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Mankind associate and form governments, the legitimate end of which is the mutual protection of their persons, property and pursuits of happiness; but government is best which procures the greatest good among the greatest number.

An increasing abundance of unnecessary and comfortable constituents, prosperity, is superfluity in wealth; which representations seem to run into every variety of fantastic form, but the mind of man can conceive, is scarcely propose as possible. Such wealth is derived from the produce of the earth, and from a country abundantly rich in natural productions, possessing soil and seasons advantageous for culture, and a climate favorable to health and industry, is endowed by nature with the intrinsic means of becoming wealthy.

Man's first occupation is to procure food, clothing and shelter. The gregarious, and most natural improvement of the powers of man is division of labor, which advances in our employment of extensive machinery. Division of labor occasions exchanges, and exchanges can be made more advantageously abroad than at home, for reasons more naturally obvious; and new articles of trade are introduced. The capacity of every country to find such articles, and to procure materials for beneficial manufactures, is limited; perhaps few or none have been carried to the utmost extent of their capacity; but if so carried, many of the inhabitants must be employed, and provided with food, or be disadvantaged. Commerce is therefore resorted to, which extends the sphere of our wants and gives scope to industry and ingenuity. Thus we see people small in numbers, and people in towns, become rich by commerce; but it remains doubtful how far, and in what modes in which, commerce conduces to national prosperity. Upon this subject the following suggestions are offered for the consideration of others better informed.

Foreign commerce springs from superfluity, and has the effect by means of capital, to draw profit from distant securities by employing their industrious it operates like an occasion of subjacent territory. Commerce of the following kinds must naturally be mutually advantageous to the whole world, parties, as well as to the merchants and mariners who conduct it:

Where production of one climate which accumulate to health or comfort, for are fairly exchanged, which due regard to the relative natural wants, the like favorable productions of another. The annual value of all articles may be estimated by the labor, and extent of country necessary to produce them, and their importance to the wants of mankind in substance.

Where the productions of improved industry are exchanged for the materials of a people not possessing equal means of manufacturing or helping them to perfection, or the raw materials of a less cultivated country where labor is cheaper.

Commerce may be reputable advantageous when foreign demand occasions greater production or exertion of labor, then would otherwise take place; although articles of less value be received in exchange.

It may also be so when articles are exchanged of no real use to either party, and when a distant country may exist between the values exchanged; but is then governed by the excess possessed of exchangeable articles with other people. Where wants they are calculated to supply, or to whom eyes they have a value. In like manner produce or manufactures peculiar every people may be advantageously exchanged.

Commerce is particularly advantageous when a party unable to obtain in exchange for its commodities, other articles of real value for use, which cost more in time, labor, or extent of country to produce, or go further towards human subsistance, or possess greater value in the eyes of others, from which they may be exchanged.

Money has by general consent become the representative of all commodities and labor, otherwise the exchange of provisions or clothing for food and shelter would be as disadvantageous as could well be imagined: so small is their real use.

Trade and commerce, adopted first for convenience, are seized by that strong principle in the human breast, emulating, and are pursued with activity, from a desire of the distinction, which they bestow in all ages bestowed upon its possessor.

Inland trade, by facilitating exchanges of articles of use, gives new activity to industry, which increases the national stock.

The foreign trade of a nation operates like the extended trade of an individual, it multiplies certain wants, men with food, clothing and implements, and receives the produce of other labor. It furnishes certain persons with goods and receives food and clothing or money which will purchase them. And on the whole, it operates a profit to himself. Here we have a double profit from all the wants men employed, and all the persons supplied. In like manner the merchant's capital is employed in furnishing employment to industry, by carrying to a foreign market its surplus produce; and by the purchase of foreign goods, or monies, sold afterwards with profit, a profit is derived from the labor of all the persons employed in production of foreign articles.

The advantages of inland trade, and the profit on exports, in which the national benefit, and merchants profit, coincide, are therefore clear: but in the case of imports they are in opposition. As far as the merchant's profit reaches there is a change of property within the nation, and for the cost of the articles, the nation, as far as it consumes, pays the foreign producer. The proposition may notwithstanding be satisfactorily proved, that the foreign commerce is an exchange of superfluities; and such is the disposition of mankind to show and expose their wealth, much of the surplus produce of all countries has been, and perhaps always will be, uselessly expended or wasted. If luxuries are imported, much that is valuable is also consumed, and what is so refugged becomes clear gain. The importation of foreign luxuries into a country does not oblige the inhabitants to buy them; and if they are unable to afford, and fail to possess them, they are stimulated to additional industry. If such articles by on the merchant's hands, they may be sold at a loss, he will import no more.

Foreign commerce increases the mass of industry. The island of Great Britain would scarcely be equal to maintain its present population, of which are manufactured within it. Cotton and timber are supplied by foreign nations to a great extent, which are thus in a manner added to the national domain, while its own soil is either site or cultivated to the utmost, and is partially occupied. And if the country is adequate to find raw materials, and used in it, even were the soil and climate favorable, to it may well be doubted whether the artisans employed in such manufactures, if the supplies or numbers were cut off, could in any other way be collected from the rest of the nation, so by exchanging the produce of their industry, against the productions of a country less advanced or improved.

In case of carrying trade, where the produce is of the foreign nation purchased, and sold to another, the merchant, profits, on employing the produce, and the profit on supplying the customer; but the producers, profit is given or and food, to a foreign country, by means of domestic capital. The merchant's profit however is its foreign operation, he no more, greater, is to take more wealth to the country, than the profits in domestic articles and so forth their employ and profit to domestic workmen.

It is observed that wealth is rapidly acquired by trade, and this is because every trader acts for and is usual, the very improvements many individuals. A trader may be considered as employing workmen and supplying customers in competition with his numerous rivals, therefore he gives rich upon the labor and means of many.

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THE SCULPTURE

On the front of the Covent Garden Theatre.

Within these few days a great part of the scaffolding has been removed from the front of Covent Garden Theatre, now nearly finished. The shades on each side of the Portico, which have been erected for the accommodation of the Sculptors, have also been taken down, and this has been exposed to view the grand performance of mademistic sculpture which have afforded much gratification to the amateurs, and to the curiosity of the generality of the public.

Crowds have assembled every day in Bow-street, to view these specimens of the fine arts which are representations of the ancient Greek dramas, in bass relief. The design, are classical and the executed masterly, and the subjects, since the nature of the subjects will, we are persuaded prove interesting to our readers. The piece is overtop the accident Drama is the Nurse of the Modern Drama is on the South side.

The Ancient Drama.

In the centre, three Greek Poets are sitting, all two holding towards the portico, are Aristophanes representing the Old Comedy, and Menander (the spectator) Menander representing the New Comedy. Behind them Tragedy is represented with her cross and comic mask, as the object of their inspiration. She is followed by Thyllyphia, a female Poet, and Pindar, or Euripides on the lesser lyre, Clio with the tablet, and Terpsichora the Muse of Action or Pantomime. These are succeeded by three Nymphs crowned with the leaves of the Eglantine, and in succient tunics, representing the hours or seasons presenting and loading the winged horse Pegasus.

The third sitting figure in the centre, looking from the portico, is Æschylus, the Father of Tragedy. He holds a scroll open on his knee; his attention is fixed on Wisdom, or Minerva, seated opposite to the Poet. She is distinguished by her helmet and shield. Between Æschylus and Minerva, Bacchus stands holding his lyre, because the Greeks represented Tragedies in honor of Bacchus. Behind Minerva stands Melpomene, or Tragedy, holding a sword in mark; then follow two Furies, with snakes for torches, pursuing Orestes, who stretches out his hands to supplicate Apollo for protection. Apollo is represented on the quadrigs, or four-horsed chariot of the Sun. The two descriptive figures relate to part of Æschylus's Tragedy of *Orestes*.

The Modern Drama.

In the centre (looking towards the portico) Shakespeare is sitting; the Comic and Tragic masks, with the lyre, are about his seat; his right hand is raised, expressive of calling up the following characters in his *Tempest*:—First, Caliban laden with wood; next Ferdinand, shewing his sword; then Miranda, entreating mercy for her father lower; they are led on by Ariel above, playing on a lyre. This part of the composition is terminated by Hecate (three-formed Goddess) in her car, drawn by owes, dreadfully, but is attended by lady Macbeth, with the bloody hands, followed by Macbeth, shewing a horror from the body of Duncan behind him.

In the centre looking towards the portico, is Milton, seated, contemplating Urania according to his own inscription in Paradise Lost. Urania is seated facing him above; at his feet is Sampson Agonistes chained. Two mourning figures represent the Mosque of Cosma; the two brothers seize out three Backlands, with their unrigged bodies lying on the ground. The Enchanted Lady is seated in the chair the Genius is ended by two Tyrannyers, representing the transformation of Comus's Orchestra.

The figures of Milton, Sampson Agonistes, and the model of the ancient drama, are by Mr. Flaxman. The modern Drama, and the accessories are by Mr. Rossi.

The three representing Tragedy and Comedy, intended for the inches in the wings of the Theatre, are completed, and are to be placed, with a group on Saturday next, each of which is seven feet high.

Tragedy to receive the riches in the Southern extremity of the building, or that interest to Russell street, is the Father of Tragedy. He holds mask and dagger. The sculptor is Mr. Rossi.

Comedy holds the shepherd's crook of pedum on her right shoulder, and the comic mask in her left hand.—This group, which is the work of the ship of Mr. Flaxman, is to be placed in the Northern extremity of the building next to Long Acre.

London, Sept. 2.—A dispatch of which the following is a copy, was received at the office of Lord Viscount Castlereagh, from his majesty's principal Secretaries of State, Lord Gen. Lord Viscount Wellington, dated

Deleytosa, Aug. 8, 1809.

My Lord,

I apprised your lordship on the 1st inst. of the advance of a French corps towards the Puerto de Banos, and of the probable embarrassments of the operations of the army which at present at Placentia would occasion; and these embarrassments having since existed to a degree so considerable, as to obliged us to fall back, and to take up a defensive position on the Tagus, I am induced to trouble you with a report of the whole.

When I entered Spain, I had a communication with Gen. Cuesta, through Gen. Wellesley and Gen. Roche, respecting the occupation of the Puerto de Pendes, the former of which it was stated, should be held by a corps to be formed under the marquis de la Reyna, to consist of two battalions from Gen. Cuesta's army, and two from Bejar; and that the Puerto de Pendes was to be taken care of by the Duque del Parque, by detachments from the garrison of Ciudad Rodrigo.

I doubted of the capacity of the garrison of Ciudad Rodrigo to make the detachment of the latter, but so little of effectual execution of the former, that I wrote to Lieutenant Colonel Doyle, to inform the Duque del Parque, that it was not to the Puerto de Pendes, but that I considered Bonavenia, as pointed out by the extract of my letter which I enclose.

On the 30th, intelligence was received at Talavera, that 12,000 men had been ordered at Puente Domenico, 28th, and 24,000 at Los Santos for the same day, for a French corps which it was believed was on its march towards the Puerto de Banos.

Gen. Cuesta expressed some anxiety respecting this point, and sent me a message, to propose that Sir Robert Wilson should be sent there with his corps.

Sir Robert was on that day at Talavera, but his corps was in the mountains towards Escalona; and as he had already made himself very useful in that quarter, and had been near Madrid, with which city he had a communication, and that it was desirous of keeping up, I proposed that a Spanish corps should be sent to Banos without loss of time.

I could not prevail with gen. Cuesta, although he certainly admitted the necessity of it, which I enclose, and I proposed that Sir R. Wilson, should be with Banos, and he was equally sensible with myself, that it would be derived to the carter, from sending Sir Robert Wilson to Banos.

At this time, we had no further intelligence of the enemy's advance, that of the 28th, which I enclose, and I had hopes that the enemy might be deterred from advancing by the hostile spirit of our allies, and by the fear that the troops in the Puerto might make some defence; and that under these circumstances, it was not generally to divert Sir Robert Wilson from Escalona.

On the 30th, however, I received my application to Gen. Cuesta, to send three a Spanish division to his aide strength, in a letter to Gen. O'Donnell, which I enclose, and I was sent without effect; and he did not reach Gen. Bassecourt till the morning of the 31st, when the enemy had the enemy had entered Bejar, and it was too late for the troops in the Puerto would make a defence.

On the 30th, we received accounts that the enemy had entered Placentia in two columns.

The Marquis de la Reyna, whose force was thus combined of only six hundred men, with only twenty rounds of ammunition each man, retired from Plasencia and from Plasencia, which gen. Sinay also, and went to the bridge of Arzobisca, which he declared that he believed to be impassable, and to depend on we Bejar dispossed without making any resistance.

The enemy called upon me on that day, and proposed that half of the army should march to the rear to oppose the enemy, while the other half should maintain the post at Talavera.

My answer was, that if by half the army, he meant half of each army, I could only answer that I was ready to go to stay with the whole British army, and that I was ready to do so, if he then desired me to choose whether I would go to stay with the British army, or go, from thinking that the British troops were most likely to do the business, from their superior discipline and from being of opinion, that to open the communication through Placentia was decisive, and that it was not so, although very important to them. With this decision Gen. Cuesta appeared perfectly satisfied.

The movements of the enemy in our rear since that day has led indeed me to be of opinion, that Placentia, and farther on at Talavera, they intended to have made a passage, but that, and then upon a communication with the French corps coming from Plasencia.

Our principles were collected on the night of the 2nd, by letters received from Sir Robert Wilson, of which I enclose copies; and from Talavera, on the 3rd, I wrote to Gen. O'Donnelle, and I received with him, upon a passage the whole of the army, and pointing out to him the possibility that one of the enemy's corps, by the Puente Domenico, Gen. Cuesta, at night and himself obliged to quit Talavera for Deleytosa, I hopes, I hope, under, I and I urged him to collect all the carts that could be got, in order to be prepared for a retreat. In my desire, I put the purport of the conversation in writing, and lest him a