

The National Intelligencer,

WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

A N D

VOL. I. WASHINGTON CITY, PRINTED BY SAMUEL HARRISON SMITH, NEW-JERSEY AVENUE, NEAR THE CAPITOL, No. LXVIIII.

FIVE DOLLARS PER ANNO.

MONDAY, MAY 4th, 1861.

PAID IN ADVANCE.

LONDON AND RUSSIA.

The following statement of our Trade with Russia, will show which of the two countries will suffer most by the interruption of the trade between Great Britain and that Empire.

IRON.

We take from Russia and Sweden about 30,000 tons annually; a good third is from the latter country. Our own stores produce about 30,000 tons more; a large being put to the impartment will be encouragement to our forges, or foundries; which it is known only wanted such a circumstance to furnish double the quantity they now do. It is the cheapest of Russian iron, that suited it to be imported; a few years ago when the late Emperor prohibited a number of English articles, this government was strongly induced to lay high duties on Russian iron, and even by the Merchants confined in the trade; to the eternal honour of British Mechanism; it was also represented that we stood in no need of importation from Russia. Five years from our having given up the quantity, it is indeed very useful, but by no means indispensable.

The whole of the iron mines in Siberia belong to the nobility, their being, thus an artificial restriction upon the quantity, and many of them will be utterly ruined.

All the other nations together take from Russia only about one eighth of the quantity exported to Great Britain.

HEMP.

We take from Russia 30 or 40,000 tons a year. The operations about one sixth of this quantity.

It is well known that the Italian hemp is the best in Europe, though it does not take so far readily. Egypt has always been famous for hemp and flax, and supplied till the French got possession of it, Leghorn, Syria, Asia Minor, Constantinople, Smyrna, &c. with large quantities; the East-Indies can supply us with any quantity, as with any country; nor is there any reason why we should not get it at home. It does not surpass in value, as we have experienced, more than what a perhaps not so much. In Russia the best hemp grows in the Samara parts. One of the hemp lands in Russia belong to small wholly to the nobility.

FLAX.

We take about 17,000 tons, sometimes much more, annually from Russia; and it pays no duty in England. Other countries also, a small quantity in proportion.

There certainly exists no reason why we should not get it at home, at least it is certain that we can do without it. Egypt produces the finest, but Ireland may grow much greater quantities than at present, and we may be supplied with it from many countries.

TALLOW.

Formerly we took none from Russia. This is now become an article of great importance to that country; in some provinces they kill their oxen merely to toll the meat to get out all the tallow. The higher the Irish sell their tallow, the cheaper they can afford to sell their beef. One of our factories might, in many instances, be substituted for tallow—and oil may be converted into a substitute as hard as tallow. We take 12 or 13,000 tons, and it is duty free. Other nations together take about one third of this quantity.

RAVENDUCKS.

We take 80,000 pieces, worth about 100,000 dollars. (at present more). Druggists, Purveyors, and piecers. Drapers, for 5,0000 feathers. Broad & Narrow Lincen, for about 5,0000. Sterling-Craft Lincen, for 7,50000. Feathers. Flem Lincen, Eighty or 90,0000. Herling about 40,0000 pieces. Foreign nations a quantity; the market is considerable. The prohibition of these articles would be very en-

confraging to our own manufactures and very distressing to those of Russia.

DEAL.

We take for about 200,0000, though forty years ago we took none from Russia.

OTHER ARTICLES.

Are of little importance. The importations into Russia of British manufactures, which all pay enormous duties in their ports, are become by the numerous prohibitions very trifling, to that the balance in favour of Russia, and against this country, is two millions sterling.

The balance of trade with Great Britain and Ireland is two Millions Sterling in favour of Russia.

FOR SALE, OR RENT.

Two Brick dwelling houses, situated on the north bank of the river, one of the houses containing two handsome parlours and a picture gallery on the first floor, four bed-chambers, in addition to the kitchen, and a large and elegant stable yard. A family of negroes will be taken in part payment, or Lots will be exchanged for Slaves. For particulars enquire of the Premises of OWEN ROBERTS at

March 11, 1861

FOR SALE.

The complete fixtures for two buildings, ONS 24 feet by 24 feet, two stories, the one 22 by 16, and the other 22 by 16, and prepared in the best manner, being intended for the use of an office. Porter feather edged work, sufficient to build into oak and iron. Equipped of the printer. April 20.

The subscriber will exchange a number of Lots in the City of Washington, or in the suburbs, for any other Lots in the same place, or near Eastern Beach, and will be exchanged on liberal terms.

ALEXANDER YOUNG,

City of Washington, April 13, 1861.

FOR SALE OR RENT.

Two elegant brick Houses, 40 by 20 feet. SITUATED on King and Columbia bridges, one on King and Columbia bridges, the other on King and Pennsylvania Avenue, on the corner of it and B Street, between the great Hotel and the President's house. The situation for private families or stores, is equal, if not preferable, it being at present in the most populous part of the City. Possession will be given of one of the houses on the first day of next July, and of the other on the first day of June following—the fourth part of the purchase money will be required in hand, one fourth in three months, and the balance in 24 months, by paying interest and giving a security on the property.

I will also sell or rent,

Two new two-story Brick Houses, 25 feet front by 26 feet deep, situated near Pennsylvania Avenue, on the corner of it and B Street, between the great Hotel and the President's house. The situation for private families or stores, is equal, if not preferable, it being at present in the most populous part of the City. Possession will be given of one of the houses on the first day of next July, and of the other on the first day of June following—the fourth part of the purchase money will be required in hand, one fourth in three months, and the balance in 24 months, by paying interest and giving a security on the property.

I will also sell,

Six or eight thousand acres valuable Kentucky land. The terms of payment will be required as above mentioned. The subscriber intends carrying on the bricklaying and plastering business extensively, and will keep a constant supply of bricks and lime for sale; he will be able to build all manner of buildings to any person disposed to build in the city, on the most reasonable terms for cash. Applications may be made to Francis Peyton, Esq. for the property in Alexandria, or to

N. V. OGBURN, City of Washington, April 8, 1861.

FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

No. 17.

The qualifications of Mr. Gallatin for Secretary of the Treasury have been not only questioned but denied. To ascertain in what degree he possesses or wants the necessary qualifications for this office, it may be proper candidly to enumerate them. They may all be comprised under three heads: 1. A scientific knowledge of finance; 2. A prompt inculcation of numbers; 3. Habits of industry and regularity of habits.

That Mr. Gallatin has long been in the habits of industry and regular attention to business is not even denied by his enemies. His proficiency in this merit would be to build the whole American Congress, in that body for many years he was the most distinguished member; not less distinguished for the patience with which he understood the details of details, than for the clear and demonstrative views which he had of great national and constitutional questions. His services, as a laboring investigator of facts, were acknowledged on the committee to which he was appointed, and he was not only followed on another, it is impossible to underwrite that Mr. Gallatin made all the important calculations and drew the inferences, on which the reports of the committee were founded; and that the chairman himself relied almost implicitly on Mr. Gallatin's labors.

From these facts, it is clear that in addition to habits of industry and regular attention to business, Mr. Gallatin is endowed with the capacity of rapidly acquiring numbers.

That he possesses scientific knowledge of finance cannot be doubted by any man who peruses dispassionately what he has written on the subject.

He has written two works. The first was published in 1796, and the last in 1800.

The first is entitled "A Sketch of the Finances of the United States." It comprehends a full and clear statement of the receipts and expenditures of the Federal Government, from the 1st of January 1796, exhibiting the documents on which each statement is founded. It states the sources of revenue which the United States may open, and those which they have opened.

It is a full and complete statement of government; it points out those acts which mark an adherence, and those which manifest a violation of law. It estimates the comparative merits of different modes of taxation. It illustrates the nature of a public debt, and whether abjectly considered it is a public benefit or evil, and after making the enquiry pronounces it to be the latter.

In examining the effects of the public debt, he has pointed out its beneficial effects, he adds,

"Let it not be supposed that any of these reflections are intended to convey a censure on that part of the funding system, which provided for the payment of the proper debt of the United States. They are designed merely to show, that the propriety of that measure must have depended solely on its justice. Whether the debt has been funded on the plan of discrimination, in favor of the original holders, or of those who had performed the services, or, as has been the case, in favor of the purchasers of certificates, the general result would have been nearly the same; and unless the American government had chosen to forfeit every claim to common sense, it must necessarily provide for discharging the principal or paying the interest to one or the other of two descriptions of persons."

Whatever difference of opinion may heretofore have existed on that subject, or the propriety of paying those who had purchased the debt, it has been nearly the same; and unless the American government had chosen to forfeit every claim to common sense, it must necessarily provide for discharging the principal or paying the interest to one or the other of two descriptions of persons.

most flagrant and pernicious breach of public faith and of national morality."

This extract is made up to flatter those who unblushingly assert that Mr. Gallatin is an enemy to public credit, and he aims at the annihilation of the debt without redeeming it. Can language be plainer than that which he uses—

"The solemn obligations, superadded by the present government to those contracted before, never can be set aside without the most flagrant and pernicious breach of public faith and of national morality."

After making these assertions, which demonstrate Mr. Gallatin to be the friend of public credit, he shows himself the friend of the harmony and respectability of his country by adding,

"To do this [viz. redeeming the capital of the debt] too suddenly would certainly be injurious to the community. Let any evil that may arise from a gradual redemption of the debt, from a gradual repayment of the capital borrowed in Europe, shall be more than counterbalanced by the natural progress of America, will free us from the payment of interest upon that capital, and will, at the same time, strengthen the credit of the nation, and give additional vigor and respectability to the nation."

It may have been supposed by some that the debts by rendering the creditors dependent on government, give it an additional facility. But it should be recollected, that although an artificial interest is thereby created, which may at times give an ill effect, it may to some future period afford it to bad measures and to a bad administration. So far as an artificial interest, so far as it is distinct from the general interest, it may perhaps act against that general interest and become as pernicious as it is supposed to have been beneficial. Actual events, which we doubt that the public, the apprehensions, the discontent excited by the public debt have been more injurious to our domestic peace, have gone on to weaken our real union, than any other internal cause. It is a well known truth that the Americans, although bound together by a foreign government, are held united in sentiment, that they were eight years in the service of a foreign government, every permanent cause of war, which can be removed, adds to the strength of the union and to the stability of its government.

But, in regard to our foreign and continental respectability, and independence in relation to other nations, as freely an extinction of the debt, as circumstances will admit, becomes indispensable. As there is now the least probability that we ever will be involved in any war except in self defence, and as the exalted situation of all the European nations, hostile to war, as the consolidation of the present war a consequence of the peace for the last ten or twelve years we should by all means improve that period, to discharge the heaviest part of our debts. It requires no argument to prove it to be a self-evident truth, that in a political point of view, every nation is justified in seeking to pay off its debts, and to establish a public debt, as a means of the first power of Europe, Spain with her extensive and rich possessions, Holland notwithstanding her immense commerce, still are the effects of the debt they began to feel, and the present debt, which is a constant political weakness, stands as a monument of the unavoidable consequences of that fatal policy. Yet, what are those consequences? It is compared with that of France, where the present debt, although once discharged by the assistance of a national bankruptcy, has at last overwhelmed government itself."

The second work of Mr. Gallatin is entitled "Views of the public debt, receipts and expenditures of the United States."

It appears to have been occasioned by the conflicting opinions of the Secretary of the Treasury, and the committee of Ways and Means, the former of whom had proposed to sell the debt for the redemption of the Federal Constitution, and the latter that it should be redeemed.

Mr. Gallatin, by a plain statement of facts, establishes the first opinion, and