

UNITED STATES.

INDIAN WAR.—The United States Government having resolved to remove the Seminole Tribe of Indians from Florida, to the Far West—where they had assigned them lands for their new location;—love of Country has involved these unfortunate Aborigines in a fierce and bloody war with their masters. With the rifle, tomahawk, and the scalping knife, they have laid waste some hundred miles of country, and have fought some well-contested battles with the United States troops and militia. The following is an account of their exploits.—[Ed. Ben.]

HORRID MASSACRE!—MOBILE, Jan. 12.—By the mail boat Mazzeppa, capt. Carson, arrived yesterday afternoon from N. Orleans, we have received the painful and distressing intelligence of the surprise and massacre of 2 companies of U. S. troops, under the command of Major Dade, consisting of 112 men, by the Seminole Indians.

Major Dade had started with his troops from Tampa Bay to Camp King, to join Gen. Clinch, when on the morning of the 28th Dec. at 5 o'clock, they were cut to pieces. Only three men of the 112 escaped, badly wounded, to recount the lamentable history of the butchery of their fellow soldiers.

Major Dade was shot on his horse at the commencement of the attack. Capts. Fraser and Gardner soon after fell, mortally wounded, and their scalps were taken by the savages. Lieuts. Bassinger, Henderson, Mudge and Kenn, and Dr. Gailin, surgeon to the detachment, were all slain. Lieut. Bassinger was wounded at the onset, and was discovered by a negro in the party of savages crawling off to a place of concealment, and tomahawked. We do not remember the history of a butchery more horrid, and it stands without an example in the annals of Indian warfare.

Col. Twiggs, of the U. S. Army, chartered the steamboat Merchant, and started with four companies from New Orleans to Tampa Bay. Major Belton is now there with the force under his command.

[Florida papers to Jan. 14, contain details of further ravages by the Seminoles.]

FOREIGN.

His Majesty's brig *Pantoloon* arrived at Norfolk from Falmouth on the 23d January, with Despatches for the British charge d'Affairs at Washington.—The following paragraphs, (which are all our American papers furnish on the subject) will inform our readers of the supposed purport of the despatches, and which is probably a correct guess:—

Boston, January 30.

Latest from England.—His Britannic Majesty's despatch *Pantoloon*, capt. Corry, arrived at Norfolk, on Saturday morning, in 27 days from Falmouth, with despatches for the charge d'Affairs of the British Government at Washington. We are not, says the *Herald*, permitted, of course, to know the nature of them, but rumor, always busy on such occasions, has decided that they relate to a proffer of the mediation of Great Britain to adjust the unfortunate difficulty between France and the United States. The *Pantoloon* left Falmouth 24th December, and brings London papers to the 22d. The acceptance of the mediation of England, was the current rumour of the day, to which the *Ledger* hesitates to give credence. The Editor of the *Advertiser* remarks—"There can be no doubt that these despatches have reference to the mediation proffered by England; indeed, letters have been received in town, placing the fact beyond question. This circumstance gives new hopes to the friends of peace, for it can hardly be supposed that a special messenger would have been sent out, if France had not

already signified her readiness to accept the offer of friendly mediation.

The French chambers were to open on the 29th December.

The genuineness of the speech reported to have been delivered by the Emperor of Russia at Warsaw is no longer questioned.

The intelligence from Spain is not important.—Doubts still exist as to the Carlists having abandoned the siege of St. Sebastian.

The Correspondent of the New-York *Courier and Enquirer*, states that Capt. Corry, commander of the British brig of war *Pantoloon*, arrived at Washington on the evening of the 26th inst. "with important despatches for the English charge."

M. Pageot and the whole of the French Legation, sailed from New-York on Wednesday morning, in the packet ship *Poland*, for Havre.

THE WEEK.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBY 17, 1836.

DIVISION OF THE COUNTY OF HALIFAX,—ANAPOLIS PETITION.—We have this day given the proceedings of the Public Meeting, held in the Court House of this place, on Wednesday last; and we would also have copied the Petition from the County of Annapolis, were it not for its tiresome and unnecessary length. When we heard it read, we were not a little struck with the effrontery with which the petitioners have practised upon the almost over-indulgent paternal solicitude of our good King; this effrontery is only exceeded by the barefaced untruths by which the Petitioners have attempted to deceive the Royal ear into their insidious designs. They represent the interests of the eastern and western portions of Nova Scotia as being so opposed to one another, as to require a balance of power to be kept up in the Representation; and they say this Halifax County Division Bill threatens the overthrow of this balance; what a mighty mole hill this must appear at the Colonial Office!! and how would my Lord Glenelg stare did he but know that all this power which is threatened with overturning, is the mere chimera of cunning, yet ignorant, legislators themselves, and such as they have deceived into a belief of its reality, for their own interested ends.

It is a foul libel upon Nova Scotia, to represent any portion of its interests as being so much at variance with others, as to require a balance of power to be preserved in the Legislature to maintain them, and so soon as we get a more enlightened Legislature, these erroneous notions will be scouted at, as the whimsical absurdities of other times.

To give an instance, as they could give no better, of the important events that might result from any disturbance of the equilibrium of this power, the Annapolis Petitioners say that the Eastern Members, knowing that the Western ports were principally concerned in Ship building, combined together to get a heavy duty laid on ships' Rigging and Anchors, as little of it would come out of the pockets of their own Constituents;—this assertion is untrue, every way; ship building is carried on in the Gulf of St. Lawrence as extensively as it is on the Nova Scotia shores of the Bay of Fundy, and by reference to the Journals of the House it will be seen, that the majority of the Members from the Western counties, among whom were some of the Members from Annapolis, voted for this measure. The truth is, that the good people of Annapolis were as much in the practice of building the hulls of vessels for the New Brunswick market, before the imposition of this obnoxious tax, as since, and they only seize upon this measure as a false covering for their anti-provincial propensities; it was the ship-builders to the Eastward that ought to have complained of this tax, for they have to pay it to the

utmost farthing; while their Western brethren, almost to a man, evade it.

In the Annapolis Petition a great deal is said about the extent of the County, and from hence they wish to persuade His Majesty that their present Representation is too small, but he, as well as the meanest of his subjects, live in an age which protects them from becoming the dupes of such silly artifices. It is not the number of Geographical miles which a County contains, but the number of its inhabitants and their interests, that forms the true basis of representation; this being the case, and as the population of Pictou is at this moment larger than that of Annapolis, we maintain, that when the Halifax County Division Bill goes into operation, the County of Annapolis will be over represented by at least two members when compared with Pictou, and were the General Representation of the Province properly equalized, the former would be disfranchised by one or two members; then as to their interests, we have this day given a statement of the last year's Trade of Pictou, let the people of Annapolis compare this with theirs, and see which preponderates, and if they would wish the comparison carried a little farther, whether as a test of interest or Loyalty, let them show what they have contributed to His Majesty's Revenues of this Province, during the same period, and we shall then see how the matter stands. There is one thing in which we think both Petitions are defective, that is, in not giving a comparative statement of the Revenues arising from each County, and the amount which each receives back in appropriations; such a statement could not have failed to convince His Majesty and his Ministers, of the groundless nature of the Petitioners complaints, both as to the balance of power, and the Representation.

We select the following as a specimen of the Annapolis Petition, to which we annex the Dispatch of the Colonial Secretary, to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor of this Province, in reference to the same.

"Although the people of this Country, in whose behalf this Petition is submitted to the gracious consideration of Your Majesty, and that of Your Right Hon. Board, deeply regret that they should feel themselves compelled to beg the Royal interposition to avert the operation and effect of an Act of the Provincial Legislature, and beg to state as a cause of such regret, the deep consciousness that their duty to the parent and local Government ought at all times to be testified by a ready and cheerful submission, to whatever laws the paramount wisdom of their Governments may think proper to require their obedience, yet they earnestly hope that sufficient facts may be gathered from the foregoing statement, to warrant the measure they have presumed to adopt in order to prevent the Act referred to for dividing the County of Halifax and increasing her representation, from going into effect. They most humbly beg leave to declare, so far from having a wish, frequently to call upon the Parent Government for redress of local grievances, it is their pride to know, that it is the prominent characteristic of Nova Scotia to refrain from such courses as tending to evince discontent, and which consequently are calculated to bring their Loyalty into reproach: conceiving it to be their duty on all occasions, to act in accordance with what they most sincerely believe, viz. that their political situation above that of all others is most to be envied.

Therefore these facts and views Your Humble and Loyal Petitioners, beg leave to submit to the gracious consideration of Your Majesty, and that of Your Right Honorable Body; and thereupon humbly to ask a decision upon the question, whether the withholding the Royal assent to the Act for dividing the County of Halifax and increasing her representation will not be more conducive to general justice than if your Petitioners are left to struggle for their rights, against the obstacles which that Act will create, should it be allowed to take effect? And with dutiful submission, to whatever may be the result of the decision upon the question submitted, Your humble and Loyal Petitioners, as in duty bound will ever pray."

(Copy.)

"DOWNING STREET,
12th August, 1835.

"SIR,—

"I enclose for your information the Copy of a Letter, dated the 30th March, last, addressed by