ssissippi, testify to the truth of this assertion.

It may be asked by what means have they arrived at this state of ease and affluence, what magic has assisted them——it will be easily answered, by cultivating the richest lands in the world, whose productions find an immediate market at their doors, which being of a superior value to those raised in the United States, and cultivated without the expence which attends them in other countries favored with a similar climate, have enabled the Louisiana planters to lay up large sums from the produce of their crops, and thereby augment their fortunes much more rapidly than in any other part of the United State.

To prove this facility of laying up large sums, it will only be necessary to state the nature and value of the productions of the soil, and the quantity of acres which a hand can annually cultivate.

The staple productions of Louisiana are rice, cotton and sugar, and a negro can easily plant and cultivate four acres of land and get in the crop, besides raising a sufficiency of provision for his own consumption, and a proportion of those necessary for the stock and family of his master.

	Dollars.
An acre of cotton under tolerable cultivation is known to produce 1000 lb. of cotton in seed, or 250 lb. of clean cotton, which at 20 cents is 50 dollars, and the negro or other person employed in this branch of culture will gain annually.	200
An acre of Rice produces about the same sum, and the labor of a person for a year, employed in its cultivation will be about the same with the foregoing.	200
An acre in sugar cane, in lands already impoverished by 80 years successive cultivation, without a particle of manure having ever been laid on them, produces even in bad crops 1000 lb. of sugar & a proportionable quantity of molasses, valued at 87 1-2 dollars, and a negro can cultivate at least four acres equal to	350

To prove these statements with respect to cotton and rice, by citing any particular instances of those who have raised the quantities here mentioned, is unnecessary as the whole country, from the German county to the extremity of the Mississippi territory, wherever they are cultivated, can bear witness to it; and the fact is already well enough established in the United States generally, by the thousands who have been eye witnesses of it, and who have either borne testimony of it verbally or communicated it in writing to their friends and acquaintances.

With respect to the sugar cane, there have been less opportunities of acquiring or communicating information; its introduction has been of a late date, the first experiments, though successful beyond the expectations of those who ventured on them, were still in the opinions of the planters at large, attended with great risk, because, they attributed to the seasons and the culture itself, the faults and losses arising from their own want of timely preparation, of pecuniary means, and of a due degree of experience. Convinced at last, by the immense fortunes rapidly acquired by those who persevered in their undertakings, and who were not alarmed by unfounded fears and clamors, they learned to lay at their own doors, the faults they had before committed, and by recommencing a culture too easily abandoned after an inadequate trial, have finally shewn the triumph of fact and experience over uncertain and vague theory and misrepresentation. The cultivation of the sugar cane, the mode and season of cutting, the process of boiling and curing being now understood, and the thousand facts by which its success is forever established here, being generally known to the planter, have inspired a confidence, industry, and a desire to undertake this branch of agriculture, which bid fair to raise it in a few years to the highest pitch to which it is capable of being carried in this country. Its success will free the people of the United States from a dependence on foreign nations for an article now become indispensable, and in return for the money laid out amongst us for it, we shall contribute to their prosperity, by the consumption of their produce and manufactures, by the employment of their shipping and seamen, and by the payment of an immense sum in duties to the national treasury, which will be in proportion to our revenues and resources, and certainly will be in a tenfold rate to any other part of the union, possessed of only an equal population.

The following statement of the corps of Sugar made last year by the undermentioned persons and with the number of negroes stated to be employed by each individual, will exemplify in the strongest manner what has been before advanced, of the superior advantages enjoyed by the planters established on the Mississippi, over those of any other part of the union, or perhaps of any other country.—These persons are amongst the first characters, and of those best known among us—their residence is within a few miles of the city on either hand; they frequently visit it, and if a doubt should be entertained of the truth of the statements, it can easily be dispelled by the trouble of an enquiry of the parties.

Mons. La Ronde has 40 working hands in all, of whom 4 were employed to attend his cattle and garden, the produce of which amounted to	Dollars.	1500
He had 135 acres of cane, 20 of which were ratoons or canes, which had been cut once or twice before.		
The sold 12 acres of canes to a neighbor for	Dolls.	960
	Dolls.	2460
And with the remainder made 180,000 lbs. of Sugar, which he sold and delivered to Messrs. Poultney & Brown, at 8 1-2 dolls. per Cwt amounting to	Dolls.	15300
He sold besides 122 hhds. of Molasses to M. Castillon, of 50 gallons each, at 10 dollars	Dolls.	1220

Making the sum of 16520 dollars earned in a year by a gang of 40 negroes.

M. Lisle Sarpy on the estate now owned by the mayor of the city, had last year 28 working hands and cultivated 80 acres of cane, twenty of which were ratoons, that had been cut once before, he sold 140,000 lbs. sugar at 8 1-2 dollars per cwt.	Dolls.	11575
100 hhds. Molasses of 50 galls. each		1600
	Dollars.	13175

The negroes on this estate towards the end of the season, being unable to cut the cane in time, there were employed two successive Sundays, 30 negroes hired from the neighbouring estates.

M. Alexander La Branche has 60 working hands, he sold 230,000 lbs. Sugar at 8 dollars per cwt.	Dolls.	18400
165 hhds. of Molasses at 17 dolls.		2805
	Dollars.	21205

M. Louis Habjne has 47 working hands, he sold 185,000 lbs. Sugars at 8 1-2 dolls.		15725
136 hhds. Molasses of 50 gallons		2312
	Dollars	18037

Messrs. D. & L. La Branche had 44 working hands, they sold 190,000 lbs. sugar at 8 1-2 dollars per cwt.	Dolls.	16150
128 hhds Molasses at 17 dolls.		2176
	Dollars.	18326

M. Manuel Andry had 40 working, hands, he sold 156,000 lbs Sugar at 8 1-2 dolls. per cwt.	Dolls.	12870
112 hhds. Molasses at 17 dolls.		1904
	Dollars.	14774

M. Jacques Fortier had 40 working hands and hired during the time of grinding ten more, he sold 255000 lbs. of Sugar at 8 dolls per cwt.	Dolls.	18800
150 hhds. Molasses at 17 dolls.		2550
	Dollars.	21350

M. Eugene Fortier had 45 working hands, he sold 173,000 lbs. of Sugar, at 8 dollars per cwt.	Dolls.	14240
150 hhds. Molasses at 17 dolls.		2550
	Dollars.	16790

M. Norbert Fortier had 42 working hands, he sold 158,000 lb. Sugar at 8 dolls per cwt.	Dolls.	12640
130 hhds. Molasses at 16 dolls.		2080
	Dollars.	14720

M. Adelard Fortier had 48 working hands, he sold 180,000 lb. Sugar at 8 dollars per cwt.	Dollars.	14400
142 hhds. Molasses at 17 dolls.		2414
	Dollars	16814

M. Pisero has 45 working hands, he sold to Gavelier and Sons 220,000 lb. Sugar at 8 dollars per Cwt.	Dolls.	17600
160 casks Molasses		2560
	Dollars.	20160

M. Destrehan had 40 working hands, and when his cane was ready to cut he bought 10 new negroes, he sold to Mr John Morgan 222,190 lb. Sugar.	Dolls.	17775
160 casks molasses		2560
	Dollars.	20335

And it is well known that he has made an equal crop for four or five successive years.

The quantity of sugar above mentioned, is that which was sold by the planters independent of which each of them retained a sufficiency for family purposes, and for the use of their negroes.

It will not I presume be objected that many other planters who have as many slaves, have not done quite as much; it answers my object, to point out what can be effected by attention, and a knowledge of one's business. I could cite some instances of planters, who, with fewer hands have proportionally done much more, but as they are few in number, I think it would be as improper to found a calculation on their extraordinary exertions of the remissness, supineness or ignorance of those whose success has not answered the general expectation.

As a convincing proof, with what ease the cultivation of the cane, and process of sugar making is followed in Louisiana, I shall mention a circumstance, that will I know, never be believed by any Jamaica or St. Domingo planter, who has not seen it, which is——that the cultivation of the cane, and process of sugar making, has been attended with extraordinary success, by many persons not possessed of more than 20 negroes, and in some cases not more than 12. This will excite a smile of ridicule on the faces of those who hold it to be impossible to manage a sugar plantation, with less than 150 working hands.—There is not a sugar planter in Louisiana possessed of 150 slaves, of all ages and sizes, yet they make as much with their small gangs, as the nabobs of the islands, with four times their number; and were they certain as in the islands of having time sufficient to cut their cane, in the interval between the first white frosts which ripen, and the hard ones which destroy them, their revenue would be doubled, as they can plant and cultivate more than they can afterwards cut and secure. This is owing to the facility of ploughing their lands and not being under the necessity of digging trenches to plant their cane in, as in Jamaica, and elsewhere. The same number of negroes required to plant, tend and boil the produce of two hundred acres of land in cane would scarce be sufficient in a year to dig the holes to plant it in Jamaica.

AN AMERICAN.

(To be CONTINUED.)

By his excellency ROBERT BOWIE Governor of Maryland.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS it has been stated to me, by by the petition of number of respectable persons, inhabitants of Prince George's county, that a MURDER hath been committed on the person of CHARLES NEVITT, junior, late of Prince George's county—by a certain negro man, (slave of Basil Soper,) called WALL, who hath since absconded and fled from justice. *And whereas*, it is the duty of the Executive to guard as much as may be against the commission of such enormities, and to bring such offenders against the laws and peace of society to justice. I have therefore thought proper to issue this my *Proclamation*, and do, by and with the advice and consent of the Council, offer a reward of *One Hundred Dollars* to any person or persons who shall apprehend and secure the said negro WALL, in any jail in the United States, so that he be brought to justice.

Given in Council, at the city of Annapolis, under the Seal of the state of Maryland, this sixth day of September, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and six.

ROBERT BOWIE,

By his Excellency's command.

NINIAN PINKNEY,

Clerk of the Council.

Ordered, That the foregoing Proclamation be published once in each week until countermanded, in the Maryland Gazette, at Annapolis; the Federal Gazette and Evening Post, at Baltimore; the Frederick-town Advocate, and in the National Intelligencer, at the City of Washington.

By order,

NINIAN PINKNEY,

Clerk of the Council.

Sept. 22—wtf.

AMSTERDAM GIN.

JUST received by the ship WILLIAM MURDOCH direct from Amsterdam.

10 PIPES of the best HOLLAND GIN, for sale by

W. & C. SMITH.

Georgetown, Nov. 17—taw3w

NOTICE.

IN pursuance of an order from the Orphans Court of Prince George's co. the subscriber will offer for sale, on the 8th day of December at the dwelling place of John Hughs late of said county deceased, (near Magruder's ferry) all the personal estate of the said deceased, consisting of Horses, Cattle, Hogs, Household Furniture, and Plantation Utensils.——The Terms of sale will be a credit of six months, the purchaser, or purchasers giving bond with approved security. Sale to commence at 11 o'clock. The subscriber moreover gives notice to all persons having claims against the estate of said Hughs, to exhibit the same with the vouchers thereof: And all persons indebted to the said estate are requested to make immediate payment to

WILLIAM WEEMS, Administrator of John Hughs.

November 17—w3t

AMERICAN HOTEL,

WASHINGTON CITY.

THE Subscribers have opened for the entertainment of travellers, members of Congress, families, &c. resorting to the seat of government, the houses occupied for several years by Mr. P. D. STELLE, immediately east of the Capitol, to which they RESPECTFULLY invite the public.

The premises are WELL known as large and convenient, are provided with new beds and furniture, and the best wines and liquors, stables for 50 horses, with carriage houses, &c.

FROST and QUINN.

Nov. 4——tf.

WASHINGTON CITY.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19.

We have the satisfaction of confirming the information of the Spanish forces having *crossed the Sabine*. Advices, dated October the 5th, have been received from General Wilkinson, who was then stationed on this side of the Sabine. Previously to leaving Nachitoches he had informed Governor Cordero, that in compliance with his duty, he should be obliged to attack the Spanish troops, unless they retired beyond that river. Not having received a satisfactory answer from the Governor, the American army was advanced about twenty miles beyond Natchitoches, when the Spanish forces crossed the Sabine. Propositions of accommodation, founded on the agreement of the American and Spanish commandants to abstain from occupying a district of country to be designated, were made by Gen. Wilkinson to Gov. Cordero; to which the latter had replied that he did not consider himself authorised to enter into such a convention without instructions from the Governor General of Mexico, to whom he promised to write immediately. From the distance of this province an answer can scarcely be expected in less than a month.

At the time our forces advanced, the militia had joined them, in greater numbers than had been expected, and even beyond the requisitions made; thus affording the most unequivocal demonstration of their fidelity to the United States.

At the latest dates General Wilkinson had dismissed all the militia, except about one hundred and fifty cavalry, which, with the regular troops, were stationed on the Sabine; the Spaniards being stationed on the further bank.

BARNABAS BIDWELL is re-elected a representative in the ensuing Congress.

It ought to be known to persons able to furnish a supply of WOOD, that it commands at present an unusually high price in this city. Oak is between six and seven, and Hickory from seven to eight dollars a cord.

Protection of Ports & Harbors.—Among the unfounded carges urged against the administration, perhaps, the most absurd, considering the grounds on which it is maintained, is the censure so prodigally bestowed for the omission more effectually to fortify our ports and harbours. We are well aware that on the abstract question of fortification there is a great and honest diversity of opinion. Many eminent republicans are in favor of carrying this species of defence to a considerable extent; while no small portion of the federalists are contented with the extent to which it is at present carried. It is not, therefore, so much with regard to the thing, as to the style in which it is urged, that we have reason to complain.

It is contended that it is a question in which the Eastern section of the union is the most deeply interested; that their interest is in a considerable degree exclusive; that the southern country is, on the contrary, interested in withholding the means of protection; and that above all the large towns are, in the highest degree, interested. By this species of reasoning the question is made a local one; the towns are marshalled against the country; and the south arrayed against the north.

These are the opinions which we denominate unfounded, which we pronounce absurd; which are bottomed in ignorance or a spirit of misrepresentation.

How can the eastern section of the country be more deeply interested in the protection of our ports and harbors than the southern country? To prove the existence of this greater interest, it is necessary to show that the eastern people are more dependent on commerce than the southern. Now the reverse is true. The southern people have nothing else to depend on. It is exclusively on the sale of their staple articles that they rely, wherewith to purchase, not only a great portion of the necessary clothes they wear which are drawn from Europe, together with a long train of luxuries; but likewise many important articles either raised or fabricated in the eatern states. On the other hand, the eastern country is comparatively independent. They supply among themselves, in a greater degree, their own wants, and have consequently a less necessity to resort to Europe for her fabrics, and a necessity still more confined to resort to the southern states for their productions. In this aspect then of the subject, the southern people are unquestionably most interested in the protection of our ports and harbors. When to this, it is added, that the southern states relatively to their numbers export to a greater value, there can be no doubt that this is the fact. Who does not see, at the first glance of the subject, that the interest of the *raiser* of the products of the earth is greater than that of the mere *factor*? In the same degree must the interest of the southern planter rise beyond the interest of the eastern merchant.

It follows most conclusively that the interest of the Eastern people on this point is not exclusive, and that the southern people have consequently no interest in withholding the necessary means of protecting the ports and harbors.

Let us now examine whether the large towns are, in the highest degree, interested in this species of protection? Because the towns of Boston, New-York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Charleston, command the greatest portion of the trade of the United States, it is inferred that they are most deeply interested. But we have just seen that so far as relates to the advantages drawn from commerce the factor, so far from having an exclusive or deeper interest, has not in fact an equal interest with the planter or the manufacturer. If the commodities of the latter remained unsold they would perish on their hands, and they would lose not only the profit they calculated on from their industry and capital, but likewise the whole product of their industry and no inconsiderable portion of their capital. They might not be reduced to a state of starvation, but they would be despoiled of all their comforts; and the inducement to the cultivation of their fields, or the fabrication of their manufactures, being withdrawn, the former would go to ruin, and the latter be suspended. A wide spread ruin would ensue. Sterile and uncultivated fields would *directly* blast the interest of the cultivator, and *eventually* ruin the merchant. Hence it is impossible for the merchant individually, or for the body of merchants collectively, to have so deep an interest, under the present circumstances of the country, in the protection of commerce, as the body of planters, and farmers.

Thus far there appears to be a common interest between the planter and the merchant in the due protection of commerce, with this only difference that the degree is greater to the planter than the merchant.

The subject is susceptible of another view, from which it will appear that while the planter is always interested in this protection, the interest of the merchant is sometimes either not at all promoted, or injuriously affected by it.

The class of merchants are an intelligent body of men, whose profession naturally leads them to calculate the perils to which their concerns are exposed, and to providing the means of disarming them of any injurious effects. When a merchant buys a barrel of flour or a bale of cotton for exportation, he fixes the price which he gives by calculating not only the common expenses of transporting it abroad, but all the risques attending such transportation, and the state of the foreign market. The two latter, he is perfectly aware, depend on the season, and the disposition and situation of foreign nations. The tables are entirely in his own hands, and he never purchases without the expectation of a profit. The same thing takes place in the importation and sale of foreign commodities. Here too *he* fixes the price of the goods sold to the farmer. War, together with its effects, direct or indirect, are always dispassionately weighed by him. He never fails to charge the consumer with an indemnity to himself for all these risques—he goes farther; he consolidates them with his capital, and charges a profit on them likewise. It is owing to this, among other circumstances, that war, with all its hazards, is more profitable to the mercantile world than peace.

Further, the tendency of these perils superadded to the ordinary hazards of trade, connected with the enterprising disposition of our merchants and their universal ambition to amass rapid wealth, produces numerous bankruptcies among them, which give birth to an immense accumulation of debts. These consist in sums due by the bankrupts in general to their fellow merchants. A superficial mind would imagine, and such is the logic of merchants, that the creditor merchants actually incurred a loss equal to the amount of debts thus due to them. But nothing is so distant from the truth. Every well informed merchant, in setting his profit on the goods he sells, or determining the price of those he buys, calculates a certain per centage for bad debts, which fully exonerates him from all loss on this head. The loss, falling, as it must somewhere, must fall on the farmer and the consumer of foreign commodities, ordinarily united in the same person, who on this account actually receives less for the products he sells and gives more for those he purchases.

Go the whole round of cause and effect, examine the merchant in all the windings and intricacies of his traffic, and you will find him, in the general, rarely, if ever the loser; in no instance perhaps, except where the whole interests of the community, of which he forms a part, are shaken to dissolution. Amidst the ordinary convulsions of society, he often riots on the distresses of others, and sometimes forges his golden cup out of their miseries.

The inference, irresistibly deducible from this view of the subject, is that the protection of trade and the fortification of our ports and harbors, is a universal concern, and that the nation, which refuses to lavish its treasures for this purpose, must be impressed with the conviction that such a disbursement would, on the whole, produce more injury than benefit. In forming this opinion, whether correct or not, and we pretend not to decide this question, it is unjust, it is foolish to ascribe to the nation, or those who represent it, motives either local, or sinister. The reasons we have assigned demonstrate that, however they may be mistaken, they must be sincere.

On Sunday the 12th ult. departed this life at his residence in Baltimore county, in the 73d year of his age, *Mr. Benjamin Banneker*, a black man, and immediately descendant of an African father. He was well known in this neighborhood for his quiet and peaceable demeanor, and among scientific men as an astronomer and mathematician. In early life he was instructed in the most common rules of arithmetic, and thereafter, with the assistance of different authors, he acquired a perfect knowledge of all the higher branches of learning. Mr. B. was the calculator