

TEXAS:

ITS

HISTORY, TOPOGRAPHY, AGRICULTURE, COMMERCE,
AND GENERAL STATISTICS.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,

A COPY OF THE TREATY OF COMMERCE
ENTERED INTO BY THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS AND
GREAT BRITAIN.

DESIGNED FOR THE USE OF THE BRITISH MERCHANT,
AND AS A GUIDE TO EMIGRANTS.

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TEXIAN CONSUL.



THE ALAMO.

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Drawn by A. D. Hall

N O T E.

CONTRARY to the best British authorities, the orthography which designates the people of Texas,—Texians, instead of Texans, has been preferred in the following account, not with any reference to the more correct derivation, nor to euphony, but simply because the people and government of Texas, who are supposed to be the best judges in such a question, have irrevocably sanctioned the former spelling, by the wording of their public acts and treaties.

The miniature scale of the accompanying Map, as well as the very imperfect character of the surveys hitherto made, will, it is hoped, be admitted as an excuse for minor inaccuracies. The boundary line between the Sabine and Red Rivers, accords with the most recent and correct survey.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE peculiar advantages of position, and the large productive capabilities with which nature has endowed the second Anglo-American Republic, are, since the recognition of that Republic by Great Britain, becoming matter of so much interest, that it is presumed any correct information respecting the country cannot fail to be acceptable. Such information has, however, been already most ably and amply furnished by Mr. Kennedy, in his recently published volumes on the Rise, Progress, and Prospects of Texas;

after the appearance and favourable reception of which, the present little work might well be deemed one of supererogation, or perhaps impertinence, could it not plead the limited scope of its object, which aims at no more than to present a concise and cursory, but, at the same time, practical account of Texas, for the information of those, who, for want of time, or from other circumstances, may as yet have been prevented perusing the more extensive and standard work.

The materials for the following pages were chiefly obtained in Texas, where the writer has extensively travelled, anxious to obtain correct information, and mixing with every class of society. The exaggerated statements, so often complained of in descriptions of new countries, it has been his especial endeavour to avoid; though he would observe that, in describing a really fine country—as Texas is

generally admitted to be—the truest statements are liable to be thought overcharged. Should such a view of the outline of Texian history, topography, agriculture, commerce, and general statistics, as he has sought to furnish, produce in the reader the wish to obtain a more intimate and extended acquaintance with the subject, he will find full satisfaction in the interesting pages of Mr. Kennedy.

T E X A S.



HISTORY.

THE history of Texas, previously to having furnished its recent chapter for the annals of the Anglo-Saxon race, presents but few and meagre details of secondary interest.

Prior to 1690, the country formed a remote and merely nominal part of the conquest of Cortes, inhabited only by predatory Indian tribes, from the principal of which, the Comanches, it is said to have received its appellation of Texas—pronounced gutturally Taygh-has—which, in Comanche language, is understood to signify, paradise, *id est*, “happy hunting-ground.”

The French, who seem ever to have entertained a special leaning towards this territory, first aroused the attention of Spain to its neglected

condition, by taking possession of it (1685) in the name of the French king, and establishing a colony in Matagorda Bay.

In 1689, an expedition, under Alonzo de Leon, drove out these intruders; and in 1690 the Spaniards made their first permanent settlement in Texas, which was the "mission," or monastic establishment of San Francisco. Several other missions were soon after raised, three or four of which, holding out to settlers the protection of a fort, as well as the benefit of a church, became the nuclei around which gradually grew well-built and considerable towns.

Most of these edifices, which were formed of stone, remain more or less entire, many of them possessing much architectural beauty, and imparting to the landscape a feature of the picturesque unknown to the more northern parts of America.

The first settlers were monks, soldiers, and a small colony from the Canaries; though their present descendants show as much of the Indian mixture as in other parts of Mexico. The cultivation of small, but fruitful, fields, and the tending of large herds of cattle, formed their easy occupation; in which, and in the enjoyment of their cigaritos, siestas, fandangos, and monté tables, for more than a century, little occurred to disturb them, save the molestations of the Indians,

who, invited by the champaign character of the country, soon became expert horsemen, frequently robbed and murdered the Spanish muleteers, and sometimes even attacked the settlements.

The Texian Indians have always been represented as peculiarly savage and treacherous, addicted to cannibalism and other unnatural crimes, and possessing few of the redeeming traits of character accorded to the more northern red men.*

The trade of the country was entirely limited

* The following extract from the account of a Texian engagement with Indians, which took place some time ago, will give an idea of the character of these tribes. The writer, after an account of the atrocities which had caused the Texians to take arms against the savages,—including a touching recital of the anguish of a young and beautiful mother, whose infant was snatched from her arms, tossed up, and caught, as it fell, by an Indian on his spear,—proceeds to relate the bloody victory obtained over them: after which, he states that, in riding over the battle ground, they observed a crowd of Tonkuhuas (Indian allies of the Texians) “gathered around the fallen Comanche chief, and busily engaged in cutting off his *hands* and *feet*, and the choice pieces of flesh from his body; and with perfect indifference attaching it by strings to their saddles, with the buffalo and venison they had prepared for the expedition. The next morning,” he continues, “we found the Tonkuhuas broiling and eating the fat yellow flesh of the Comanches for their breakfast, reserving the feet, hands, &c. for their squaws. We drew near their camp fire, and Placedore, the chief, holding up to us a nice piece of broiled Indian, cried out in broken Spanish, ‘Comanche mucha wano,’ which meant that the Comanche was very good.”

to the driving of some cattle and horses into the neighbouring provinces. The soil was interdicted to foreigners, and the numerous harbours and inlets of the coast were the resort only of the daring pirates of the Gulf and Spanish main, almost the last of whom, the celebrated Lafitte maintained his head-quarters on Galveston Island until 1814.

A different state of things was first prognosticated by the sagacious Humboldt, who, early in the present century, foresaw the future importance of the country, founded on its natural resources, its admirable commercial position, and, above all, its contiguity to the United States.

Throughout the protracted struggle for Mexican independence, the province of Texas excited, from time to time, much interest among the northern republicans, owing to the enthusiastic descriptions of travellers, the attractive schemes of speculators, and the daring, though abortive, attempts of one or two adventurers. The well-known travellers, Lewis and Clark, were among the first to hold out to their countrymen alluring pictures of Texas. They say, "The whole of these prairies are represented to be composed of the richest and most fertile soil. The most luxuriant and succulent herbage covers the earth, interspersed with millions of flowers and flowering shrubs of the

most ornamental kinds. Those who have viewed only a skirt of these prairies speak of them with enthusiasm, as if it were only there that nature was to be found truly perfect. They declare that the fertility and beauty of the rising grounds, the extreme richness of the vales, the coolness and excellent quality of the water found in every valley, the salubrity of the atmosphere, and, above all, the grandeur of the enchanting landscape which this country presents, inspire the soul with sensations not to be felt in any other region of the globe."

On the consummation of Mexican independence, Texas was, in conjunction with the adjoining province of Cohahuila, constituted one of the federal states; and a plan, contemplated in the last days of Spanish dominion, for the colonization of the territory, by the offering, through the agency of government contractors, or "empresarios," donations of land to foreign settlers, was fully adopted.

The Americans were the only people who availed themselves extensively of this invitation. In 1821, they commenced, under the judicious direction of the empresario, Colonel Austin, (whose name is thus identified with the earliest Anglo-American settlement of the country,) a colony which subsequently became very prosperous.

Numerous other colonies were gradually formed; and after overcoming the obstacles which must attend the first settlement of new countries, even under the most favourable auspices, the settlers found little to complain of under their new government, except the intolerance which compelled them to profess the Roman Catholic religion, and the inconvenience to which their local interests were subjected, owing to the seat of government and of justice being fixed at a great distance, in the province of Cohahuila, and under the control of ignorant, corrupt Mexicans, who neither understood nor respected political rights.

These evils, however, as the colonists were far removed from the scenes of anarchy which distracted the interior of the republic, might have been long borne, had not Mexico proceeded to inflict greater grievances.

On the pretext of a trifling insurrection, got up in 1826, by some obscure adventurers, in connexion with Indians, and promptly and effectually suppressed by the Texian settlers themselves, the supreme government quartered on the country large bodies of military, who committed many acts of insolent license, and whose commanders, in several instances, interfered in an arbitrary manner with the municipal rights of

the settlers, and, in some cases, with even their personal freedom.*

About the same time, the intrigues of the diplomatic agent of the United States, in Mexico, for the purchase of the province, still further aroused the national jealousy, and induced the authorities to persevere in their vexatious and shortsighted policy, until the feelings of the first settlers,

* As this insurrection, commonly called the Fredonia scheme, affords the only excuse for the fatal change of policy Mexico soon after adopted towards Texas, it is of some consequence to ascertain if there were any real grounds for imputing it to the Texian settlers generally. As already stated, it was *they* who put the insurrection down; a fact generally well known, and further proved by the very interesting and voluminous correspondence of General Wavell with Austin, Milam, and other leading Texians, with whom he was at the time engaged in extensive projects of colonization—projects constantly opposed and counteracted by the jealousy and injustice of the authorities.

From these papers, especially those written in 1822-3, and from others subsequently written for the information of the British government, the writer has obtained many interesting details respecting this portion of Mexican and Texian history, with which no other individual in Europe is perhaps so well acquainted as General Wavell. That gentleman deserves the credit of having, from the very earliest period, urged that the only safe and wise policy of Mexico (unable to control even the population of her own capital) was most carefully to avoid giving cause of offence to the population of the remote provinces, and more especially as regards Texas; that the only mode of rendering it an integral and valuable part of the Mexican republic, was to pursue the most just and liberal policy towards it.

who, in the language of Austin, would have been, "if treated with justice, true as steel to Mexico," were not only alienated but highly exasperated.

Under this state of things, several petty collisions took place between some of the people and the military, in which the former were invariably successful; until, in October 1832, they formed a Convention, and in a memorial, addressed to the supreme government, respectfully set forth their various grievances, asserted their capacity for self-government, showed how their interests were sacrificed to those of Cohahuila, and requested the *separate* state rights which had been originally promised them.

While the Texians were thus employed, the intriguing Mexican general, Santana, backed by the army and priesthood, was in the capital, busily engaged in a conspiracy, the aim of which was the total overthrow of the Federal Constitution, and the state rights for which the petitioners prayed, and the inviolability of which they, in common with every other Mexican citizen, had, on taking the oath of citizenship, sworn to defend.

After illegally dissolving the General Congress, Santana procured the sanction of an unconstitutionally convened Assembly. The militia, the only remaining check on the army, was abolished, and a central government, or rather military

dictatorship, consummated. Several Mexican states rose, however, in arms against this usurpation; and while Santana was engaged in coercing them, he sent General Cos into Texas, where he anticipated opposition, at the head of 1,300 men.

It was not until Cos had actually proceeded to disarm and imprison numerous citizens, and all the terrors of military rule were impending over them, that in solemn convention, the Texians deliberately resolved to take arms in defence of the constitution. Their whole population did not amount to 30,000 when they decided on this bold and irrevocable step. Uniting their small volunteer companies under Austin, they, however, immediately proceeded to attack Cos, in the fortified city of Bexar; and, though far inferior in numbers, after several days' severe fighting, stormed the city, and obliged him to capitulate in the adjacent fort of the Alamo, which he did on the condition of evacuating the province, with all his troops. Thus successfully terminated the first campaign, and not a Mexican soldier remained within the borders of Texas; when Santana, flushed with his bloody victories over the patriots of the other states, resolved to proceed there, not simply to re-establish his authority, or chastise the refractory, but with the avowed purpose of destroying the American settlements.

He crossed the Rio Grande on the 16th of February, 1836, at the head of 8,000 regular troops, whom he formed into three divisions, each accompanied by a considerable train of artillery. The Texian force opposed to this army consisted of a garrison of 130 men in the Alamo at Bexar; of about 500 in or near the town of Goliad; and of 300,* who kept the field, under General Houston. Their provisional government had appealed, on the one side, to their Mexican fellow-citizens, to join in defence of the institutions they had all alike sworn to maintain, and, on the other, to their former brethren of the United States, to aid them in their unequal struggle against tyranny. The latter alone responded, by sending a few volunteers and some supplies.

Meantime, the overwhelming armies of the Mexicans advanced, and the fate of the two frontier garrisons was sealed. It was deplorable, yet not unavailing. The gallant little band of 130, in the Alamo, invested by 4,000 men, under Santana in person, resolved to give their compatriots an example, and their foes a foretaste of Texian resistance, and decided not to surrender! Attacked in due form, they for thirteen days maintained a heroic defence, and, at length, the

* A number soon after increased to 1,300, but subsequently much diminished by desertion.

fort stormed, they continued fighting until every man of their party had fallen — one of the last survivors being killed in the act of applying a match to the powder magazine.* The destruction of these 130 cost Santana 1,000 men; independently of which, it was the recollection of the Alamo which chiefly nerved the arms of the conquerors in the after-struggle.

Little as poetic effusion accords with the general tenor of this brief account, the following lines, written by a Texian soldier, I am tempted to introduce, simply believing them to be a faithful mirror of the motives and sentiments which actuated these brave men, whose deed, equal to any of ancient times, I would fain justify from the imputation of mere rashness.

HYMN OF THE ALAMO.

“ RISE—man the walls—our clarion’s blast
 Now sounds its final réveillé;
 This dawning morn must be the last
 Our fated band shall ever see.
 To life, but not to hope, farewell;—
 Yon trumpet clang, and cannon peal,
 And storm, and shout, and clash of steel,
 Is ours—but not our country’s knell.
 Welcome the Spartan’s death—
 ’Tis no despairing strife—
 We fall, we die; but our expiring breath
 Is Freedom’s breath of life.

* Here fell the celebrated David Crockett.

- “ Here on this new Thermopylæ
 Our monument shall tower on high,
And ‘ Alamo’ hereafter be
In bloodier fields the battle cry.”
 Thus Travis from the rampart cried ;
 And when his warriors saw the foe,
 Like angry billows move below,
 Each dauntless heart replied,
 “ Welcome the Spartan’s death—
 ’Tis no despairing strife—
 We fall, we die ; but our expiring breath
 Is Freedom’s breath of life.”
- “ They come—like autumn’s leaves they fall ;
 Yet, hordes on hordes, they onward rush ;
 With gory tramp they scale the wall,
 Till numbers the defenders crush.
 The last was fell’d the fight to gain,—
 Well may the ruffians quake to tell
 How Travis and his hundred fell,
 Amid a thousand foemen slain.
 They died the Spartan’s death,
 But not in hopeless strife ;
 Like brothers died—and their expiring breath
 Was Freedom’s breath of life.”

The fate of the Goliad garrison under Fannin was yet more tragical. Evacuating the town, they were overtaken on the open prairie, and surrounded by the Mexican division of 2,000, commanded by Urrea. For a whole day they defended themselves with desperate courage, and with a loss to the enemy of 600 men, until, artillery coming up, and being without water, they agreed to lay down their arms.

For several days they were kept as prisoners of war ; after which, at the command of Santana, they were, to the number of 400, massacred in cold blood !

This last and worst atrocity was enacted 27th March, 1836. Had there been no other provocation given, it would have been more than sufficient to have decided the question, whether Mexico should longer rule, on *any* terms, in Texas. That question had been, indeed, decided, so far as words could determine, as soon as Santana's project of extermination was made known.

On the 2d of March an assembly of the people of Texas, on the Brasos, had declared their country sovereign and independent, and on the 17th of March they had adopted a constitution of their own framing.

Meanwhile, the invading armies advanced, devastation and murder marking their course ; while General Houston, weakened by the loss of these garrisons, and desirous of leading the enemy further into a country where supplies could be but scantily procured, commenced a retreat. After crossing several rivers, followed by the Mexicans, he halted on the banks of the San Jacinto, and availing himself of a division in their army, resolved to give them battle.

After some previous skirmishing, the Texian

army, numbering 783 men, including a small body of cavalry under General Lamar, late President of the Republic,* was, on the afternoon of the 21st April, judiciously formed for an attack on the entrenched position of the Mexicans, who were 1,500 strong.

They advanced steadily in the face of the Mexican fire, reserving their own until within pistol-shot of the breastwork, when, discharging their pieces, they rushed forward, with the cry of "The Alamo" on their lips, and with a fury that was irresistible. The Mexican bayonets were found as inferior to knives and gun-stocks as their muskets had proved before to rifles. After a brief struggle, the invaders fled in all directions, leaving 630 killed, 280 wounded, and 730 prisoners, including General Santana, President of the Mexican Republic, and several of his staff.† The loss on the part of the Texians was six killed and twenty-three wounded! Among the latter was General Houston.

By this extraordinary engagement the *de facto* independence of Texas was achieved. The re-

* The election for President would take place early in the present September.

† Santana, who was taken the day after the battle, received his life and liberty, to the credit of Texian, though little to the interests of general, humanity.

maining divisions of the Mexican army, 4,000 strong, were only too happy in being permitted quietly to evacuate the territory, where they have never set foot since. The United States soon after acknowledged Texas as an independent power, and for some time negociations were carried on for an annexation, which, fortunately for the young republic and for the interests of Europe, was prevented by the jealousy of the northern, or pro-tariff states. The recognition by France, Holland, Great Britain, and Belgium, has consequently followed.

In reviewing this brief, but brilliant history, we may add, in the language of Judge Burnet, late Vice-President of the Republic, that "the revolution of Texas is an event not paralleled in the history of nations. That a few foreign emigrants, invited into a wilderness, and for many years a derelict country, should, at the lapse of fifteen years from the commencement of their settlements, and while they were yet few, without revenue, and without any of the ordinary equipments of war, forcibly secede from, and put to defiance, a government controlling the energies of eight millions of people, whose territory and population adjoined theirs, is an anomaly in the history of man which transcends all the common criteria of political action. That they should

finally succeed was almost warranted by the very audacity of the enterprise.”

It is only right to add, with reference to the *de jure* title of their independence, that, however desirous the Texians may be supposed to have been to separate from a corrupt, distracted government, and a people whose language, laws, habits, and religion, all differed from their own, it was the oppressive and unconstitutional acts of that government which furnished them with the justifying pretext. The primary principle of their revolution was, paradoxical as the assertion may appear, anti-revolutionary, being, until a war of extermination was declared against them, a defence of the Mexican constitution, not a rebellion against Mexico.

Since the battle of San Jacinto, Texas has organized a complete and practical system of laws and government, together with all the elements of agricultural and commercial prosperity ; her population has increased with a rapidity which is unexampled ; and she stands conspicuous, not only as the smallest community ever formally recognised by the great powers, but as presenting, in her internal progress, the most remarkable monument of human energy and industry perhaps ever raised in the same short period.

If viewed in contrast with the adjoining republic of Mexico, the moral superiority of the

British race was never more strikingly exhibited. While the Anglo-Texians have been laying the foundations of their future greatness on the basis of political freedom and social order, their *ci-devant* fellow-citizens have been plunging deeper and deeper in the chaos of anarchy and corruption. They are still struggling among themselves respecting those very principles for which Texas first took up arms; and though torn to pieces by conflicting factions, they have yet the infatuation to pursue, with the sullen obstinacy which marks their Indian descent, an offensive, though passive system of hostility towards that state, forgetful that she could now more easily march 20,000 men to the gates of Mexico than she could six years ago arm 2,000 in defence of her own frontier.

It is not venturing too far to affirm that, whether the proffered British mediation be finally accepted or not, the time is for ever gone by for Mexico to make a serious impression upon Texas, or even to attempt it. The opposite effect appears rather to be in prospect; and in all probability the Spanish-Americans will cede before the western march of the Anglican race as easily as the timid Hindoos have yielded to the eastern, unless, by promptly giving up their present ridiculous, yet provoking attitude of *passive* hostility,

and by consenting to a treaty which shall prescribe a well-defined boundary, they remove all present, and, it is to be hoped, all future cause of quarrel.



TOPOGRAPHY.

BOUNDARIES AND EXTENT.

THE Republic of Texas, according to the limits which an act of its Congress has assigned, is separated from Mexico on the west and south by the Rio Grande, or Great River, from its rise in the Rocky Mountains, about latitude 42° north, to where it empties into the Gulf of Mexico, latitude 26° , a course of more than 1,600 miles. On the north and east it is divided from the United States by different portions of the Arkansas, Red, and Sabine rivers, connected together at certain points of their courses by two meridian lines. (*Vide* Map.) On the south-east, between the mouth of the Sabine (which is about 300 miles west of the Mississippi) and that of the Grande River, it presents a concave line of coast, washed by the Gulf of Mexico, for about 400 miles.

The territory within these limits is calculated to amount to more than two hundred millions of square acres, being an area nearly three times as extensive as that of France.

PHYSICAL ASPECT.

The general aspect of the country is that of a vast inclined plane, gradually sloping from the mountains to the sea, and intersected by numerous rivers, all running parallel to each other in a south-easterly direction.

With a view to its physical peculiarities, Texas may be properly divided into four different regions, one rising above the other, much in the manner of a succession of terraces.

The first and smallest division consists of the low, and nearly level tract of land contiguous to the sea. It has a breadth, inland, of fifty to seventy miles, until, gradually narrowing as the coast trends towards the south-west, the hills, or bluffs, at length fall immediately on the water. The inclination of this plain is scarcely perceptible, and the downward current of the rivers slow. The soil is generally a deep and very rich alluvion, except on the immediate margin of the sea, and on the low narrow chain of islands or sand-bars, with which the current of the Mexican Gulf, meeting that of the rivers as they disembogue, is festooning the whole coast.

Throughout this alluvial range the wood-land, which usually fringes the borders of all the Texian rivers, has a considerable breadth. Between each

timbered water-course the savannas present one unvaried surface, much resembling a vast bowling-green, except in the summer season, when they might be more properly likened to a wilderness of flowers. Scarcely a stone is to be found throughout the region. The alluvial deposit rests on a bed of clay.

The second division is properly characterised as the region of the "rolling prairies." It is much larger than the former, round which it forms a semicircular sweep, extending on one side to the sea. It consists of swells or undulations, gently rising from the bed of alluvion, but gradually becoming bolder, until at length the surface is broken up into every variety of hill and dale. The upper portion of this region presents a most enchanting landscape. The streams are clear and rapid. The prairies, instead of forming a wide and monotonous expanse, appear as beautiful meadows, sheltered by chains of woody hills, shaded by graceful clumps of timber, and communicating with each other by small romantic dells or passes. The soil here generally consists of a rich loam, frequently mixed with sand, but seldom to a degree preventing the culture of the most exhausting products. Limestone or sandstone forms the usual substratum throughout the upper part of this rolling region, which, at about

150 miles from the sea, becoming more abrupt and broken in its general character, at length assumes the appearance of mountain-chains. These form the

Third, or mountainous region. Here both the ridges and valleys which intersect them are more defined. The sides of the former are generally well clothed with timber; the latter are as fertile as any part of the lower country. The scenery every where is highly picturesque, although the highest peaks are seldom more than 1,000 feet above the bed of the valleys. Throughout this mountain-range are indications of almost every species of mineral wealth. Beyond it, the country stretches away to the Rocky Mountains, over an extent of territory nearly equal to the three divisions already enumerated. This constitutes the

Fourth, which, though still unsettled, and only partially explored, is understood to consist chiefly of elevated table-land, where the prairies not unfrequently resemble the vast steppes of central Asia, except in their superior fertility. There are, however, numerous springs of water, and here and there well-wooded and lovely valleys.

Such is a general description of Texas, of which it has been conjectured that no other country of

the same extent exhibits so small a proportion of land unfit for cultivation.*

WATERS.

The rivers of Texas, though not so large, are, in proportion to the extent of territory, more numerous than those of the United States.

They rise in the upper country, and, receiving as they descend the innumerable tributary rivulets (usually called creeks) which drain the prairies, they flow in a south-easterly direction towards the Gulf of Mexico. Most of them do not, however, empty immediately into the Gulf, but into bays or basins of smooth water, formed by the exterior chain of long, low islands already noticed. Between these islands numerous inlets form the sea communication. The interior bays are generally shallow, with the exception of the channel worked by the current of the rivers. The time will probably come when these bays will form, with the islands, one continuation of the main-

* Descriptions have been given of Texas by individuals who have only seen the *lower country*, which are calculated to impart a very wrong idea of the whole. It should be borne in mind, that the level region forms, in regard to extent, but an insignificant portion of the republic.

land, the river channels alone remaining ; such at least is the apparent tendency of the land here to encroach upon the sea ; an effect attributable to the influence of the gulf stream, and which, judging from the fossilated marine substances found at the base of the now far-inland mountains, appears to have been in operation for a long period. In the upper country the Texian rivers and their tributaries offer abundant facilities for the employment of water power. In the level region their course is more sluggish, though even here they seldom overflow their banks. The principal rivers are—

1. The Arkansas, a mighty tributary of the Mississippi, which waters the extreme northern boundary of Texas for several hundred miles : the Canadian river, and other large streams, flow into it.

2. The Red River, so called from the influence of oxide of iron upon the colour of its waters, is also a principal tributary of the Mississippi. It rises in Texas, and for a great distance forms its northern boundary, at a parallel far south of the Arkansas. It has a course of 1,500 miles, 1,200 of which are now said to be rendered navigable. The navigation of the Red River is, throughout its whole course, secured to Texas by treaty. Upon this stream lie the cultivated Red-lands,

where some of the most productive cotton plantations in the world are to be found. The Washitas are the chief tributaries.

3. The Sabine river, which rises in Texas, and at a certain point becomes its eastern boundary, continues so until it empties itself into the Sabine Bay, which has a sand-bar, with eight or nine feet water. Steam-boats have proceeded up this river for several hundred miles. There are numerous flourishing settlements on its banks.

4. The Neches also flows into Sabine Bay. Its navigation is not equal to that of the Sabine. The principal tributaries are the Attoyac and the Angelina.

5. The Trinity, San Jacinto, and Buffalo, all empty into Galveston Bay. The first is a noble stream, and its fertile banks are rapidly becoming populated. It offers fewer impediments to navigation than any other Texian river, and its easy communication with Galveston presents great facilities to the grower of produce. It has a course of probably 700 miles. Its chief tributaries are the three forks of the same name. Galveston Bay is a broad and beautiful sheet of water about thirty miles across. Between it and the gulf, lies Galveston Island, at each end of which are inlets, having sand-bars, over which vessels may pass drawing twelve feet water.

6. The Brasos river, after a course of nearly a thousand miles, empties immediately into the Gulf, over a bar with a mean depth of about six feet water. The alluvial lands on this stream are celebrated throughout America for their inexhaustible fertility. The oldest American settlements are on the Brasos, and the produce of its valley at present far exceeds that of any other portion of Texas. It is navigable for a considerable distance. Among the numerous tributaries, the Navosota may be considered the most important.

7. The San Bernard, Oyster, Caney, and some other small streams which flow into the Gulf near the Brasos, are all equally celebrated for the extraordinary fertility of the lands they water.

8. The Colorado, Navidad, and Lavaca, fall into Matagorda Bay, which is upwards of sixty miles in length, and averages about seven in breadth. At the bar, on its pass or inlet, it has a depth of from nine to eleven feet.

The Colorado is one of the noblest rivers in Texas, flowing for 800 miles through the heart of the Republic, and watering scarcely an acre of inferior land. It offers, however, at present, many obstacles to navigation. The Passigona, San Saba, Llano, and Piedernales, are its main tributaries.

9. Into Espiritu Santo Bay, which is a continuation of that of Matagorda, flow the confluent waters of the Guadalupe and San Antonio, two of the most bright and beautiful streams in the world, and for some distance capable of navigation. The Blanco, San Marco, Coletto, and Cibolo, are the main tributaries. Nothing can surpass the scenery on these rivers.

10. Beyond Espiritu Santo Bay is that of Aransas, a very fine body of water, surrounded by land fully equal to any in Texas. On this bay the shores are no longer flat, but rise in conspicuous bluffs. On the bar there is seldom more than eight and a half feet water. The Mission and Aransas rivers here empty themselves.

11. The Nueces river runs into the Bay of Corpus Christi, where the banks are loftier and the water deeper than in any of the other bays on the Texian coast. The bar, however, does not admit vessels drawing more than five or six feet. The Nueces has a course of about 300 miles, and its valley is eminently fertile and healthy. The Frio, Leona, and San Miguel, are the principal tributaries.

12. The Rio Grande, or Rio Bravo del Norte, the largest Mexican river, and throughout its whole course the boundary between the hostile

republics, rises in the Rocky Mountains, and after running for sixteen or eighteen hundred miles through rich and often populous districts, discharges its waters in the Gulf over a bar which has often not more than three feet water. The Puerco is the chief tributary of the Rio Grande; it runs through the back part of Texas, and has a course of about 500 miles.

There are several large and valuable salt lakes in the republic. Fresh water lakes are not very numerous or extensive.

I have been thus explicit in enumerating the Texian rivers, believing them to form the most important feature in the topography of the country. The spread of population has hitherto been chiefly confined to the borders of these streams, each of which thus forms, as it were, its own isolated community. Instead, therefore, of particularly dwelling on the artificial distinction of counties, it appears more practical to view the country as divided into its different river districts.

TOWNS AND PORTS

Are already very numerous, and so rapidly enlarging, that a few months will often suffice to render a description obsolete. Those of any real present importance may be soon enumerated.

Between the Neches and Sabine rivers, the

principal towns are Nacogdoches and San Augustin ; the former, an ancient Spanish settlement, said once to have contained a population of 5,000, though at present there are not more than one-fifth that number ; the latter is a very thriving place. Much of the fine country about these rivers is thickly settled. Jasper, Sabine, Milam, and Beaumont, are already towns of some note.

Liberty, Anahuac, and several other small but promising towns lie on the Trinity.

The City of Houston, on Buffalo Bayou, was, until within the last two years, the capital of Texas. It is a populous and busy place, numbering, though scarcely five years old, more than 5,000 inhabitants. There are here several religious congregations ; shops of every kind ; daily and weekly newspapers ; numerous professional men ; a theatre, race-course, hotels, cafés, &c. &c. Several steamers run between Galveston and this city, which will always be a great depôt for the retail trade of the interior.

Galveston, situated on the east end of Galveston Island, is the best port in Texas. Four years ago the city did not exist ; at present it numbers between 4,000 and 5,000 inhabitants. Its houses are built of wood, but are very neatly painted, and often ornamented with colonnades, balconies, and verandas. Vessels, drawing full

twelve feet, can lay off the piers, and the harbour is usually enlivened by a considerable amount of shipping, including the gallant little navy of the republic, and large steamers from the port of New Orleans. Six or seven British vessels entered here during the last winter. Galveston will, in a few years' time, be the busiest port immediately on the Gulf of Mexico. It is considered quite healthy. San Luis, at the other end of the island, offering nearly equal advantages in point of water and shelter, is also beginning to attract shipping, and from its vicinity to the produce of the Brasos, must continue to do so.

On the Brasos, the most important towns are Washington, in a fine and healthy country; San Felipe, the oldest American town in Texas; and, in the level country, Richmond, Columbia, and Brassoria, from whence much produce is exported.

Velasco, at the mouth of the Brasos, would, had its bar been less shallow, have become the first port in Texas for foreign export. It has not a mean depth of more than six feet, varying, as do all the bars on the coast, a foot or two, as the wind blows on or off the land.

The bar, though shifting, is very short, and the water inside is deep. It is believed that many of the Texian ports are capable of improvement,

and the time is not far distant when the citizens will be able to command the requisite capital.

The Colorado river washes the "cities" of Austin, Bastrop, La Grange, Columbus, and Matagorda. Austin is the present capital of Texas, and the seat of government. It is beautifully seated at the foot of the mountains.

The city is about two years old, and although situated so far in the interior, it already numbers more than 1,200 inhabitants. It is bounded by romantic hills to the north, the river on the south, and two creeks or rivulets on the east and west. The country around is equally fertile and healthy. There are quarries of good marble in the vicinity ; and Austin, should it continue the capital, will doubtless one day be a very beautiful city. At present, however, having no settlements beyond, it is sometimes exposed to petty Indian depredations. Being considerably above the head of navigation, its chief commercial prospects depend on the diversion of the valuable Santa Fé trade through the ports of Texas, in the event of which it would be well placed as an *entrepôt*.

Matagorda, at the mouth of the Colorado, is a well-built town, containing between 1,000 and 2,000 inhabitants, and carrying on a considerable foreign trade. It is forty-five miles from the bar

which communicates between the bay, on which it is situated, and the sea. In this bay the water is always smooth, and vessels which cross the bar can approach within about seven miles of the town.

On the Navidad, Texana is a rapidly rising town. Steam boats run between it and Matagorda.

On the Guadaloupe, Gonzales and Victoria, old Spanish towns, but now chiefly inhabited by Americans, are becoming places of some consequence. Victoria has 600 or 700 inhabitants; and much trade is carried on here with the Mexicans.

On the San Antonio river, Bexar and Goliad deserve particular notice. The former was built upwards of a century ago, and once contained a population of 8,000. At present it does not number quite 2,000, of whom scarcely more than 100 are Anglo-Americans. Mexican manners and customs prevail here as much as in any part of the Mexican republic. The people are, however, perfectly contented under the new régime. The town is stone built; the walls of the houses are of great thickness, and support flat terraced roofs. The streets wind into a noble and spacious square or market-place, where there is a fine church. There are also several old churches and Mexican ranchos in the neighbourhood. The situation is singularly healthy, and

the inhabitants are remarkable for their longevity. No part of Texas enjoys a purer air, a more fertile soil, or finer landscape. A considerable quantity of silk and cochineal was formerly raised here. At present there is a brisk and increasing trade with Mexico.

Goliad is very strongly situated, 100 miles below, on the same river. Its style of architecture resembles that of Bexar, but it suffered so much in the war of revolution that it may well be called "a city of desolation." But few inhabitants remain among its ruins.

On Aransas Bay, the towns of Aransas, Lamar, and Copano, are all thriving places, and possess great facilities for the ever-increasing Mexican trade. The bar on the bay has about eight and a half feet, and vessels drawing about eight feet can approach within one or two hundred yards of these towns.

San Patricio, on the Nueces, is an old but nearly depopulated Irish settlement.

On the Texian side of the Rio Grande are numerous towns and villages, the most important of which are Santa Fé, Taos, Albuquerque, and Laredo.

Santa Fé is supposed to have a population of about 7,000, among whom are a few hundred Americans. Its chief importance consists in its

being the general rendezvous for the merchants of the Northern Mexican States and those of the United States, who here carry on a trade to the amount of three millions of dollars per annum.

The means of communication throughout Texas are in general very easy. The natural roads in the upper country are good all the year round, and the traveller on horseback finds few impediments, save, here and there, the want of a bridge. The lower, or flat country is, during the winter months, in many parts scarcely passable. Throughout this part of Texas, however, the rivers are generally navigable for steam-boats, numbers of which are already employed. Two railroads are also in progress!

CLIMATE.

Texas has generally been represented as enjoying a climate very superior to the low lands of Mexico and Louisiana, between which it lies. This, as far as relates to purity of atmosphere, is unquestionably the case, and there are physical causes which sufficiently account for it.

1. There are no extensive swamps, owing to the gradual fall, which efficiently drains the whole country from the mountains to the sea.

2. With the exception of the wooded margins

of the water-courses, Texas is an open country, exposed to the drying rays of the sun, and where no large accumulations of vegetable matter can form.

3. As compared with Louisiana, it is more within the influence of the trade winds, which, increasing in force during the summer months, when they also extend their influence to this latitude more fully, have the effect of wonderfully tempering the ardour of the sun's rays.

However, as regards health, the climate is much modified by the peculiarities of the different regions already described. In the low alluvial districts there is, during three or four months, a partial liability to attacks of intermittent bilious fever, though by no means to an extent that can be called epidemic. In the wooded "bottoms" of the rivers in this region, the fevers will frequently assume a very severe character; but in general, a proper regimen will prevent, or a few simple doses of calomel and quinine will cure them. It may be here observed, that most of the casualties that have happened to new settlers have been manifestly owing to the exposure and privations incidental to new countries. It is much doubted by the profession whether yellow fever has ever visited the republic. If the severe sickness which two or three years ago afflicted two Texian towns was indeed that scourge, its

introduction was accounted for by direct communication with New Orleans, and by local and temporary causes of miasmatic influence.

In the rolling and hilly country the air is inexpressibly pure and elastic, the water clear and rapid, and every thing indicates unusual healthfulness. About Bexar, the oldest settled part of Texas, epidemic diseases are wholly unknown; and throughout nearly all the country west of the Colorado, the rosy cheeks of the children are alone convincing evidence of the absence of miasma.

The Texian summer may be considered to begin in March, and to last till the end of November. During this period the prevalent winds are south-easterly; little more rain falls than is beneficial to the farmer; thunder is not infrequent. The thermometer generally ranges between 80° and 90°. The delightful breeze already mentioned, and which blows quite a fresh gale across the prairies during the hottest months, seldom permits a much higher temperature, and renders that indicated by the thermometer far more bearable than would be supposed by those who had experienced the same in New York or Paris.

As a proof of this many wear woollen, and sleep under blankets throughout the year. The coolness of the nights is remarkable. The remaining months, though also favoured with a

considerable portion of delightful weather, are characterised as winter months by the not infrequent occurrence of heavy rains (usually occurring at the change of the moon) and severe storms of wind from the northward. The latter follow the rain or fair weather very suddenly, and are marked by an instant and extraordinary depression of the thermometer. They seldom blow above three days in continuance. In January and February they are often really severe, and the writer would have supposed them to be very trying to the unprepared system, relaxed a few hours previously by a perfect summer heat, had he not himself passed nights on the wet ground, and with no other shelter from their fury than that afforded by the woods, without any ill effects beyond the temporary inconvenience and suffering.

Snow is seldom seen except on the mountains.

Texas is not without some share in those usual concomitants of warm climates, noxious insects and reptiles.

In many of the unsettled districts rattle-snakes, and a few copper-headed and mocassin snakes, are found, though a bite is rarely heard of.*

* That the bite of the rattle-snake is so invariably fatal, as some have stated, the writer would venture to suggest a doubt, having seen both men and animals that have been bitten and recovered—the latter without the application of any remedy.

About the settlements serpents are seldom seen, the hogs, as is well known, speedily destroying and devouring even the most poisonous species. The annual burning of the dry grass of the prairies must also free large tracts at once from these reptiles. Species of the tarantula, centipede, and scorpion are also sometimes found.

Far more really annoying than any of these vermin is the tiny musquito, of which, in the lower country, at the fall and spring of the year, there are great numbers. In the upper country they are seldom troublesome, and in the lower region, during the summer months, they disappear before the breeze.

There is an evil in the Texian climate far greater than any yet enumerated, namely, the inclination for luxurious indolence to which it predisposes, and to which the ease wherewith the first necessaries of life are procured further inclines. The settler will have much greater reason to be on his guard against this agreeable poison, than against that of the *anguis in herbâ*.

PRODUCTIONS.

The indigenous products of Texas are very numerous.

Beneath the surface, coal has been found in the rolling country in several places, and in such

position as to lead to the conclusion that one vast bed of this mineral extends across the greater part of the country. Throughout the same region, oxide of iron and nodules of iron ore everywhere give indication of the abundance of that valuable metal. Higher up, among the hills, lead, pure gold, and copper ore, have already been often found.

Of there being rich silver mines among these mountains, and beyond them, towards Santa Fé, there can be no question. Records of their discovery still exist in the archives of that city; and among the mountains of San Saba the Spaniards are well known to have worked a valuable mine, until their settlement was, about the middle of the last century, broken up, and the workmen massacred by the Comanche Indians.

A new and most interesting field is presented in this part of Texas for the researches of the practical mineralist, though it should be mentioned that the government has reserved all the mines that may be discovered on the lands it grants or sells to private citizens.

Salt is to be obtained from both streams and lakes, as well as from artificial pits communicating with the sea.

The surface of the country is almost everywhere covered with native grasses, the luxuriant

growth of which sufficiently attests the great fertility of the soil. The most nutritious kinds are the gama, musquite, wild clover, and wild rye; but the common prairie grass, though not equal to these, affords, especially when young, a most excellent pasturage. The cane, a species of bamboo, of which numerous brakes are found on the richest tracts of the lower country, also yields a superior fodder for cattle.

The timber of Texas, except on the sandy ridges of the upper country, or where it has suffered by the burning of the prairies, grows to a large size. That magnificent and singularly valuable tree, the live oak, flourishes here better than in, perhaps, any other part of America. The cedar and pine are also often of very stately growth. Besides these, the most common species of timber are, white, black, and post oak, ash, elm, hickory, musquite or acacia, pecan, walnut, sycamore, cotton wood, cypress, bois d'arc, chinquepin, hackberry, persimmon, &c. There are also great quantities of magnolia, bay, mulberry, sumach, sassafras, palmetto, wild peach, wild plum, and cherry. Enormous grape vines, as well as numerous other kinds of creepers, grow in incredible profusion. That singular parasite, the grey hanging Spanish moss, is often seen in the low country. At a certain distance from the

sea it disappears, and its absence is considered the sign of a perfectly healthy region.

A complete Texian *flora* would fill a volume. In spring and summer the whole country, hill, wood, and prairie, presents the appearance of one vast flower garden, and many of the varieties are extremely rare and beautiful. The most common kinds include many species of cactus, mimosa, and aloe ; clematis, jasmin, passion flower, and innumerable other creepers ; wild roses, violets, lilies, lotuses ; superb star, bell, and trumpet flowers ; and a great variety of sun-flowers, dahlias, geraniums, lobelias, pinks, anemones, &c. &c.

Sarsaparilla, indigo, vanilla, capsicum, tobacco, potatoes, and many other valuable plants and roots, are likewise found indigenous in large quantities.

The *zoology* is also comprehensive. Vast herds of the mighty buffalo have already ceded the lower country to man, but in the rolling region they are yet frequently to be met with ; and beyond, they have still none to contend with, except their ancient persecutors, the red men. In the lower prairies is also found a species of wild horned cattle, much resembling those still seen in three or four parks in the north of our own island. Deer, of about the size of our largest

fallow deer, and in herds of from ten to a thousand, are common in every part of the country. Among and beyond the mountains, moose, a species of antelope, and wild sheep, are said to be common. The wild horse which now roams every prairie, sometimes alone, sometimes in herds of more than a thousand, is not a native, but the progeny of those which escaped from the early conquerors of Mexico. He is usually a small bony animal about fourteen hands high, with remarkably clean legs, and other signs indicative of good blood. When congregated in bodies of a thousand, these horses form the most imposing spectacle which the prairies present. They are then under the command of some large and really noble-looking stallion, who, by the aid of subordinate leaders, maintains a perfectly organized discipline, and directs every formation and movement with military precision. To observe them as the prairie shakes under their steadily advancing or retreating line, and to watch the marshalling of their separate troops, the detachment of their videttes, their flank and rear guards, and the signals by which each movement is directed, is most interesting and exciting. When caught and broken, these animals become very useful, and exhibit great powers of endurance. Though not often vicious, they are apt to acquire

tricks, the principal aim of which appears to be the recovery of their lost liberty. The rough and cruel way in which, by aid of the lasso, they are first broken, seems also to impress them with indelible feelings of dread and distrust towards man—feelings which often render them by no means pleasant companions.

The peccary, or Mexican hog, a ferocious and, when in herds, formidable little animal, is sometimes found in the west of Texas. Here also is seen the cougar, or Mexican lion, the largest animal of the panther kind. The only one the writer ever saw, had, at the distance of about fifty yards, much the appearance in shape, size, and colour, of a large lioness. They will often attack and devour unmounted horses, but generally fly before man. Leopards and panthers are more numerous, but by no means so formidable. Leopard cats and wild cats are frequently seen. The skin of the former is very beautiful. In most parts of Texas, black bears, prairie wolves, racoons, opossums, grey squirrels, several animals of the polecat tribe, rabbits, a species of hare, and, in the upper country, the otter and beaver, are frequently found.

The *ornithology* of the country includes (among the most common birds) various hawks, eagles, and vultures; cranes, rose-coloured flamingos,

and pelicans ; swans, geese, ducks, and other waterfowl in immense numbers ; wild turkeys, prairie hens, (which are very similar to our red grouse), quails, a species of pheasant, snipe, plovers, pigeons, larks, the mocking bird, red bird, blue bird, black bird, parroquet, woodpeckers, humming birds, &c. &c.

The fish most commonly eaten, are the buffalo, cat fish, red fish, and mullet, the delicious sheepshead, eels, perch, trout, &c.

Crabs, prawns, and oysters are in great plenty ; the quality of the latter, for an American oyster, is excellent. In the bays of the west, green turtle is quite common ; and terrapins, a species of land tortoise, much valued by American epicures, are also found.

Alligators, sometimes 18 feet long, infest the rivers of the lower country. Besides the animals of the serpent kind already noticed, there are said to be constrictors, though not of sufficient size to be formidable.

There are also some singular species of frogs and chameleons.

AGRICULTURE, &c.

The main staples of the Texian farmer are, in the lower country, cotton and maize ; sugar and

tobacco will soon become objects of equal importance. In the upper country, sugar will only be grown in particular localities ; but the smaller grains will be added to the list.

In every part of Texas, cattle and horses will always be great sources of profit. Most kinds of fruit and vegetables will grow every where in the greatest abundance. Negro labour will probably continue to be chiefly employed on the low alluvial lands, but throughout the upper country there are many reasons for believing that free white labour will predominate.

As a cotton-growing country, Texas is now generally admitted to be superior to the United States, one of the strongest proofs of which is the number of planters who continue emigrating thither.

The climate is more congenial, and the deep rich soil, strongly impregnated with fertilising salts, is far more productive than the best cotton states of the Union ; the result of which is an average of fully one-third more on the acre, and a decidedly finer and longer staple. There are several rivers in Texas, the valley of any one of which is capable of producing more cotton than all the present plantations of the Union together. The lower country will unquestionably produce the finest samples of the "long staple." In the

rolling country the "short staple" will almost every where flourish.

On some lands, 4,000 pounds weight of seed cotton have been raised, and the plant has been known to reach the extraordinary height of twelve feet, and to become perennial. Texas is, in short, peculiarly the region of the cotton plant; and the advantages of the planter are signal. He has, in the first place, cheaper lands. 2dly. A larger crop. 3dly. A better staple. 4thly. An earlier season to plant, and therefore to pick; likewise a *longer* season for the latter precarious operation prior to the rains and frosts doing injury. 5thly. By the superior facilities for raising stock, he can feed his labourers about 50 per cent. cheaper than in the United States. 6thly. Their clothing, owing to the lower tariff, will be far less expensive. 7thly. The more salubrious climate will make their life a better purchase.

The planting season commences in February, and the picking begins in June. The mode of culture is very simple and easy. One good hand can raise ten or even twelve bales of 400 lbs. to 500 lbs. each,* and grow corn enough for his own support besides. The fallacy that a white labourer cannot raise cotton, is in Texas already partially exploded.

* Worth, in the Galveston market, say 4*d.* per lb.

The sugar now produced there, from its excellent quality, offers every encouragement for a more extended culture. The cane sweetens much higher than on the Mississippi, and yields a richer juice. There are tracts eminently suited to the growth of sugar, that could easily supply more than the consumption of all Europe.

Tobacco will in all probability become a very important staple. The finest Havanna leaf has been frequently raised; and the cigars that have been already manufactured from it, in the opinion of many judges, require only age and better twisting to equal those of Cuba export.

Maize, or Indian corn, produces everywhere large crops, under the rudest modes of agriculture. Fifty to seventy bushels an acre are frequently raised, and two crops are often obtained the same year.

Rice would find a congenial soil and climate near the estuaries of the rivers.

Throughout the upper country, wheat, rye, barley, and oats, will become staple objects with the farmer. Fine crops of wheat, sown in October, and reaped in May, have already been obtained.

Hemp and flax are likewise eminently suited to the higher regions.

The *morus multicaulis* thrives well wherever planted, and the climate offers every inducement for the culture of silk.

In some parts, native mulberry trees are numerous, but I could not ascertain whether a species of silk-worm, as has been asserted, is actually indigenous.

Indigo might become a great object to the cultivator. The immense profits which the culture of this plant yields in favourable localities are well known.

For the labours of horticulture every part of Texas is admirably adapted.

Irish potatoes, planted early, succeed well, frequently yielding more than 500 bushels per acre. Sweet potatoes produce yet more abundantly; a single root of this excellent vegetable has here been known to attain the extraordinary weight of 10lbs.

Beans, peas, turnips, carrots, beet, yams, tomatoes, cucumbers, and almost every other species of esculent vegetable, delicate and hardy, grow with wonderful rapidity and yield prodigious crops.

Melons more especially suit the soil and climate, and attain a very superior size and flavour.

Figs and peaches are at present the most commonly cultivated fruit trees, and, perhaps, in no other part of America do they flourish so surprisingly. Their flavour is delicious, and the quantity obtained from an orchard of well-grown trees is scarcely credible.

Olives, almonds, nectarines, apricots, plums, cherries, papaws, &c., will thrive equally well in almost every locality. In the lower region, oranges, lemons, pomegranates, and even pine apples, will mature their fruit; and among the hills it is thought that pears and apples might be successfully planted.

The native pecan nut, a delicate species of hickory, and of which there are vast quantities, is, in the opinion of many, superior to the walnut.

If ever the grape be successfully cultivated on the American continent, with a view to the making of wine, it will be in Texas, where the light sandy loam and limestone substratum of the hills, and the bright dry autumn atmosphere, produce even an uncultivated fruit of a sweet and excellent flavour, free from that "foxy" taste peculiar to most kinds of wild grapes in America.

The raising of stock has been for upwards of a century the principal and favourite occupation of the Texian settler, and though the herds of horned cattle are not so numerous as they were before the war, many of the prairies are still covered with a valuable breed. The poorest settler is not without a few heads; and more than one individual has been known to brand 1,500 calves, the produce of a single year.

The advantages and inducements which Texas

presents to the grazier are certainly very conspicuous.

In the first place, the amount of capital to be invested is small, as stock may be bought of the Mexican traders, in western Texas, at less than five dollars a head per hundred.

2dly. They scarcely demand more care or expenditure than the deer of the prairie; no preparation of hay or fodder being required for the winter, nor further shelter than that afforded by the woods. The milch cows alone are sometimes given a little corn to keep them domestic. The rest keep in good condition all the year round on the pasture of the prairie, and early in summer become very fat. A couple of men mounted are thus sufficient to manage a herd of one thousand.

3dly. The open prairie land will suit the object of the grazier, if not too far removed from water; and such land is much cheaper than that running immediately on the banks of the streams.

4thly. The increase of stock is very great. It is usually estimated that 100 cows and calves, purchased for 1,000 dollars, will in ten years have increased, allowing for every casualty, thirty-six fold, thus numbering 3,600, worth, at the same price, 36,000 dollars. They may, however, as before observed, be often bought at only half the cost here calculated; from the Mexicans in the western

frontier, and sold at the increased price among the settlements.

5thly. There is in Texas not only a great and increasing home consumption for beef, but a profitable trade in cattle already opened with New Orleans and other southern markets across the Sabine ; independently of which, the West Indian islands present a market within a few days' sail, which must soon be rendered available, for from no other quarter can they be so cheaply and readily supplied ; and the Texians will in return import large quantities of coffee, which is their common beverage. Salt, for curing, is to be obtained every where near the coast ; and the hide, horns, and tallow shipped to Europe will alone pay more than the cost of the beast.

The rearing of horses and mules is also a favourite and profitable pursuit, and presents equal prospects of a large export trade.

Sheep, in the upper country, do very well, but require folding, not being so well able to protect themselves from the wolves and other beasts of prey, as are the horned cattle.

Perhaps no kind of live stock yields so great a profit to the planter as the hog, which, in large numbers, is always found about his farm, and whose flesh constitutes his favourite food.

This animal is said to multiply fifty fold in a

single twelvemonth. He finds in the woods, at the fall of the year, mast, of excellent quality, sufficient to fatten him ; and at no season requires more corn than will induce him to return to the homestead.

Poultry lay and breed throughout the year, within which period the progeny from a single hen (her chicks having produced the same season) has been known to exceed 100.

Bees might be rendered valuable sources of profit. There are great numbers of wild swarms among the hills, and the flowery prairies would support myriads. In Mexico, the demand for wax is very extensive.

The modes of husbandry in Texas are of the most simple description. The planter usually prefers the borders of a wood, near a stream, on which to open his farm ; but the widest prairies, by digging for water—which is everywhere found within ten to thirty feet of the surface—and by a proper system of fencing,* may be rendered capable of supporting a dense population. At present, they are useful chiefly as ranges for cattle, and it is difficult for the eye, wandering over their vast and somewhat drear expanse, to picture the future scene of smiling plenty, with which their rich soil will in all likelihood be crowned.

* There are species of thorn well suited to the formation of quickset hedges.

The first object of the farmer, after building a small and temporary log-house, is to enclose a sufficient space of the open land adjoining, by the erection of a rail fence, piled up in a zigzag form, so as to dispense with posts and fastenings. He then proceeds to break up the land with a light plough, which is usually drawn by oxen. A yoke of large oxen, *broken*, is worth from thirty to sixty dollars: a horse for general agricultural purposes, about twenty dollars. The first ploughing, or breaking-up of the sward, is of course more difficult than the after processes of tillage, which, by the loose, friable nature of the soil, are rendered very easy. The Texian farmers generally content themselves with one ploughing previously to planting. Manuring is altogether dispensed with. The seed time for maize, cotton, and most other crops, is in February and March. As a general rule, the earlier the better. A few hoeings, to destroy weeds, to thin, and to earth up the young plants, is all that is required on the part of the farmer to bring them to perfection. The heavy dews are very beneficial; and a drought sufficiently long, materially to injure the crops, rarely occurs.

In the month of June, the first crop of Indian corn is cut. Where there is a second, it seldom ripens before the latter end of November.

In Texas, there is scarcely an acre of open land unfit for the plough, that is not well adapted to grazing.

The long dry grass of the prairies is twice a year (summer and winter) set on fire; after which, the first rains which fall renew the face of the earth with the richest verdure.

TO THE EMIGRANT.

TEXAS is not a British colony; yet, when we consider the immense stream of our surplus population which pours into the United States, we cannot doubt but that this new channel will obtain a share; especially as, independently of its milder climate and more fertile soil, it equally offers the inducements implied in the prevalence of the British language, religion, and common law, as well as the attraction of free institutions and low taxation; to which may be added, a less complicated political, and a more liberal commercial system.

Without recourse to any invidious comparison on the point of natural advantages, it must also be conceded, that the distance alone (which is two-thirds less) will cause many to prefer Texas to Australia. As regards Canada, where the

settler is doomed to pass the prime of his life in hewing his farm out of the forest, and where an arctic winter reigns for half the year,—the rich, open lands, and almost perpetual summer of Texas, will yet more certainly ensure the preference.

There are four physical requisites indispensable to a good location for settlement ; *viz.* a fertile soil, a mild yet healthy climate, sufficiency of timber, and good water. The two latter requisites are generally found, more or less, in all countries ; but the *union* of the former—of a soil and climate suitable even to the growth of tropical productions, and yet generally healthy—is rarely found. It may be questioned, whether any region, except some of the ocean isles, enjoys, in these respects, greater advantages than Texas. It offers, also, another peculiar facility to the farming emigrant. He may here select the modes of husbandry he has been accustomed to ; and raise either northern or southern products with equal advantage.

The first object of the settler should be, however, to fix himself in a decidedly healthy situation. As already observed, the country generally is, for a southern country, unusually healthy ; the upper part of it singularly so, even to the unacclimated. The western territory, from the sea

coast to the mountains, is everywhere salubrious, and well suited to European constitutions. With so much choice, the infatuation of some emigrants in selecting the low wooded banks of the rivers, where they slowly creep through the alluvial country, is scarcely believable. The results, as may be supposed, have been frequent, and sometimes, fatal sickness. Not only on the score of health, but also with a view to the most suitable objects of the European farmer, I would venture especially to recommend the western and (generally) the upper country, which are best adapted to the raising of stock and small grain. It should, however, be mentioned, that there are some districts in this part of Texas rather scantily supplied with timber. The mountain or hilly region, yet further removed from the sea, is perhaps as healthy as any portion of the globe, though at present it is too much exposed to Indian depredations to be safe for individual settlers; besides which, a primary object of the cultivator is to be near a market, or, at least, near to where a market may be *expected*;—for it is necessary to look a little ahead in a country where “GO AHEAD” is the practical motto.

In purchasing lands, the settler will find various kinds of titles, some emanating from the old Mexican, some from the present government. It

is scarcely necessary to add that, as in all other new countries, a purchaser should be cautious, since it is impossible but that some confusion, arising out of the different species of title, the system of surveying, registering, &c. should still exist. The price of land greatly varies: that which is held by a title not only "*unquestionable,*" but *unquestioned, which is fertile, near to population or to water conveyance, and has sufficiency of wood and water,* would, as far as the writer is able to judge by comparison, be cheap at three to five dollars an acre. In some situations it has already been sold much higher, and it should be observed, that the value of land generally, is rising with the rising prospects of the Republic. Much, however, of land more or less eligible, and with titles that, though perhaps not perfected, will eventually be sustained, may be bought much cheaper; and parties of emigrants large enough to form a community among themselves, supplied with every kind of labour, and willing to proceed to remote districts, may obtain large tracts on very advantageous terms. Indeed, the old system of conditional "headright" donations is not yet wholly extinct, though so near the term of expiration as to render any lengthened notice unnecessary.

The small capitalist will find the raising of

stock the most easy and profitable pursuit. The yet smaller would often do well in cultivating a garden in the neighbourhood of some town, where he would generally find a ready market for his produce. He who has no capital, will, in general, if industrious, and acquainted with agricultural pursuits, find little difficulty in connecting himself with some farmer already established, on advantageous terms.

Labourers and mechanics arriving in small numbers will easily find employ; but the influx of large bodies at once, without any immediate means of support, would be attended with much temporary evil, though the demand for labour is steadily increasing, and will soon be great.

When the Texian government shall have given some especial facilities to enable capitalists to hold labourers, with whom they may have contracted abroad, faithful to such contracts, the amount of working population that might be advantageously introduced would have no limits.

To professional men, and young men without professions, Texas offers fewer inducements; it being subject of complaint that there are already too many of these classes.

The best months for the agricultural emigrant to arrive in are those of October and November. He will then have time sufficient to make the

necessary preparations for the ensuing planting season. The formation of a garden should be an object secondary only to the planting of a field. A moderately-sized Texian garden, independently of a superabundance of wholesome vegetables and delicious fruits throughout the year, might supply the domestic consumption of sugar, tobacco, wine, and perhaps coffee. Fish and game may be generally procured very easily; but the settler should not lack means sufficient for purchasing enough bread for his family until the ensuing July; by which time he will have secured his first corn crop, the realization of which will render him ever after dependent only on his own industry.

The price of Indian corn in the towns has averaged, during the last year, little more than three shillings (English) per bushel.

The most useful articles the emigrant can take out are, implements of husbandry of every kind, light waggon wheels, mechanics' tools, a rifle, stocks of clothing, not omitting woollens; field and garden seeds, and the finest breeds of live stock, for crossing. A tent would often be a valuable appendage when there is a prospect of travelling in the interior; and a small frame house would save much time, labour, and exposure. A little calomel, quinine, and volatile

alkali, and a few of the simpler medicines, should not be forgotten. The emigrant cannot do better than carry his money in the form of gold.

The voyage direct by ship is generally performed in fifty to sixty days. Vessels are now leaving London and Liverpool for Galveston very frequently. From Galveston, the emigrant can either proceed to the interior, by steam as far as Houston, and thence by waggon, or by coasting vessels he can, at small cost, reach any of the ports further west, and at once find himself in a beautiful and healthy country. The expense of living at the best hotels in the towns is usually from seven to nine shillings per day. In the country, where many of the farmers keep public houses for the accommodation of travellers, less than this sum will often pay the cost of both man and horse.

The usual passage-money charged from England to Galveston appears to be, for steerage passengers, providing their own stores, £5 or £6; for cabin passengers, found in stores, £30; second cabin, or intermediate, about £20.

The greater number of English emigrants, from their previous habits of life, and their incapability of forming a just idea of the real state of things in a new country, make at *first* but indifferent settlers, and but poor judges of the advan-

tages or drawbacks of any particular settlement ; but to the more hardy and enterprising American or Scot, the more easily contented German—above all, to the *experienced* settler, the individual (and there are such in Texas) who has previously tried the forests of Canada, or the more parched plains of Australia ; who knows that emigration, even under the most favourable circumstances, must always be, more or less, a temporary evil—to these I would appeal, whether there is any new country where the hardships are so light, and the ultimate reward so certain, as in the Republic of Texas.

COMMERCE.

THE commercial prospects of Texas may be summed up very briefly. The already enumerated advantages which her planters enjoy, must inevitably cause the remunerating price of their produce to be less than that of the United States' planters, and consequently enable them to undersell the latter in supplying us with that raw material on which nearly two millions of our people may be said to depend for their daily bread.

For this produce they will require, in return, British manufactures, with the distinguishing difference, as regards the United States, of admitting them without the impost of any *protective* duty.

Nor will their importation of European goods be limited to their own consumption. The wealthy population of the northern states of Mexico, who cannot obtain their supplies through the legitimate channels without submitting to the payment of a duty so exorbitant as to amount well nigh to prohibition, have already opened a trade with the contiguous and comparatively free ports of Texas, that will soon absorb a vast amount of manufactures.

These facts, which appear to involve an alteration in the whole commercial system of America, also suggest some political considerations of no little importance—considerations which, however invidious it might be to investigate them too deeply, abundantly justify the policy of England in her recognition of Texas, and in the trade she is rapidly opening there.

Suffice to say, that, considering the difficult and delicate questions still pending between Great Britain and the United States, the threatening aspect their relations from time to time assume, the obvious interest of the manufacturing states to precipitate a war, and the primary dependence of our own manufacturers on the southern states, for the staple on which our national prosperity indirectly depends; it is manifestly our interest to foster an influence on the American continent

which shall ultimately render us independent of the Great Confederation.

Such is Texas. The question of her annexation with that confederation is for ever gone by. Her people now value too highly their military and political achievements, and foresee too clearly the evils resulting from a union of anomalous and conflicting interests, ever to wish to link with it their own buoyant destiny. Besides, the jealousies which prevented the admission of Texas into the Union when she was an applicant, still operate as strongly as ever. That application did, in truth, place the northern politicians in a serious dilemma. If united, Texas must inevitably have given the preponderance to southern interest; whilst, remaining sovereign and independent, they as clearly foresaw that she would become a formidable rival;—inviting their capital, enticing their population, underselling them in the main staples of their foreign commerce, and, above all, opposing to their protective tariff system, those principles of free trade which will soon make her a great depôt for the manufactures of Europe, and will eventually place the whole commercial system of America at her mercy.

In the event of a war between Great Britain and the United States, a catastrophe, to the *possibility* of which, recent circumstances have

rendered us only too much alive, a vast trade might be carried on through the medium of Texas, whose flag could with impunity transport all the cotton of the south-western states, and whose ports might primarily import the manufactures destined for the most distant parts of the Union.

The example which such a state of things would have on the southern states, who at this moment are not blind to the extent to which their interests are sacrificed to those of the north, need not be hinted at. Viewing these conflicting interests as they exist between the different states which compose both the North American and the Mexican Union, and then viewing the intervening position, and the different governing principles of Texas, it is scarcely too much to assert, that, in that young country seems to lie the key-stone of the destinies of the whole continent of America.

With Mexico, more especially, whether in time of peace or war, the effect is very obvious. Through Texian ports, and thence, across various points of the Rio Grande, British goods are already finding their way in considerable quantities; and the inhabitants of the northern and western Mexican states are consequently obtaining their supplies at 50 to 100 per cent. less cost than if they were procured through Tampico or Vera Cruz.

In this way, that is, through Texas, England might increase her trade with Mexico threefold. A similar traffic is that which certain American merchants carry on with Santa Fé. In this city, rendezvous the dealers from all the northern parts of Mexico. The Americans meet them with goods, chiefly British, which, after paying the heavy import duty, they have transported *via* St. Louis, and through the heart of the American wilderness, a distance of 4,000 miles.

Santa Fé is within the Texian boundary, and only 600 miles from the Texian ports on the Gulf. Endeavours are therefore being made to divert this trade; with regard to the practicability of which, the only question (as cogently suggested in "Bonnell's Topography") is, if goods, which pay 20 to 40 per cent. duty, will, after a subsequent carriage of 4,000 miles, a great part of which is through a wilderness beset with hostile Indian tribes, yield a profit worthy of so hazardous and costly an enterprise, will not goods brought to the same point, after paying a much less duty, and after only 600 miles of inland carriage, pay a far greater?

The present Santa Fé trade in the hands of the Americans is supposed to amount to full 3,000,000 of dollars per annum. A Texian expedition has already left Austin for Santa Fé,

in order to open political and commercial relations with that remote part of the republic. The Mexicans, as traders, are a fair dealing people. They exchange for manufactured goods, gold and silver, rich peltries, mules, and cattle.

The French made powerful efforts during the last winter to obtain the command of this trade, and a general foothold on the American continent, through the medium of a charter from the Texian congress. The project of their charter was to enable them to introduce any number of emigrants, not less than 8,000, (who were to become Texian citizens); to erect a chain of not less than 20 forts between the present settlements and the upper country, and extending from the United States to the Rio Grande; to secure the exclusive privilege of working the mines in the upper country for a period of fifty years; to obtain for themselves and their emigrants a donation of 3,000,000 of acres of the public territory in fee! which was to be divided into sixteen selected tracts, and to be exempted from all taxes for seven years; to stipulate that to no other incorporated company should be granted any of the public domain in the upper country for the period of twenty years; and that every description of goods and merchandise introduced by the company into the ports of the republic, for the purpose,

as stated on oath, of carrying on a trade with Mexico, should be exempt from duty.

This bill was opposed as alike unconstitutional and impolitic, and did not pass.*

The trade opening between Texas and the West Indies, especially the Island of Cuba, will soon become important. From Texas, these islands can be supplied with provisions and mules, more easily and more cheaply than from any other quarter. The Mexican traders will often sell mules in Western Texas for 30 dollars, which would command, in the Havanna, 150.

Hides, as well as cotton and tobacco, will form a considerable export to Europe.

That invaluable timber for ship building, (especially for vessels of war), the live oak, must also become a very important object of commerce. It is in Texas one of the most common, as well as the most noble of the forest trees; and, it is believed, it might be procured there at less cost, and of better quality, than from any other coast to which we have access.†

Shippers to Texas must for a time be cautious

* It was observed by a Texian senator, that one-third of the blood and treasure which France has lavished on the barren conquest of Algiers, would have enabled her, in the name of this Company, to have effected the conquest of Mexico.

† In a report made by the Secretary of the Navy to the

as to the extent of their consignments; recollecting that, however great the commercial *prospects* of the country are, it is at present only a new market, whose own consumption must necessarily be limited, and the channels of whose interior, or transit trade, are as yet but very partially opened.

United States Congress, in 1832, the value and scarcity of this species of oak are thus referred to:—

“The value of the live oak is so generally known that it will not, I am sure, be necessary to say anything to the committee on that subject. Forming the most essential material in ship building, equal in durability and strength to the teak, and far surpassing it in buoyancy, without any substitute on this continent, its destruction cannot be contemplated without the most serious apprehensions. For ships of war it is admitted to be the best in the world. This timber is only found in any quantity south of latitude 32,^o and rarely ever grows north of 34^o. * * * * It is disappearing by exportation, by sales, and by clearing up the country for cultivation, until the coast of Georgia is nearly shorn of every branch, and a large portion of East Florida. There is none, it appears, between the Sabine and the Mississippi, and the small quantities in Alabama, and the state of Mississippi, are inaccessible. Compared with the demand, there is but a small portion in West Florida. * * * * If natural product is our dependence, we shall be in half a century without live oak enough to repair such a vessel as the ‘Constitution,’ and shall have to sell her *ex necessitate*. * * * * The Congress of the United States appropriated 200,000 dollars as early as the year 1799, to form plantations of live oak, and it has since been recommended by Mr. Jefferson. There is scarcely an intelligent officer in our navy who is not in favour of it.”

The time will soon arrive when a vast amount of British goods may be advantageously imported: at present, shipments should consist of small general assortments; that is to say, of great variety of articles—but not great quantities of each article. The quality should be always good. It is a great mistake to suppose the refuse of other markets will sell well here. Winter is the busiest season for trade. Cotton being the chief return, it will be some guide to shippers to know that the quantity grown in Texas during the present year is generally estimated at full 50,000 bales. Much of this, however, reaches New Orleans *via* the Red River, without being identified as Texian cotton. The official returns of the quantity duly exported did not, in 1840, include more than 15,304 bales, though it should be added, that much of that year's crop was not exported until 1841. Besides her cotton, and some hides, Texas already procures no inconsiderable amount of specie from Mexico, with which to purchase European goods.

The total amount of imports during the four years ending December, 1840, exceeded 4,870,941 dollars.

The imports during the first quarter of the present year were 291,671 dollars.

The exports from September, 1837, to Sep-

tember, 1840, exceeded 793,887 dollars, of which 218,134 were exported during the nine months of 1840 alone. The exports of the first quarter of the present year were, as far as the returns had been received, 92,795 dollars.

The rate of "legal" interest in Texas is 8 per cent. per annum. Conventional interest may not exceed 12 per cent. Commission charges are generally rather high. Port dues are light, and there is no tonnage duty exacted.

The Texian tariff will be found, with other statistical information, at the end of this little work. It will be seen that the duties on manufactured goods have been raised to the *nominal* rate of 45 per cent. As they are payable in depreciated paper currency, the real amount of duty does not exceed 10 per cent. That paper having, however, been greedily bought up by speculators, many of whom would part with it for little less than par value, is becoming scarce, and consequently must rise in value, which will be sufficient reason for the tariff being again reduced, especially as its increase had merely a view to temporary convenience. And as the policy of a low tariff is, as a principle, adopted by the unanimous feeling of the whole nation, they will only wait for a proper arrangement of their fiscal affairs to effect further

reductions, until Texas shall, in the language of an eminent American, "become the great free trade republic of the world."

The limited depth of water in the Texian ports has been already noticed. Vessels of about 250 tons, or not drawing more than ten or eleven feet, are best suited to the trade. The open anchorage outside the bars is very good ; the holding-ground being generally a stiff clay ; and the severest gales which occur during the winter months, blowing off the land, seldom produce much sea on the coast.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

No census has yet been taken of the population of Texas, and the different conjectural estimates so greatly vary, that it is difficult to know which to select as being the most probable approximation to the truth. However, including Santa Fé, and the upper portion of the republic, we can scarcely err in asserting that there cannot be less than 300,000 souls. The writer's own impression is, that there will, at the end of the present year, be found very nearly this number of American and British settlers alone, independently of about 15,000 Mexicans, 13,000 negroes, and probably 20,000 Indians, men, women, and children. One fact is certain : the population has increased and

is increasing by immigration, in a ratio that is almost, if not quite unexampled in the annals of a new country. Already has Texas a greater number of inhabitants than seven or eight of the states of the Northern Union.

The principal Indian tribes are the Comanches, Towaccanies, Waccoes, Tonkahuas, Carancahuas, Lipans, Bedais, Caddoes, Pawnees, Cushattees, and Cherokees. Most of these are, however, very insignificant in point of numbers, and consequently keep on good terms with the whites. The Lipans and Tonkahuas, especially, are friendly Indians, who frequently supply the settlements with venison and buffalo, and prove very useful allies in expeditions against the hostile tribes. These latter have been already so frequently defeated and scattered, as to remain no longer formidable, at least, with the exception of the Comanches; and even that powerful tribe are driven back among the mountains, whither small parties of Texian volunteers are continually pursuing them, penetrating deeper and deeper each successive expedition.

For nearly two hundred miles from the shores of the gulf the country is already safe for settlers, and it is only the immediate frontier settlements that are in any way exposed to Indian depredations, which are now generally carried on

by small prowling bands. The employment of about 500 regular troops would in another year's time lay open to the farmer a new section of country, equal in extent to that already settled, and still better suited for European colonization. The fate of the savage children of the soil, it is melancholy to contemplate; but it should be borne in mind that the Comanches are a tribe of Indians, not only, like all other redmen, inimical to the progress of civilization, but peculiarly and proverbially faithless and bloodthirsty. Both Mexicans and Texians have entered into innumerable treaties with them, each one of which they have broken almost as soon as made. The most solemn engagements have not deterred them from murdering the first defenceless traveller they may have met, on their return from the place of conference, and their treacheries have been so often repeated, that the Texians have ceased to treat with them, viewing them as little better than the wild beasts of the prairie. The writer was present at the last amicable "talk" with the chiefs of this tribe, which took place in the city of Bexar, (February 1840), and was much struck with the peculiarly bad and restless expression of countenance which the men exhibited, and which he had never noticed in any other Indian.

The number of negro slaves in 1840 amounted,

according to the assessor's returns, to 11,323, but there has been some addition since, owing to the continued influx of planters. They all come from the United States, and it is a crime, punishable with death, to import them from elsewhere ; so that Texas is perhaps the only slave-holding state that has not been guilty of participating in the slave-trade, nor directly accessory to the increase of slavery. She has simply been instrumental in the transfer of slave-labour from one state to another ; and it may be argued, that, owing to the more productive soil and temperate climate, the condition of the slave is by this transfer greatly improved. Without reference to the evident abstract wrong, or to the alleged practical evils of slavery, and without invidious inquiry into the comparative condition of our own working class of nominal freemen, the writer feels bound to say, that the slaves of Texas appeared to him as well provided for, and as contented, as any labouring class he had ever seen. Unreasonable or cruel treatment of a slave is punishable by a heavy fine. A great difference between Texas and most of the slave states of the Union is, that in the former white labour is encouraged, and considered no degradation. With the exception of the comparatively small tract of low alluvial land, it will, there can be little doubt, always

greatly predominate. At present the whites, in proportion to the blacks, are as fifteen to one.

A great error exists in the minds of some as to the facility with which negroes can be imported from the West Indian islands or Africa. Three years ago such a traffic might, to a very small extent, have been carried on, but at present it would be as easily detected, and as surely punished, as any other species of piracy.

The vast majority of the people of Texas are Americans, though there are also a considerable number of British, and a few French and Germans.

Whatever may be the general impression, there are few countries, either old or new, where good order is so well appreciated, and the laws so generally respected and maintained by the force of public opinion. In this respect, Texas has been much maligned by the unfriendly representations of the people of the northern states. As in all new countries some notorious characters have sought refuge there, but never, as may have been the case in some of the western parts of the Union, to an extent sufficient to tincture the general character of society. From the commencement of Austin's colony the settlers were generally people of good character; and since the revolution, the United States have not only lost much population and capital, but also much

talent and integrity by emigration to Texas. Towards the borders of some remote settlements, the people, accustomed to hunting expeditions, Indian campaigning, and, sometimes, daring marauds into Mexico, lead a wild life ; and by their military habits, not unfrequent feuds, love of horseback, and rather questionable propensity for cattle driving, strongly remind the traveller of the borderers of the ancient Scottish school ; but the great mass of the people, though accustomed to arms and hardships, fond of adventure and military excitement, and constituting perhaps the most formidable militia, for their numbers, in the world, are remarkably courteous and obliging.

In one respect, a British stranger cannot fail to make a comparison between Texas and the United States, favourable to the former. In the latter country expressions of feeling unfriendly to England are frequently heard ; in the former, whether from a consciousness among the people that their interests assimilate better with ours, or from whatever other cause, this is not the case. With the writer the recollection must always abide, that Texas is the only one of several countries in which he has chanced to travel, where, as a foreigner, he cannot recollect having met with one word of rudeness, or the slightest act of

incivility. A stranger has also a better opportunity in Texas for obtaining a general view of American character, than in any individual state of the Union; for the reason that society there, is composed of the people of almost every state, blended together in one political community,—a state of things which has a beneficial effect, inasmuch as the very opposite manners, habits, and prejudices of the north, south, and west, are thus brought to influence and moderate each other. The states which have most largely contributed to the population of Texas, are Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, the Carolinas, and Virginia. The warm-hearted liberality, intelligence, and taste for refinement, which have always distinguished the people of these last-mentioned states, are characteristics that have not been lost by transmigration across the Sabine.

In the Texian political arena there is as much of the asperity of party-spirit as in other free countries. Fortunately, or unfortunately, as the result may prove, it appears rather directed against men than measures. It has, however, seldom proceeded so far as to question the integrity of intention of the leading public characters. Their ability is sufficiently proved by the achievements, civil as well as military, which, during the last six years, they have effected. Within

the walls of the humble Capitol at Austin, a talent for debate, and not unfrequently a power of eloquence, are displayed, which would do credit to the senates of much older states. The Texian Bar also numbers amongst its members individuals of very eminent attainments, general, as well as professional.

Female society—everywhere respectable, and not unfrequently refined—has its usual happy influence in producing a respect for morality and religion. There is scarcely a settlement, however small, that has not its church duly organized, according to some one of the various forms of Christianity. Presbyterians, episcopalians, methodists, and baptists, are the most prevalent. All sects are equally free, but none receive any kind of national support.*

* The subjoined correspondence between the court of Rome and the executive of Texas, while it shows the vigilance of the former where its most remote interests are concerned, will also illustrate the just and tolerant principles which govern the latter.

“ To His Excellency the President of the Texian Republic :

“ MOST EXCELLENT SIR—As the sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith has had many proofs of the extraordinary kindness and benevolence shown by your Excellency, and by your illustrious Council, towards Christ's worthy ministers, who from time to time were sent to bring the comforts of religion to the faithful of your country; hence I pray you to receive on behalf of the above-named sacred Congregation, great and meet thanks. As you also

Bible Societies, Sunday Schools, and Temperance Meetings, are already numerous. Twelve know that, to provide for the spiritual wants of those Catholics, the same sacred Congregation has appointed a worthy ecclesiastic, JOHN TIMON, as Prefect Apostolic or Pastor of that Catholic Church, and has associated with him other priests as co-labourers in the holy ministry; hence I also earnestly entreat your Excellency, with the goodness and power so eminent in you, to aid and protect the above-named prefect and those associated with him; and that you cause whatever property may belong to the church to be handed over to him, as to the lawful pastor. And, although I feel greatly confident that, on account of his worth and virtues, he will become highly acceptable to you, and that his holy ministry will be greatly useful to the republic over which you preside with so much glory; nevertheless, I so commend him to you, as that whatever benefits you may confer upon him, I and my eminent colleagues will consider as conferred upon us. Further, I profess myself as most devoted to you; and I most earnestly beseech God that he may long preserve and bless your Excellency, and enrich you with his heavenly gift. Most devotedly, your Excellency's,

“ J. PH. CARD'L FRANSONIUS,
Prefect.

“ Countersigned,

“ J. ARCH'N EDESSON, *Secretary.*

“ *From the Palace of the Sacred Congregation
of the Prop. of the Faith, July 18, 1840.*”

“ *Executive Department,*

“ AUSTIN, (Texas,) Dec. 24, 1840.

“ *To His Eminence, Cardinal FRANSONIUS,*

“ *Cardinal Prefect of the Propaganda, Rome:*

“ REVEREND SIR—I have the honour to receive the very polite and benevolent epistle, which your Eminence has addressed to me by the worthy prefect, JOHN TIMON, of whose distinguished abilities and piety I am well informed.

newspapers are regularly published. There is scarcely a free person in Texas unable to read and write ; and for education, no country has, in proportion to its extent, made so large appropriations of public land—appropriations which will, ere long, be very valuable. One college already numbers seventy students. Severe laws to suppress gaming, duelling, and other immoralities,

“ Although your Eminence and the illustrious Congregation of the Propaganda of the Faith are too intelligent to require the advisement, I feel it due to the frankness which should characterize this intercourse, to remark, that a large proportion of the population of this republic have been nurtured in the Protestant faith. But it affords me unfeigned pleasure, at the same time, to observe to you, not only that our public institutions are founded upon the freest principles of religious toleration, but that the spirit and the practice of our enlightened people are in full accordance with this fundamental law of our political system.

“ That there is property of divers descriptions within our territory, which rightfully belongs to the church of which you are so eminent a member, there is no doubt ; and I am confident, that whenever it may be properly identified, it will be cheerfully restored to the sacred uses from which it has been temporarily diverted by inevitable events, incidental to a war of revolution. Justice, one of the great attributes of the Deity, ought also to constitute an active principle in all governments ; and I trust not to deceive or be deceived, when I assure you that, in *this*, it is commingled with a spirit of generosity and benevolence, which would seek to discriminate only between virtue and vice. With devout wishes that your Eminence may be blessed with many years of usefulness on earth, I have the honour to be your most obedient servant,

(Signed) “ DAVID G. BURNET.”

are established ; and are apparently more efficacious than in the new states of the Union. Lynch law is a process scarcely heard of.

The English language, except in the few Mexican towns, is universal. The English common law is also adopted, with such minor statute alterations as suit the circumstances of the country, or accord with the constitution ; in which the rights of trial by jury and *habeas corpus* are of course fundamental principles. Many alterations are of a very liberal and benignant character. Several fictitious and artificial forms of process are abrogated. The truth is taken as evidence in cases of libel ; no one can be imprisoned for debt unless it be attended with fraud ; property cannot be sold under execution unless it realize (the writer quotes from memory, but believes it is) two-thirds of its value.

Bankrupts are suffered to retain their dwellings, and the stock, &c. indispensable to their profession or support ; provision is made for extending to the poor man the protection and aid of the law without payment of counsel or other fee ; and suits are not suffered to abate for want of form, if there is sufficient matter to enable the court to proceed on the *merits* of the cause.

Monopolies and *ex post facto* laws are unconstitutional. A system of direct taxation is

adopted. Universal suffrage is practised, and every citizen is eligible to every office, if duly qualified in regard to age.

A residence of six months, after a formal declaration of intention to become a citizen, entitles the individual to his letters of citizenship ; upon obtaining which no oath renouncing allegiance to any other power is required.

Free persons of colour are not suffered to emigrate or remain in the Republic without special act of Congress. Marriage with Africans or their descendants is unlawful.*

Cruel treatment may be made the ground of a suit for divorce.

The form of government, being so nearly similar to that of the United States, will require but little notice.

As in the States, the Executive consists of a president and vice-president, elected by the people, and of the heads or secretaries of the various departments, civil and military, appointed by the president. The salary of the president is 10,000

* Whatever certain cosmopolites may think of the "illiberality" of such a law, it is to its influence, or to that of the *feeling* which has dictated it, that we must ascribe the purity of the "Anglo-Saxon" breed on the American continent. The French and Spaniards readily amalgamate with Indians and negroes, and their offspring bear the usual degenerate characteristics of a mongrel race.

dollars per annum. The term of office is three years, and the same individual cannot serve two successive terms.

The Legislature is composed of two houses—that of Representatives elected by the people of the different counties yearly ; that of the Senate, (which has also some executive power,) elected for three years, one-third of the members however retiring, and a fresh election for their number taking place at the end of each year. The members of Congress receive a salary of eight dollars (Texas money) *per diem* during their session.

The Judiciary consists of, first, a Supreme Court, which is a court of appeal, presided over by the chief justice of the Republic and the judges of the districts into which the Republic is divided for judicial purposes, and which in 1840 were seven in number. These judges are appointed by Congress, and hold their office for four years. The chief justice's salary is 5,000 dollars. The district judge's, 3,000 dollars. The supreme court sits once a year. It takes cognizance of both civil and criminal cases.

2dly. A District or Circuit Court, holden by these judges twice a year in each county within their respective districts. In its action and general character this court is similar to our

English courts of assize, but it appears to possess a more extended power of trying causes according to the principles of equity.

3dly. A County Court, composed of a chief justice of the county, appointed by Congress, and two associate justices, elected by the justices of peace of the said county out of their own body. This court is holden quarterly, and may be considered as analogous to our quarterly sessions.

4thly. A Probate Court, which the chief justice of each county holds every month, and which is similar to the probate courts of the United States.

5thly. A Justices' Court, also holden monthly by the justices of the peace in their respective county districts. These magistrates are elected by the people. They have jurisdiction in actions for the recovery of money where the amount does not exceed 100 dollars.

The offices of sheriff, recorder, coroner, mayor, alderman, councilman, clerk of the peace, constable, &c. and the rights of municipal corporations in general, are very similar to our own corresponding offices and institutions.

The army, which consisted of several small regiments, has been almost entirely disbanded. The present military force of the country is chiefly composed of volunteer companies and militia.

The navy, under Commodore Moore, consists of a fine sloop of war, two brigs, a large armed steamer, and two or three beautiful schooners.

The revenue is obtained chiefly by means of impost duties and direct taxation. It amounted

In 1837	1838	1839	1840
to \$208,021	\$367,013	\$287,561	\$802,054

The income of the current year will certainly exceed one million of dollars. The expenditure cannot be much over 600,000 dollars.

The whole debt of the country, chiefly incurred by the war of revolution, at present little exceeds one million sterling.

For any further liabilities which it may be willing to contract either with Europe or (under certain circumstances) with Mexico, it offers as security, not only a flourishing and increasing revenue, a cautious and singularly economical government, but also a public domain of more than 150 millions of acres, which, from its great natural advantages, might, under judicious management, in less than ten years' time, be rendered available for paying off a much larger debt than Texas will seek to contract whatever may be her credit, and enable her also to meet her engagements without having recourse to a high tariff system.

The conditions on which a portion of the Mexican debt was to have been assumed, will be seen by the following extract of a letter from General Hamilton to Lord Palmerston :—

“ If, therefore, Mexico will consent to a truce with Texas, within thirty days after the communication of any convention we may conclude on the subject, by her majesty’s minister, at her capital ; and in six months after will conclude a treaty of amity and commerce with Texas, which shall provide for a satisfactory and well-defined boundary between the two countries, I shall be quite willing to come under a stipulation that Texas shall assume one million sterling of the public debt of Mexico, contracted by Mexico prior to the year 1836 ; which is precisely the sum the United States offered for the whole country in 1830. The value it has acquired since has been conferred on it by the enterprise, heroism, and intelligence of the citizens of Texas themselves, and is a just and honourable acquisition of their own. This I desire to be regarded as a voluntary concession ; for I conceive Texas no more bound to assume a portion of the public debt of Mexico than the thirteen American colonies, after they had achieved their independence, were bound to assume a share of the national

debt of Great Britain. Your lordship, however, in our conferences, has never pressed this as a matter of right, although I have not failed to recognise the zealous attention and regard you have paid to the interest of a class of her majesty's subjects, who have long suffered under the bad faith of Mexico, and whom, for a just equivalent to the citizens of Texas, I shall be gratified if they shall be instrumental in indemnifying."

The currency of the country is calculated, as in the United States, in dollars and cents, and the standard of all coins is the same. The paper of the New Orleans' banks is received at par in private transactions. Banks of issue within the territories of the Republic are not legal, without special act of Congress; and so strongly is the system disapproved, that only one bank, limited to a very trifling amount of issue, and otherwise bound by a mortgage of real and available estate for the fulfilment of its pledges, is in operation.

The government paper, consisting of audited treasury drafts, promissory notes, and bonds, forms the most common currency; but, being receivable at its par value in payment of public dues, and no further issues being made, it will very soon disappear from the market.

The direct taxes, being payable in this depreciated paper, are in reality very light. The following is at present the nominal impost on the most important items :—

Land, one-half per cent. ad valorem.

If the owner be a non-resident of the Republic one per cent.

No land to be valued at less than one dollar per acre.

Wholesale mercantile establishments, 100 dollars for license, and one-quarter per cent. on the amount of goods sold.

Retail mercantile establishments, 100 dollars for license, and one-half per cent. on amount sold.

If wines or spirits be vended, 100 dollars additional.

Auctioneers, two per cent. on amount of sales.

Agents or brokers \$ 100 license.

Tavern-keepers 250 “

Boarding-house keepers and restaurateurs,
not selling wines or spirits 50 “

Billiard-table 250 “

Theatre 200 “

Museums and exhibitions 50 “

Race-course 100 “

All money loaned out at interest, one-half per cent. on the amount loaned.

Each white male in the Republic, over 21
and under 45 years of age 1

Each negro, under 15 1

“ over 15 and under 50 3

“ over 50 2

Each carriage, saddle, or pleasure horse. 1

All neat cattle, except 25, 10 cents per head

Stallions standing for the season, a tax equal to the price charged for the season.

Each pleasure carriage, per wheel	\$1.
“ gold watch	3
“ silver watch	1
“ pack of playing cards, sold, loaned, or given away	3

TARIFF OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

Ale, and all other kinds of malt liquor	45 per cent. ad val.
Books	free
Calicoes, and all articles of which cotton forms a component part	45 “
Cider, in cask or bottle	45 “
Coffee	15 “
Farming utensils, implements of hus- bandry, and furniture, the property of emigrants, in actual use, not ex- ceeding in value \$500	free
Iron, pig, bar, or rod	15 “
“ all manufactured articles of which it forms a component part	45 “
Linen, all articles of which it forms a component part	45 “
Liquors.—Brandy, gin, rum, cordials, and other liquors, 1st and 2d proof \$1.00 per gallon.	
3d and 4th “	1.25 “
over 4th “	1.50 “
Whiskey, 1st and 2d proof	0.50 “
3d “	0.75 “
4th “	1.00 “
over 4th “	1.50 “
Salt	15 per cent. ad val.
Silk, all articles of which it forms a component part	45 “
Steel, bar or rod	15 “
Sugar	15 “
Tea	45 “

Tobacco	45 per cent. ad val.
Tools and implements of trade, in actual use, the property of emigrants . . .	free
Wines.—Burgundy, Hermitage, Chambertin, and all other varieties of Burgundy except Champagne . . .	45 “
Champagne	\$5.00 per dozen.
Claret, in cases	45 per cent. ad val.
“ in casks	20 cents per gall.
French, the produce of France, and imported in French or Texian vessels	free
Madeira	\$1.50 per gallon.
Port	0.75 “
Rhenish, all kinds	1.00 “
Spanish, red	0.50 “
“ white	0.50 “
Sherry	1.50 “
Teneriffe	0.50 “
Wearing apparel, the personal property of emigrants	free
Woollens, and all articles of which wool forms a component part	45 per cent. ad val.
All articles not otherwise enumerated	45 “

It must be remembered that the above rates are also nominal, the duties being received in the same depreciated currency.

The warehousing system is fully established. Drawbacks are allowed, though the privilege does not extend to goods transported to adjoining states.

Invoices presented for entry at the different custom-houses are required to be made in duplicate, with the marks and numbers of the several

packages, the contents and value of each, and the *original invoice of purchase or consignment*.

The same rules and regulations observed on the importation of goods into the United States are observed in Texas, except that consular certificates are dispensed with.

Rates of insurance seem scarcely fixed. They have been as high as 60s. and more recently, as low as 40s. The agent of Lloyd's at Galveston, is Charles Frankland, Esq.

The principal ports of entry are those of Galveston, Matagorda Bay, and Aransas.

Respecting the latitude and longitude of Aransas Bar, the writer doubts if correct observations have yet been obtained.

The pass, or bar of Matagorda Bay is, in Mr. Kennedy's excellent work, placed in north latitude $28^{\circ} 18'$, west longitude $97^{\circ} 14'$. A valuable old Spanish chart makes it latitude $28^{\circ} 57' 45''$, longitude west of Cadiz $90^{\circ} 35'$.

Galveston Bar, according to the Notice to Mariners, published by A. A. M. Jackson, Esq., collector of the port, in the month of May last, is in north latitude $29^{\circ} 15'$, west longitude $94^{\circ} 49'$.

Two lights have been placed on the east end of Galveston Island, elevated forty-five feet above the level of the sea, distance six hundred yards apart, bearing east and west of each other. A

buoy has also been placed on the bar about four miles from the lights, and in range with them.

Vessels are warned not to come in at night without a pilot, nor approach nearer than five fathoms, when they should bring the lights to range, and come to.

Able pilots are attached to all these ports. The rate of pilotage at Galveston is $2\frac{1}{2}$ dollars per foot. The anchorage outside the bars is, as the writer has already had occasion to observe, very safe, owing to the nature of the ground, and the gradual shoaling of the water, permitting the mariner to feel his way by the lead. The coast east of Matagorda is very low and flat. About the middle of Galveston Island, which is thirty miles long, three live oak trees form a good landmark, there being no other timber on the island.

The following is a list of the Texian counties :—

Jefferson.	Montgomery.
Jasper.	Robertson.
Sabine.	Brazoria.
San Augustine.	Fort Bend.
Shelby.	Austin.
Harrison.	Washington.
Red River.	Milam.
Fannin.	Matagorda.
Galveston.	Bexar.
Liberty.	Colorado.
Houston.	Fayette.
Nacogdoches.	Bastrop.
Harris.	Travis.

Jackson	Ward.
Victoria.	Burnet.
Gonzales.	San Patricio.
Refugio.	Menard.
Goliad.	Navisota.
Bowie.	Panola.
Lamar.	Paschal.
Spring Creek.	

Throughout the Republic, a mail and post-office system has been established, very efficient in its operation, considering the situation and resources of the country. Letters to England are duly forwarded, if entrusted to the post-office in Galveston. In England no similar facilities are as yet established; and it is requisite either to place letters on board a vessel proceeding to a Texian port, or to consign them to the care of some friend in the United States who will pay the transit postage and duly forward them.

The different kinds of title to land in Texas may be classed, primarily, into those obtained under the Spanish or Mexican government, and those obtained under the Anglo-Texian. Of the former, including the grants made to colonists through the *empresarios*, there are probably good titles to about twenty millions of acres.

The titles obtained under the present government are supposed already to amount to twenty-five millions of acres. They consist of—1st, Conditional grants of land made to settlers, in

various quantities, at various times, during and since the revolution; 2dly, Unconditional bounty lands to volunteers, and the heirs of deceased soldiers, and to soldiers who were in certain battles; 3dly, Special grants of congress, and titles created by the issuing and sale of government land scrip.

To the purchaser of land in Texas, the most important distinction next to that of the title being valid, or invalid, is whether it be "*located*," or "*unlocated*." If the former, it should be represented by the original Mexican title-deeds, or, when obtained since the revolution, and perfected, by the patent of the present government. If unlocated, as a great number of "headrights" or grants to settlers since the revolution, and of government scrip still are, the first object of the holder will be to "locate" it, which is done by indicating the selected tract of vacant land, sufficiently clearly to define it in the register of the county surveyor, who, on being assured of the validity of the claim to locate, will further proceed to have the tract surveyed more exactly, and, for a small fee, enter a plan of it in the county map accordingly. The charges of surveying are three dollars for every linear mile that is run. A board of land commissioners, who sit for each county, should next be applied to, in order to approve and confirm the title and location; upon

their doing which, and upon all dues being paid, the Commissioner of the General Land Office will issue the patent title.

In the survey of lands, the Mexican measure is observed: 3 geometrical feet are equal to 1 vara; 5,000 varas are a linear league, the square of which, consisting of 4,428 acres and a fraction, or 25 million square varas, is a sitio; 4 sitios make a Texian township; 5 sitios make a hacienda. The labor, which, when each settler received the munificent donation of a league, was added to it as arable land, consisted of 177 acres and a fraction, or one million square varas. In surveying lands which fall on water-courses, not more than half of the square of the survey may lie on the stream, if that stream be navigable; if not navigable, the whole square may front the stream.

Except in the case of government land scrip, and special grants of Congress, aliens cannot directly hold real estate in the Republic; but, as in the United States, lands may be conveyed to an alien by bond, stipulating to make a legal conveyance to the vendee or his assigns, on he or they becoming citizens; which bond, when recorded in the county where the land is situate, will prevent any subsequent transfer. Alien heirs of citizens are allowed ample time to obtain estates bequeathed them, and to dispose of it.

The public land of Texas, which amounts to

considerably more than 150 millions of acres, is not at present offered for sale.

Homogeneous interests, and a simple, unique form of government, are the great political advantages which Texas possesses over the United States. Scarcely less is the comparative smallness of her territory, which, with all its natural advantages, will evidently, if the Texians keep within the limits they have assigned themselves, rapidly fill up, so as to form a really consolidated and densely settled country; unlike the United States, which, as a nation, appears to have been ever wasting its energies on too wide a field, and seldom to have efficiently filled up the bold outlines of its undertakings.

TABLE OF DISTANCES.

From Galveston to Houston . . .	about 80 miles by water.
Galveston to Matagorda . . .	" 140 "
Houston to Austin . . .	" 175 "
Houston to Nacogdoches . . .	" 200 "
Houston to Bexar . . .	" 243 "
Houston to Victoria . . .	" 125 "
Houston to Matagorda . . .	" 130 "
Austin to Santa Fé . . .	" 500 "
Austin to Nacogdoches . . .	" 250 "
Austin to Bexar . . .	" 80 "
Austin to Matagorda . . .	" 170 "
Bexar to Rio Grande . . .	" 200 "
Bexar to Aransas . . .	" 140 "
Victoria to Matagorda . . .	" 70 "
Victoria to Aransas . . .	" 50 "
Victoria to Matamoras . . .	" 280 "
Aransas to Santa Fé . . .	" 600 "

The national flag of Texas is a blue perpendicular stripe, one-third the length of the flag ; a white star of five points in the centre ; beyond, two horizontal stripes of equal width, the upper white, the lower red. The national standard bears on an azure ground a large golden star, central. The national seal is a single star of five points, encircled by an olive and live oak branch ; and beyond, by the words, " Republic of Texas."

*Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the
Republic of Texas and Great Britain.*

The Republic of Texas and Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, being equally desirous of affording every facility and encouragement to their respective citizens and subjects engaged in commercial intercourse with each other, have nominated as their plenipotentiary to conclude a treaty for this purpose, that is to say :

The Republic of Texas, General James Hamilton, &c. &c.

And Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honourable Henry John Viscount Palmerston, Baron Temple, a peer of Ireland, a member of Her Britannic Majesty's most honourable Privy Council, a Member of Parliament, Knight Grand Cross of the most honourable Order of the Bath, and Her Britannic Majesty's principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs :

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following articles :—

ARTICLE 1. There shall be reciprocal liberty of commerce and navigation between and amongst the citizens

of the Republic of Texas and the subjects of Her Britannic Majesty: and the citizens or subjects of the two countries respectively, shall not pay in the ports, harbours, roads, cities, towns, or places whatsoever, in either state, any other or higher duties, taxes or imposts, under whatsoever name designated or included, than those which are there paid by the citizens or subjects of the most favoured nations; and the citizens and subjects, respectively, of the two high contracting parties, shall enjoy the same rights, privileges, liberties, favours, immunities and exemptions in matters of commerce and navigation, that are granted, or may hereafter be granted, in either country, to the citizens or subjects of the most favoured nation.

No duty of customs, or other impost, shall be charged upon any goods the produce of the country, upon importation by sea or by land, from such country to the other, higher than the duty or impost charged upon goods of the same kind, the produce of, or imported from any other country; and the Republic of Texas and Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, do hereby bind and engage themselves not to grant any favour, privilege, or immunity, in matters of commerce and navigation, to the citizens or subjects of any other state which shall not be also and at the same time extended to the citizens or subjects of the other high contracting party, gratuitously, if the concession in favour of that other state shall have been gratuitous, or on giving as nearly as possible the same compensation or equivalent, in case the concession shall have been conditional.

ART. 2. No duties of tonnage, harbour, lighthouse, pilotage, quarantine, or other similar or corresponding duties, of whatever nature, or under whatever denomination, shall be imposed in either country, upon the vessels, or upon any articles the growth, produce, or manufacture of the other, in respect of voyages between the two countries, if laden, or in respect of any voyage, if in ballast, which shall not be equally imposed in like cases on national vessels, and in neither country shall any duty, charge, restriction, or prohibition, be imposed upon, nor any drawback, bounty, or allowance be withheld from any goods imported from, or exported to, any country in the vessels of the one country, which shall not be equally

imposed upon or withheld from such goods, when so imported or exported in the vessels of the other country.

ART. 3. The citizens and subjects of each country shall enjoy full liberty to go to the ports and harbours of the other country, where other foreigners are allowed to enter, to unlade their merchandize therein, to hire and occupy houses, and peaceably to conduct their respective trades and professions.

The ships of war of both countries, respectively, shall have the liberty to enter freely and touch at all such ports in each country into which the ships of war of any other nation are permitted to enter; subject, however, to the regulations, laws, and statutes of the respective countries.

ART. 4. The stipulations of the present treaty shall not be considered as applying to the navigation and carrying trade between one port and another, situated in the dominions of one contracting party by the vessels of the other, as far as regards passengers, commodities, and articles of commerce. Such navigation and transport being reserved by each contracting party to national vessels.

ART. 5. The high contracting parties reserve for future negociation, at such time as they may mutually agree upon, the condition upon which the trade and navigation shall be regulated between the Republic of Texas and Her Britannic Majesty's colonial possessions in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America.

ART. 6. Whereas in the present state of Texian shipping, the Republic of Texas would not enjoy the full benefit of the reciprocity intended by this treaty, if no vessel were to be admitted into British ports as a Texian vessel, unless it had been built within the territory of Texas, it is, therefore, agreed, that for the space of eight years, to commence from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of this treaty, any vessel, wheresoever built, being bona fide the property of, and wholly owned by, one or more citizens of the Republic of Texas, and whereof the master and three-fourths of the mariners, at least, are naturalized citizens of the said Republic, or persons domiciled in that Republic by act of the government as lawful citizens of the Texian Republic, to be certified according to the laws of that country, shall be considered as Texian vessels. Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom

of Great Britain and Ireland, reserving to herself the right, at the end of said term of eight years, to claim that the provisions of the British navigation act relative to the nationality of foreign vessels, shall be strictly applied to Texian vessels in British ports.

ART. 7. The consuls and vice-consuls of each country shall, within the territory of the other, enjoy all the rights, privileges, and immunities which are accorded to such functionaries by the law of nations; and it is provided that in the ports of each country, especially, the authorities shall give all due legal assistance and protection for the apprehension, safe keeping, and delivering of all deserters from the ships of war and trading vessels of either country; and all the powers and privileges granted in respect to the matters to which the stipulations of this article relate, by either of the contracting parties to any other nation, shall be granted by such contracting party to the consul, vice-consuls, ships of war, and trading vessels of the other.

ART. 8. If any ships of war or merchant vessels should be wrecked on the coasts of either of the high contracting parties, such ships or vessels, or any parts thereof, and all furniture and appurtenances belonging thereunto, and all goods and merchandize which shall be saved therefrom, or the produce thereof, if sold, shall be faithfully restored to the proprietors, upon being claimed by them, or by their duly authorized factors; and if there are no such proprietors or factors on the spot, then the said goods and merchandize, or the proceeds thereof, as well as all the papers found on board such wrecked ships or vessels, shall be delivered to the Texian or British consul, in whose district the wreck may have taken place; and such consul, proprietors, or factors, shall pay only the expenses incurred in the preservation of the property, together with the rate of salvage which would have been payable in the like case of a wreck of a national vessel; and the goods and merchandize saved from the wreck shall not be subject to duties, unless cleared for consumption.

ART. 9. The exercise of the rites of religious worship and freedom of conscience, shall be reciprocally secured to the citizens and subjects of each country, by the government of the other. The rights of sepulture shall be reciprocally accorded by each of the contracting parties

to the other ; and there shall be no law passed by either government, that shall violate the rights of property, or limit the power of bequeathing personal estate by will or testament.

The citizens or subjects of the one country residing in the other, shall not be liable, under extraordinary warrants or otherwise, to compulsory services, or to forced loans ; and on all questions affecting the rights of person or property, the courts of judicature of the one country shall be impartially open to the citizens or subjects of the other.

In the event of war between the contracting parties, the citizens or subjects of the one country residing in the other, shall, reciprocally, have twelve months, after a formal declaration of the same, to depart with their property and effects, and without any hindrance or disturbance whatsoever.

ART. 10. The present treaty, when the same shall have been ratified by the President of the Republic of Texas, by and with the advice and the consent of the senate, and by her Britannic Majesty, shall be binding and obligatory on the contracting parties, for eight years from the date of its signature ; and further, until the expiration of twelve months after one of the high contracting parties shall have notified to the other an intention to terminate its duration.

It is further agreed, that in twelve months after one of the high contracting parties shall have received from the other such notification, this treaty, and all the stipulations it contains, shall cease to be obligatory upon either party.

ART. 11. The present treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at London, as soon as possible within the space of nine months from this date.

In witness whereof, the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Done at London, the thirteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and forty.

(Signed)

PALMERSTON, [L.S.]

(Signed)

J. HAMILTON, [L.S.]