? Not one.

Brothers—I hope you will not be offended because I tell you the truth—I do not say this to fill your hearts with fear, or to make your hands tremble. I am not speaking to old women. I know you are brave, you do not fear any thing. I only remind you of what you all know, the certain consequences of taking up the hatchet, which has been so long buried.

Brothers—But your Great Father would be sorry to see this, because he is the great friend of Red Men: and loves you all. Your prosperity is near to his heart. He wishes you to be strong and to stand up together yet a great while, as a people.

Brothers—You were once very strong and powerful—a great people. We were then a little cloud rising out of the great water in the east. This little cloud has now become great; it has spread itself over the whole heavens, and overshadows the whole land of your fathers, while you have become weak and scattered, very few, and must come and take shelter under it.

We are like the sun in the east rising in its full strength. You are like the sun setting in the west, when its strength is gone.

Brothers—The Great Spirit has done this! He made both white and red men. They are all his children; the blood that runs in our veins is all of the same colour. The Great spirit knows what is best, and we must submit to the will of the Great Spirit!

Brothers—At the treaty with gen. Wayne we took you by the hand and smoked together. The hatchet was then buried—I hope forever. It must not be taken up again.

Brothers—Your Great Father is the friend of red men & the friend of peace. He wishes you to hunt without fearing a foe, and learn of us those arts by which you could live, if hunting should fail you.

Brothers—Your Great Father wishes you to learn to build huts that will shelter you from the rain and cold, to use the plough, and to raise cattle & sheep. So that each of you may be able to say, "This house and that cornfield are mine for they were my father's, they will be my son's and my grandson's after him." So that you may have bread and meat to fill you when you are hungry and cloathing to keep you warm, when buffaloes and beavers will no longer be found in the forest. This is the wish of your Great Father.

Brothers—If any bad bird comes among you from the south, do not listen. If any advises you to take up arms against the Americans, it is a wicked bird; it is a vulture that wishes to destroy you—Remember what I say, do not listen to it but inform me.

Brothers—If a bird alights among you from the north or the east, and whispers in your ear of war, do not believe it, it will deceive you. The Red Coats and the Big Knives are friends. They will not draw the bow against each other. Beside, you must always be ready to fight for your father, if he needs your assistance; for he is your father: the country all around you is his, and you must look to him alone for protection.

Brothers—Lest you should forget who are your friends, I shall present you with the American Flag; you have seen it before but I will explain it to you.

Brothers—These 17 stars are the 17 fires of the American people. These 17 stripes so closely interwoven shew you how closely our fires are united to form one great national fire. The red and white severally represent the red and white children of our Great Father, who all sit around it, and equally feel the warmth. When you look up, and see this waving in your camp, it will tell you who are your friends, and where you must look for protection.

Brothers—As to what you say of gen. Wilkinson's promise in the talk you have shewn me, it is not his fault that it has not been fulfilled; nor yet the fault of your Great Father. The presents are forwarded to Detroit, where they are issued to some of the chiefs of your nation, who probably engage to give your share. But I shall speak of this to your Great Father, and I am sure he will see that you have justice done you in future.

Brothers—You complain that the merchants lock up their milk, they do right—because your Great Father orders it, if he should let it loose it would become a flood that would overwhelm you, you know it has destroyed thousands of your people; it is not milk, but poison. You see how it takes away the strength of a man, when he drinks it, so that he cannot stand up. Just so it will take away the strength of your nation, so that it can no longer stand up, as a people. Your great father sees this, and therefore orders us to lock up his milk.

Brothers—You appear apprehensive of being put in prison for debt—you need not be afraid; your Great Father would not allow it. You must however be honest and pay your debts; otherwise your father will be displeased, besides, it is for your interest to be punctual in your payments—otherwise the merchants will lock up from you not only their milk, but every thing else. You must not run in debt more than you can pay.

Brothers—I have said a great deal, but I have a little more to say. A few weeks ago a clerk of Mr. Baily's was shot through the right hand, by an Indian at the river Bre Marquit, without provocation. He will lose his hand, and 'tis a wonder he was not killed on the spot. This saucy Indian said at the same time, that he would always shoot white men like ducks, wherever he could find them.

Brothers—I do not blame you for the wicked act of this man. I have received a string of wampum from the chief of that place. He says this is a bad Indian, that he has already killed several people, and that he ought to be punished. This is right, 'tis no more than justice.

Brothers—You well know that I am always ready to render justice to you. 'Tis but a few days since I compelled a white man to give satisfaction to an Indian, whom he had beaten and abused. I punished him according to our laws, and compelled him to bring me sureties that he would not do the like again. This act of justice on my part, some of you being present, saw with your own eyes.

Brothers—Justice must now be done on the other side. You must find this man and bring him to me. I demand him in the name of your Great Father, who is ready to do justice to all men equally, without regarding the colour of the skin. I demand him that he may be tried, and punished by our laws, and make satisfaction to the man he injured.

Brothers—I have no more to say, but remember what I have said; that the Americans are your friends, that you must always look to them for protection, that you must not go to war against them, but do all in your power to brighten the chains of friendship, and to live in peace, that you may always expect justice from your father, and that you must always be ready and willing to render it to him and all his people; so that the great spirit may bless you and your sick. This is what I tell you in the name of your Great Father, the President of the 17 fires.

Some account of the country and productions near the Red River, in Louisiana. In an extract of a letter from Dr John Sibley, to Dr Calvin, of Raleigh, dated Natchitoches, July 10, 1804.

"The district of Natchitoches contains about 3000 inhabitants, strung mostly along the river, occupying its banks for about 60 miles, in which, till a short time ago, was a Spanish garrison, and now an American one.

"The inhabitants immediately on the banks of the Mississippi are less sickly than on the large rivers in the Carolinas and Georgia, probably owing to the immense depth and purity of the river water, which is always cool, and never emits putrid miasma. On Red river it is much the same, with the difference only of the brackishness of its water, from the great number of salt springs, lakes, and creeks with which the country through which it passes abounds; the water of the Red river is so salt, that wherever it is stagnant, large cockles, clams, shrimps, &c. resembling those on the sea coast, are found in plenty. At Natchitoches, lime made of cockle shells is plenty and used altogether, though limestone exists in abundance. Lime made of shells, is sold at 25 cents a bushel, and a common laborer's wages is 75 cents a day. I have never seen on Red river any fever of the putrid bilious infectious kind, none worse than an intermittent or remittent, that six or eight doses of bark a day, for three or four days after proper evacuments, would cure; though I have often found such a degree of debility, that blistering, and the diffusive stimulus was necessary. Pneumonic complaints carried off a number of persons last winter; they were most fatal among the old people. At Natchitoches there are several instances of longevity. There is a German that has been here 50 years, who is now ninety five years old, in good health, labors constantly, and can walk thirty miles a day. Several who were born here of between 80 and 85, and upwards of 20 above 70.

"I have kept this summer an account of the degrees of heat by Fahrenheit's thermometer, hung in a house, surrounded with a piazza, against a plank partition that divides a common hall from a chamber. The 5th of June, at 3 p. m. it was 94 degs. no other day has been more than 92 deg. & but a few days more than from 84 to 86 degs. Our nights are always cool. The latitude of Natchitoches I believe to be 32 deg. 10 min. Sugar cane grows pretty well here, and sour oranges. I have taken the liberty of enclosing you some samples of colors which I have made of a wood found on Red River in great plenty; it is sometimes called Saphora; but more commonly in French Bois d'arc, or Bow-wood; it is used by the Indians for their bows to throw their arrows, and by the French for axe-helves, and handles for other tools; it grows 2 or 3 feet in diameter, resembles in color most exactly the patent yellow, takes a beautiful polish, and I think would be highly esteemed by turners and cabinet makers, particularly for inlaying and fineering, but probably more valuable as a dye-wood. The colors marked 1, 2 and 3, are made by a simple decoction of the wood, only of different degrees of strength, and is the color of the wood. Other colors I made from the same decoction of logwood, blue vitriol, salt of tartar, copperas or alum; these colors will not wash out nor fade by being washed in strong soap suds. As the quantity of it on Red River cannot, by exportation, be exhausted, and every particle of it may be used by either the turner, cabinet maker or dyer, I have no doubt, but in some future time it may be a valuable article of exportation.

"There is between Natchitoches and the sea shore, at a small creek near the Quelqueshee lake, the skeleton of an animal, which from the description I have had of it, is the skeleton of a mammoth. If it is so, it contradicts an opinion that has existed, that these animals have not been in a latitude so far south.

"Should the western limits of Louisiana extend to the river Bravo, or Grande (Great river,) the mouth of which is in lat. 26, the U. S. will be able to make their own coffee, and chocolate, both of which articles grow well in that latitude, and will include a country, particularly at and about St. Antoine, that in point of beauty and fertility is superior to any part in Europe or America; the surface of the country is neither level nor too hilly, is in perpetual verdure, of the most luxuriant grass; the pastures in summer and winter are equally rich; great proportion of it rich prairies, through which flow the most beautifully limpid streams, meandering over gravel and pebble bottoms.

"The city of St. Antonie is about 140 years old, is about 500 miles southwestardly of Natchitoches, and contains about 500 houses, mostly built of white free stone, situated on a river called St. Marchus, or St. Antoine river, and about 180 miles from its mouth, into which it is said there is a good port about 100 miles below St. Antoine. On the same river is the town of Laberdee, which was first settled in 1662, by Monsieur be Salle, a Frenchman. Some of his descendants now live there, and there are French cannon now there which they brought, with the engravings of Louis XIV. on them.

ANECDOTE OF PETER THE GREAT.

FROM THE SPORTING MAGAZINE.

Whilst the Czar worked incognito as a shipwright in Saranam, in Holland, to acquire the knowledge which must ever cover him with immortal honor, he contracted a sort of friendship with a blunt honest skipper, named Weebes, who had a ship building there, and on which the emperor occasionally worked.

During the construction of this vessel, Peter enquired of Weebes, for which trade he intended her when ready; and was answered by the seaman, that he had heard so much of the encouragement offered by the Czar of Muscovy to those who frequented his new port and city; that he had some thoughts of naming his ship the St. Petersburgh, and making his first voyage there, more especially as that measure was strongly recommended by his merchant, Mr. Luffes, of Amsterdam, who had, in that case promised him a letter to his correspondent in Russia, Mr. Jeremy Meyor, who would procure him a good cargo. This scheme gave much pleasure to the Czar, as he liked the man, so that he not only encouraged him in it, but likewise gave him a letter to a particular friend in St Petersburg, who should shew him every civility, & make him acquainted with his family, a set of plain honest mercantile people, who would co-operate with Mr. Meyor, in furnishing the cargo, and give him, for certain, a hearty welcome, if he was not arrived to do it himself. Weebes thanked the Russian shipwright for his kindness, with a hearty squeeze by the hand, and actually did arrive at St. Petersburg soon after the emperor, who was at his admiralty on the south bank of the river, and communicating to his people the knowledge he had so nobly acquired when a new Holland ship saluted it, which he instantly recollected to be the same he had worked on at Sardam, commanded by his favorite tar.

Peter hurried immediately home in his working dress, a garb well suited to the scene he was going to act, and had arrived at his cottage palace not far from the change, (still entered with reverence by those who admire real greatness) before Weebes had got ready to come ashore.

A Mr. Blanc, captain of the port, the same to whom Peter had recommended the skipper, went on board without discovering his function, and after enquiring the name of the ship, &c. asked him if he had not a letter for him from a friend, who had now got home himself, and would shew him those civilities in person, which he had at Sardam committed to the care of another.

Weebes was highly delighted to find he had a friend and acquaintance in a strange country, and hurried with Blanc to see him, after begging that gentleman to help him to smuggle ashore some presents for Michailof's family (the Czar's travelling surname.)

Peter was waiting with impatience on the quay for his debarkation, and after kindly embracing skipper Weebes conducted him to his humble dwelling, which indeed the Hollander found so much so, from furniture and every thing around him, that he had no idea of his power to procure the promised cargo, and seemed soon impatient to see Mr. Meyor, by way of having 2 strings to his bow.

The Czar in the mean time said he must call his wife Kate before they proceeded any farther, who would be happy to see a friend who had been so kind to him at Sardam; and that amiable princess appeared on being sent for with refreshments on a salver in the stile of Russia, *i. e.* amongst the class of people the imperial couple were then representing, and with that native dignity and grace, for which she was remarkable. Weebes was more struck with the fair Catharine than with any thing he had yet seen, and taking his pipe out of his mouth, which he was smoking according to custom, not only gave her a hearty smack on the shoulder, but exclaiming that Peter was a lucky dog, and had made no bad choice.

The presents were now lugged out from his own and Blanc's pockets, and thrown into the frow's lap, telling her at the same time, that a piece of Holland, in the number, would make such shifts as had never yet covered her fair back, and that she would lick her lips after an excellent cheese made by his own frow for the occasion.

Whilst Peter and Catharine were highly enjoying the natural scene, his favorite prince Menzikoof, whom none durst stop, abruptly entered the room, on some pressing business, dressed in his ribbon, star, &c. and had liked to spoil all, as the skipper jumped up and asked the emperor in a whisper who the great man was and what he wanted—Money, replied Peter, in the same low voice, for some timber we have got from his estate, as you know these gentlemen are always needy; & under a pretence of paying him, went out for a moment and dipatched the prince. However, he was not equally successful in keeping up the deception a short time afterwards, when the guard being relieved, a circumstance the emperor forgot to prevent, although he had ordered it to keep ought of sight, the field marshal Betterline, the captain of the guards, marched into the room, & announced the change in a loud voice of military etiquette. This second unexpected interruption overcame Peter's patience, insomuch that he forgot himself so far as to stamp with his foot, which sent the marshal to the right about faster than he came in, but the sport was over; for, on looking round Peter saw his Sardam messmate stuck up against the wall, with his cap in his hand, and his pipe dropped at his feet, and all he could now say, could no longer persuade him that he was the ship-building merchant he had so long passed for; no, said the honest tar, I see I have been making so free with the Czar himself, and am quite unhappy at the smack and slap I gave the empress, for it must have been her whom I treated so rudely. Peter, after a hearty laugh, soon dispelled his fears, by sending for Catharine to receive his apology, on condition he took another kiss at the end of it, and staid to dinner with him, when he would conduct him to the change, & introduce him to his merchant.

The Czar was better than his word here and in Holland, for he not only presented Weebes in person to Mr. Meyor, on public change, as his particular friend, but made him a present of his first cargo, sending at the same time an imperial edict in the custom-house that the ship St. Petersburg, on which the Czar had worked, should have liberty as long as she could float to bring each voyage to the amount of one thousand rubles worth of merchandize, free of all duty; and this vessel did actually frequent the port on those terms, under three different skippers, Weebes, Aukezeibles and Wolkeveibies, the last of whom was there in her as late as the year 1776.

District of Columbia, Washington County, ss.

Orphan's court, 12th July, 1806.

ON the application of Michael McCormick for letters of administration on the personal estate of WILLIAM GOUGH late of the navy of the United States, seaman deceased, claiming the same as a creditor.

Ordered, by the court, that he give notice of his said application, by advertisement in the National intelligencer, inserted once a week for four weeks

Test

JOHN HEWITT, Reg. O. C.

July 30—w4t

WASHINGTON ACADEMY WEST.

August 10, 1806.

VACATION commenced at this School on Wednesday the 7th inst and will cease on Wednesday the 28th of this month.

The terms for instruction, in Writing, Arithmetic, Mathematics, English, Latin, & French are Five dollars per quarter.

Those gentlemen who are in arrears, for the tuition of their children and wards, are most earnestly requested to make good their payments.

RICHARD WHITE, Principal.

August 11—w3t

WASHINGTON CITY.

MONDAY, AUGUST 25.

The English prints contain a debate in the House of Commons, given at considerable length, on the *Slave Trade*. Mr. Fox, from an apparent regard to consistency, on the 10th of June submitted the following resolution:

"That this House conceiving the African slave trade to be contrary to the principles of justice, humanity and sound policy, will, with all practicable expedition, take effectual measures for abolishing the said trade, in such manner, and at such period as may be deemed most desirable."

We confess that, notwithstanding our general admiration of the political character of Mr. Fox, we felt surprised at the vague style of this resolution. We had entertained a hope that the season of power would have been seized and improved by some decisive act. Instead of this we are presented by the minister with a mere abstract opinion, couched in terms of the strongest circumspection. This motion was carried—114 for it and only 15 against it.

Mr. Wilberforce, after a few prefatory observations, moved, that an humble address be presented to his majesty, beseeching him that he may be graciously pleased to adopt such measures as to him may seem meet, to induce America and the powers of Europe, to unite with this country in a resolution to abolish the trade in slaves. Carried unanimously.

In the course of Mr. Fox's remark we find frequent allusion made to America. He observed that "The concurrence of America [in the abolition of the trade,] was certain, if not immediate, and no other power was so well calculated for the carrying on of the nefarious traffic, if even they were inclined to take it up after we had abolished it."

This opinion is we believe, correct.

But the following is highly erroneous:

"The increase of negro slaves in N. America without importation, is more than equal to that of white men. In 19 years it has more than equalled if not doubled the number. When we see such an example, and find that in a country where the population of the whites is most rapid, that the population of the negro slaves keeps pace with it, I may be allowed to say not that it is a "damning proof," but that it is blessed proof, that if you put the negroes in a situation of comfort, you may have a population of servants greater than can be wanted."

The compliment bestowed upon our country is merited: but it is connected with a statement of facts which is not true. It is so far from being true that "the increase of negro slaves in N. America without importation is more than equal to that of white men," that, even with the aid of importation, it is considerably less. When the census of 1790 was taken there were in the U. S. 3,232,303 whites and 697,697 slaves; and when the census of 1800 was taken, there were 4,404,798 whites and 876,690 slaves. Had the increase of slaves been in the same ratio with that of the whites there would have been in the year 1800, 950,812 slaves, which is 74,122 more than the actual number.

We should not have noticed this error, did we not consider it as connected with a most important result. However flattering it might be to humanity and to national vanity, to have that truly said of us which fell from Mr. Fox, it is still more important to our present, and much more so to our future condition, that our slave population should relatively diminish. Were it a fact that it relatively increased, we might well dread the future consequences. The greatest evil among us, instead of gradually disappearing and thence promising an ultimate cessation, would by fresh accessions of strength menace us with increased danger.

There is another interesting light in which this subject might be viewed.—Did it appear that a state of slavery was more conducive to an increase of numbers than a state of freedom, we should lose a strong argument in favor of the latter. For we have heretofore contended, and we believe truly, that a great part of the physical comfort and enjoyment, and of course the general health and longevity of man depends upon his freedom. The great relative declension of slaves forcibly illustrates this truth.

It is with pleasure we state that the Bridge building over the Delaware at this borough is nearly completed. Considerable progress has already been made in the raising, and we may expect by the 1st of October next to have the pleasure of seeing waggons, &c. cross it, and the company receiving toll. As this bridge is on the same plan of that over the Schuylkill opposite Philadelphia, and having the same gentleman for the architect, and a number of the same workmen that assisted to build that bridge, we have reason to expect that it will not be inferior in point of workmanship to that beautiful superstructure over the Schuylkill.

Easton Farmer.

Spain is equipping 20 sail of the line—8 at Carthagena, and 9 at Cadiz.—So say the Paris arithmeticians. Tho' they cannot count, we doubt not the exact amount of these ships will be determined by the returns of some of our admirals. *Eng. Print.*

New-York, August 18.

In the barque Jane, which arrived at this port on Saturday from Grenada,