

since practised by that people, among whom, as the readers of this work during the last five months have seen, there has been the large and solemn assembly for worshipping the only true God and hearing his Gospel; among whom, at a single meeting and in a single day, hundreds have anxiously asked, 'What shall I do to be saved?' among whom churches are gathered, and devoted disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ are found in all parts of the nation, adorning the doctrine of God their Saviour, and some of whom are engaged with much zeal and effect in beseeching all around them to become reconciled to God.

This progress of the Indians in knowledge, this giving up of ancient heathenish customs, and especially their increasing attention to the preaching of the Gospel, are truly encouraging at this critical period of their history. Nor is this advance confined to the Choctaws. The number added to the churches, taking the Indian missions generally, has been greater during the past year, than during any previous one. From some no reports have been received; but to those which have been reported, the number added, during the past year, is not less than 170; and not less than 80 are now regarded as candidates.

Indian General Council.—The Cherokee Nation furnish a remarkable instance of the power of Christianity to civilize a rude and untutored nation. The introduction of the gospel among them has been attended with the happiest effects. It remains to be seen, whether our General Government will allow a tyrannical rule to be exercised over them, and them to be compelled to forsake their own territory, the land of their fathers' sepulchres. The Cherokee Phoenix, of October 21, a weekly news-paper edited by a Cherokee, contains a well-written State Paper, "the Message of the Principal Chief [Governor] of the Cherokee Nation, submitted before the National Committee and Council, in joint Committee of the whole, October 14, 1829." The style of this document would not be unworthy the pen of a Governor of one of our States. It claims the "right, as a distinct people," which the Cherokees possess, "of assembling, in General Council of the Nation, to promote their own interest and happiness;" and they say that this their "prerogative so to act, has been recognized by the Government of the United States, under whose fostering care," say they, "we have merged from the darkness of ignorance and superstition, to our present degree of advancement in civilized improvement." This Message denies the claim of the authorities of Georgia to certain specified lands, believed to belong to the Creeks; and a course of argument is adopted in this Indian document, which states well-known facts of the legal right of the Creeks, acknowledged by our public documents, to the lands claimed by Georgia. Whilst we would give full credit to the talent and good sense displayed in this paper, we are not less pleased with the moderation and firmness of this people, in their determination to appeal to the justice of our General Government.

These are the Indians, who acknowledge the blessing which the United States have been the medium of conveying to them; and shall it be ever said, after having done them such incalculable good, that we have despoiled them of their lands, driven them from their home, and forced them into a howling wilderness, deplorably "destitute of wood and water?" We will not believe that our General Government will adopt such a course, till undisputed testimony shall say it is so. The following paragraph is from the Journal of Commerce.

The present form of Cherokee Government was adopted about two years since. It is purely republican—elective—and guarded by a free Constitution. Having lived under it happily for two years, the people are disposed to re-assert their authority over the Legislature of Georgia, and that they will do so, is proved by the fact, that they have elected a committee to prepare a petition to the United States, and that they have already done so.

from them, rights which they have always possessed and exercised, and which have been from time to time secured and guaranteed by the faith of the U. States."

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

We know not in what terms to express our detestation of the principles of an Editor, who can treat the questions of pure justice and humanity, now agitated respecting the Indians, as mere party matters. An honest and honorable man would sooner lose his right hand than do it. Yet not only is the subject thus treated in many newspapers, but there is great danger that the whole business will assume a party aspect in Congress!

Journal of Humanity.

NEW SCOTLAND WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10th, 1829.

TALONEY, Dec. 5th, 1828.

Mr ELIAS BOUDINOTT,

Sir.—I wish you to insert in the Phoenix a few lines concerning a white man that was whipped at Eley for horse stealing. Myself being foreman of the Jury, sentenced him to receive fifty stripes on the bare back, which was fifty less than what is common in our country for such offence. The thief, since he was whipped, has made oath that he was arrested and whipped with large hickory switches. We acted agreeably to the laws of our country in punishing the man. Since his making oath in the state of Georgia, the officers of that state sent armed men to take all the Indians that were concerned in whipping him. I understood that they were on their way, and went to the Long Swamp to meet them. They met me there. I there gave them my bond and security for my appearance at court at Gainsville in Hall County. I inclose the thief's affidavit to you, and wish you to take a copy of it and insert it also, and send me back the original by the bearer. There was also another company with this horse thief, and his father among them, that came by the way of Amakiloey. When they came near the Village they lay out until dark, and then went into the fields and stole potatoes and pumpkins. They also stole six or seven horses, and then returned home. Since that fifteen in number, with the said thief, well armed, came by the way of Stamp Creek Village, and there made pretence they were buying hogs. They bought none however, but made free to kill and barbecue one without leave. They also made free to go into houses, and take such things as they stood in need of to eat, and said that they had orders from the Governor, and that he would pay for the things that they took. Your friend, GEORGE SAUNDERS.

GEORGIA—HADERSHAM Co.

Camp, personally before me, A. H. Clayton, Judge of the Supreme Courts of the western Circuit of said State, Jesse Stancell, who, being duly sworn, deposed and saith, that, on the nineteenth day of September, in the present year, eighteen hundred and twenty nine, at a certain place called Elijay, in that part of the unlocated Territory of the Cherokee nation attached to and belonging to the County of Hall, by act of the Legislature for criminal jurisdiction, he, deponent, was arrested by certain Indians of said nation, by the names of John Sanders, George Sanders, Harry Downing, Riddle Crier, Old Hog, Overseer; John Love, Martin Smith, Pretty Woman, Young Duck, John Potato, Patridge and Dick Carey, and by the said Indians was detained in close custody for the space of thirty hours, and, after such detention and imprisonment, which was done forcibly, and contrary to the will and consent of deponent, and without any legal authority, stripped tied up to a tree, and inflicted on the bare back of deponent with large hickory switches fifty lashes, to the great effusion of his blood, the laceration of his back, and sides, several deep scalding scabs and bruises on the same, all which was contrary to the laws of said State, and without any pretence or justifiable cause, and that he is now suffering from the above said injuries.

observed an advertisement stating that a vault had been opened for the deposit of the dead, for a certain period, to guard against resurrection men. On Sunday afternoon, the first body was deposited in that vault. A few hours afterwards the person having the vault returned for the purpose of getting something which he had forgotten. While he was opening the outer door, he heard a noise inside, and he supposed it was caused by the person who had just been interred. Though his hair stood erect with affright, his humanity prompted him to save the unfortunate imprisoned being, and he unlocked the inner door, which is of iron. He then encircled himself behind the outer door, and called to supposed ghost within, to "push open the door, and thus liberate himself. The confined person did so, and on his making his appearance, he proved to be, not the dead man who had been buried, but a real living being, who, from some cause, had remained in the vault when it was closed, and who, had it not been for the fortunate circumstance of the sexton returning to get what he had forgot; would, very likely, have perished in his gloomy prison house.

The benefit of dogs in a civilized land.

On the 6th instant, Mrs. Eunice Dexter was riding in the south part of the town of Shelby, in a two horse waggon, and when passing by a certain house, a dog suddenly sprung out at the horses, which caused them to take fright, and run. Mrs. Dexter was soon thrown forward between the forepart of the waggon and one of her limbs was caught between the whiplash and another appendage of the waggon, by which she was violently dragged some distance. As soon as the horses were stopped by an individual in the high-way, Mrs. Dexter was instantly disentangled from the waggon. But her limb was shockingly mangled, and in other parts of the frame she was fatally wounded; and after a groan or two, expired on the spot. She was in the 36th year of her age, and has left two or three children to lament, the loss of an affectionate mother.

Orleans Telegraph.

Tobacco.—A Doctor says: "I have been a Professor in the University twenty-three years, and, as a Physician, that I never observed so many pallid faces, and so many marks of declining health; nor never know so many hectic habits and consumptive affections, as of late years: and I trace this alarming mood on your young constitutions principally to the pernicious custom of smoking Cigars." "I am entirely convinced, that smoking and chewing of tobacco ultimately the hearing, smell, taste and teeth."

Murder.—A quarrel having taken place, between a man named Winslow Cozzens, and another of the name of John Saunders, a ystermen, near India Bridge, in this town, on Monday evening last, the former loaded a gun and proceeded towards the bridge, saying he was going to shoot ducks. Meeting Saunders, Cozzens discharged the gun at his head—which wounded him so that he died yesterday. The perpetrator has been arrested and committed to prison.—Providence Pat.

Cheerless residence for two years and six months.—Four seamen, belonging to the ship Royal Sovereign, of London, were lately taken off from the Isle of Desolation, where they had remained two years and a half, having been driven on shore in a shallop. Their only subsistence was on the sea elephants, a few fish and birds, and a species of wild cabbage, the only vegetable to be found there. There was not even a shrub on the whole island. They found a volcano, with the lava of which they "paid" the seams of their shallop after caulking her. Former navigators have mentioned a volcano on this island, but the general nature of the island, and the South Sea is volcanic.